

'WORKING AS AN ACADEMIC DURING THE PANDEMIC' FURTHER INFORMATION



Alina Swebocka – senior lecturer of the English language, graduate of the English Philology and Executive MBA studies, currently director of the Foreign Languages Centre at the University of Gdańsk. As an academic teacher, she specializes in Business and Legal English. Over the years, she has collaborated with a number of educational institutions, such as the Gdańsk Banking Academy, the Polish-Japanese Academy of Information Technology, the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations Centre, ETS Global, etc. In the field of language teaching, she uses proven methods of developing language competences, drawing on modern techniques and multimedia tools. As the director of the Centre, she focuses on continuous enhancement of the quality of language education, as well as promotion and development of plurilingualism in the Higher Education environment. She also reaches out to the socio-economic sector in order to establish various ways of resilient and sustainable collaboration beneficial to all the stakeholders involved.

Agnieszka Błaszowska is a graduate of Institute of English of the University of Gdańsk with twenty years of experience in teaching adults. She is currently a senior lecturer and deputy director at the Foreign Languages Centre of the University of Gdańsk.

In her work as an academic, she specialises in teaching English to students of business and social sciences providing them with studies- and job-related language skills. Agnieszka also performs translations commissioned by university faculties; her field of choice here being social and natural sciences.

Her current role as a Deputy Director for Students involves supervising issues related to methodology and quality of education together with supporting teaching staff in these areas.

Anna Dulska (PhD) is a lecturer at the Foreign Languages Centre of the University of Gdańsk, where she has been teaching General English, ESP and Academic English classes since 2012.

Piotr Andrzejewski has been teaching English and Polish at the Foreign Languages Centre of the University of Gdańsk since 2012.

Emilia Krzywańska-Frankowska has had more than a decade of teaching experience as an academic. She has graduated from the University of Łódź, with a degree in English Philology majoring in contemporary British literature and culture, as well as medical and legal translation.

Emilia is currently a senior lecturer and a deputy director at Foreign Languages Centre of the University of Gdańsk. She teaches Business and Academic English courses for university undergraduates studying economics, management and law. She also has a first-hand understanding of the needs of adult learners in different areas of business as regards the practical use of English in a job context.

In her recent role as a Deputy Director for Education and Development, she supervises, among others, a project aimed at helping university students enter the present-day job market, which is a series of workshops conducted by international recruiters and head hunters, done in close co-operation with several well-established companies.

The Value of Online Education. Different Perspectives

In March 2020, it turned out very quickly that we are all students. It could have been a happy state for many teachers, such a nice return to the juvenile times, if not for the fact that learning was extremely intense, a lot of arrears, deadlines for yesterday, and the exam, well ... in front of an exceptional commission.

In our presentation, which will also be an invitation to discuss and share experience from the time of learning and teaching online, together with my colleague, Agnieszka Błaszowska, we will present several perspectives. We will show both the difficulties and benefits of remote work during the pandemic that became part of our "new normal". And - as it is the students that we would most like to take a closer look at, we will also present their often very extreme assessments and opinions regarding both the hardships and pleasures resulting from the urgent need to move to online studying, and at the same time... slow down and live without unnecessary haste.



Jon Hird is an ELT professional based in Oxford, UK, where he divides his time between teaching at the University of Oxford, teacher training and writing ELT materials. Jon has a particular interest in grammar, academic and professional English. He has written or contributed to a number of grammar, resource and course books, including Macmillan's new course book series 'Language Hub'.

Fostering Engagement and Motivation Online

One of the greatest challenges over the past two years has been keeping students motivated, engaged and actually learning, especially in online classes. This session addresses this by considering how we can foster motivation, engagement and meaningful communication online by adapting and extending our existing language practice exercises and activities to take advantage of the online environment.

Bartłomiej Janiak

Certified professional coach and a business trainer. Graduate of University of Lodz – English Language Institute and Kozminski University – Professional Coaching. As a business trainer, he specializes in emotional intelligence, resilience, professional burnout, and stress. Graduate of numerous courses including Integral and transpersonal coaching, Provocative coaching, and Foundations of Positive Psychology. Associated with the educational market for more than 10 years where he works on methodology of teaching and implementation of digital tools. He works with managers and leaders in areas related to soft skills, people management, and career development.



Resilience Skills in Times of Uncertainty

“Could it be our new reality?” He asked. “What are you saying? By no means can it be the new reality. The reality, which is not stable, full of volatile events, which can surprise, bring you down and leave you barely alive - No! It's definitely not the world I'm functioning in. If, by any chance, it turns out to be our new reality, then Tom is one of the few to deal successfully with it. He inherited this so-called resilience from his ancestors. One cannot learn it; one can only get it in genes and that's it. There is no other option.”

Join this workshop and see for yourself if it's about genes and ancestors. During this session we will cover the following aspects:

- How to deal with past events? The role of the past in the future
- How to understand resilience? Working with assets and deficits
- Optimism: realistic vs unrealistic
- When is the time for being a pessimist?
- Explanatory styles
- Real-time resilience - dealing with thinking traps