Plan for a SoTL Project

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| **Research Question**  Research Question: What are the strategies that hinder or help students learn in my course, and how can I improve their learning outcomes?  **3 Motivations**   1. Promotion of new networks among members at institutions: Professional organizations and conferences can help me build new networks, access valuable resources, and stay up-to-date on trends in their field. 2. Scholarship opportunities in the form of presentations and publications: Presenting at conferences or publishing in professional journals can help me gain recognition and feedback on their work while providing me with new ideas for teaching and learning. 3. Renewed excitement about teaching and learning, and greater self-awareness: Professional development opportunities can inspire me, encourage self-reflection and lead to a renewed passion for teaching and learning. |
| **Identify challenge/outcome related to learning that is related to your question.**  Identify challenge/outcome related to learning:  Challenge/Outcome: Improving English language proficiency and communicative competence in adult learners  Measurement: Qualitative - Assessing students' ability to use the English language in real-life communication situations, such as holding conversations, participating in discussions, or delivering presentations. |
| **Describe the instructional activity, assignment, or teaching strategy that will promote student learning on the outcome you identified.**  Instructional Activity/Teaching Strategy: Implementing a student-centered approach to language teaching, incorporating interactive and communicative activities that engage learners in authentic language use.  SoTL Project Modification: Modifying the traditional lecture-based teaching approach to a communicative language teaching approach, where learners are encouraged to interact with each other in real-life communication situations. |
| **Describe the evidence that would persuade an external audience that the new or modified teaching strategy improves student learning on the targeted learning outcome.**  Evidence for Improvement: Comparing the performance of students in the communicative language teaching approach to those in the traditional lecture-based approach through observation of real-life communication situations and assessment of language proficiency levels. |
| **How and where would you publish, present, or disseminate this work?**  Publication/Dissemination: The findings will be presented at language teaching conferences, published in language teaching journals, and disseminated through professional networks and online platforms. |
| **Include considerations of any ethical concerns with the research you are planning.**  Informed consent: Ensure that all participants in the study are fully informed about the research, the data that will be collected, and how it will be used. Obtain written consent from participants before collecting any data. Confidentiality and anonymity: Protect the privacy of participants by keeping their identities confidential and using pseudonyms if necessary. Ensure that any data collected is kept secure and that only the researchers have access to it. Respect for participants: Respect the cultural, linguistic, and social backgrounds of participants, and avoid any actions or language that could be considered disrespectful or offensive. Ethical use of data: Ensure that any data collected is used only for the purposes of the research and that it is analyzed and reported in a responsible and ethical manner. |
| **Update the last section of your SoTL research plan document with a dissemination strategy for making the key findings of your research study publicly accessible.**  Dissemination Strategy: To ensure that the key findings of the research study are publicly accessible, the following dissemination strategies will be employed:   * Conference presentations: The findings will be presented at language teaching conferences to reach a wider audience of educators, researchers, and practitioners in the field of language teaching and learning. * Publication in academic journals: The findings will be submitted for publication in language teaching journals to reach a wider audience of academics and researchers. * Online platforms: The findings will be disseminated through professional networks and online platforms, such as social media, academic blogs, and websites, to reach a wider audience of educators, researchers, and practitioners. * Open Access: The research study will be made available through open access publishing or institutional repositories to ensure that the findings are accessible to everyone regardless of their financial status or institutional affiliation.   Considerations for Ethical Concerns: To ensure that the dissemination of the research findings is conducted in an ethical manner, the following considerations will be taken:   * Protecting the privacy of participants: Participants' identities will be kept confidential, and any data collected will be anonymized to ensure their privacy and confidentiality. * Obtaining informed consent: Participants will be informed about the research study, their participation, and the data collection process, and their written consent will be obtained before data collection. * Respect for cultural and social diversity: Respect for the cultural, linguistic, and social backgrounds of the participants will be maintained, and language or actions that could be deemed offensive or disrespectful will be avoided. * Ethical use of data: The data collected will be used only for the purposes of the research study and will be analyzed and reported in a responsible and ethical manner, with appropriate safeguards to protect the privacy and confidentiality of the participants. |

Adapted from: C. J. Stanny, E. M. El-Sheikh, & H-M. Chung (2009) ***Getting Started with a SoTL Project***

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