



外国語担当助教 / 地質学の理学修士

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Shana Wolff

学歴

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経歴

福井県庁外国語指導助手、勝山市立勝山中部中学校

相談・講演・共同研究に応じられるテーマ

English in Sciences, Geoscience, Communities of Practice, シャナ・ウォルフ Engaging Classrooms

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主な研究と特徴

「Communities of Practice in the Classroom」

My experience as an instructor ranges from teaching geoscience laboratory classes for university students in the USA to English language education of grade school children in Japan. Now I am teaching university students again, but this time my focus in teaching English. It is essential for students pursuing jobs in the fields of science to be comfortable with English. As a science college graduate, I am aware of the importance English has in collaborating and communicating on an international level.

In my 9 years of teaching, I have distilled my core ideas of what I want my students to get from my classes, namely: for students to be receptive and engaged in the learning process; apply knowledge in a community; and have the confidence to be adaptable in real-world situations. Class time is valuable for students to be immersed in the target subject and use it with active support of classmates and the instructor. It is essential to help each student make a connection between learning the subject and benefiting themselves. Lectures are part of class time, but the importance of student interaction is essential for building a community of practice. Student-student and teacher-student support builds confidence in the controlled setting of a classroom and makes a strong English learning community. The eventual successful application of material in class leads to confidence and transference of skills to areas of student's lives outside of the classroom. In the work force former students will not face the exact problems practiced in one singular lesson. Students must be able to draw on the knowledge and skills they learned in a variety of classes to solve new, evolving problems. I have had an unorthodox path getting to where I am today. My studies in theology as well as work and volunteer experience have been greatly influential for me in my approach to life and education. I count it as a privilege to be in this society both as a community member and an educator as it takes steps toward a successful future.



今後の展望

I am interested in exploring communities of practice inside and outside of the classroom.

I am also interested in better understanding English education in application to science.

所属学会

主要論文・著書

Wolff, Shana M. (2010). An Analysis of the Plants Traditionally Used by Plains Indians as Topical Antiseptics for Antimicrobial Effectiveness. *Plains Anthropologist*, 55(216), 311-317.