

Enhance English teaching quality in secondary schools

提升中學英語教學水平

The Department of English at PolyU is supporting the professional development of 400 local teachers teaching different subjects through the provision of English courses funded by the Education Bureau.

理大英文系獲教育局資助，現正為任教不同科目的四百位本地老師提供以英語為教學語言的課程，藉此支援他們的專業發展。

To help teachers understand, recognize and work with academic English, Dr Gail Forey, Associate Professor, and her team have designed three courses that focus on teaching through English in a range of subject areas – art, physical education, science and technology – as well as a general introductory course on academic English. Teaching through English refers to the language used to develop knowledge in the different subject areas. The language used in science or mathematics, for instance, is very different from everyday, conversational language.

The team also focuses on specific language features used in academic English such as the function and construction of active and passive voice, and how writers incorporate persuasive and evaluative language to develop expressions of attitude and opinions in texts.

These courses help teachers to:

- identify how language is used in different subject areas and how subject knowledge is constructed through English;
- understand how language is arranged to represent what is going on, who or what is involved in that, and where, when and how it is done;
- recognize the difference between common sense, technical and abstract vocabulary;
- understand connections within sentences, within paragraphs and across paragraphs;
- be aware of how ideas are linked and how English can be cohesive; and
- identify how information is presented and flows smoothly in a text.

Other team members include Mr John Polias, Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Department of English and Director of Lexis Education Ltd; Mrs Bette Li, an Educational Consultant; Mr Eric Cheung, Research Associate at the Department of English; Ms Angela Tse, Instructor at the Department of English; and other PolyU and external consultants with subject-specific knowledge.

Dr Gail Forey
Gail Forey 博士

(Photo below) Mr John Polias
(下方相片) John Polias 先生



為了讓老師瞭解、認識和懂得運用學術英語，副教授 Gail Forey 博士與她的團隊設計了三個課程，在不同學科領域中培訓老師有效的運用英語教學，學科包括藝術、體育、科學與科技，以及一項學術英語基礎課程。學術英語有助發展專門學科的知識，如在科學或數學範疇中使用的語言，相比日常對話的用語，有很大的分別。

該小組把課程重點放在學術英語中所運用的語言特色，例如：主動和被動語態的功能和結構，以及作者如何將說服力和評價融入文章中，以表達態度和意見。

這些課程幫助老師：

- 識別語言在不同學科領域中的運用，以及如何利用英語構建學科知識
- 瞭解語言如何帶出事件、有關的人或物，以及事件在何地、何時和怎樣發生
- 識別常識用語、專門及抽象詞彙之間的區別
- 明白句子、段落和段與段之間的連繫
- 意識到理念可以怎樣連結起來，以及如何運用英文去達到此目標
- 研究如何在文章中流暢地帶出資訊

該小組的其他成員包括：英文系兼任助理教授及 Lexis Education Ltd 董事 John Polias 先生、教育顧問金嘉倩女士、英文系副研究員張諾銘先生、導師謝頌得女士，以及其他具備專門學科知識的校外顧問。

