

Asst. Prof. Esin ÇAĞLAYAN

Beyond One-Size-Fits-All: Designing Inclusive and Engaging Language Courses with UDL

Abstract

Ensuring learner engagement, inclusion, and diversity requires intentional and flexible course design that meets the needs of all students. This presentation focuses on how Universal Design for Learning (UDL) provides a structured framework to enhance engagement and promote an inclusive learning environment. After briefly defining engagement, inclusion, and diversity in language learning, the talk will demonstrate how UDL principles can help educators create more accessible and engaging courses. Practical strategies, including multimodal content delivery, alternative assessment methods, and technology-enhanced instruction, will be discussed. Participants will leave with concrete ideas for designing more inclusive, engaging, and effective language learning experiences.

Biodata

Esin Çağlayan is an assistant professor of Educational Sciences at Izmir University of Economics. She holds an MA and PhD in Educational Administration, Leadership and Supervision, a BA in English Language Teaching and Teacher Trainer Certificate from the British Council.

Esin worked as Level Coordinator, Head of Testing Unit, and as Head of the Preparatory Program at the university. Currently, she serves as Director of the Teaching and Learning Research and Application Centre - TLC, where she provides training and support in instructional design, technology-enhanced teaching, and assessment and evaluation to academic staff from various disciplines.

As an educator with over two decades of experience and an active researcher, Esin has contributed to the academic community through publications and conference presentations. In addition, she has conducted training sessions on program design and language testing and assessment, sharing her knowledge and expertise with fellow professionals. Her academic interests encompass educational technologies, instructional design, learning analytics, and language assessment.