

1:15 – 1:30 Signing to Zoom

1:30 – 1:40 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Andy Lawrence
Conference Co-Chair

Dr. Donna Kinerney
Dean of Instruction
Adult ESOL & Basic Skills for College and Careers

Emma Wilson
Program Administrator
Adult ESOL & Literacy Grant Program

1:40 – 2:40 Presentation on Maryland's Digital Literacy Framework for Adult Learners

Jamie Harris, M.Ed.
Adult Education Program Specialist
Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
MD Department of Labor

2:50 – 3:35 Track 1: Presentations by Teachers

1. Sing! Incorporate music in your classroom even if you can't hold a tune

Carmen Durham/Janet Hughes

Using music to engage learners in interactive and fun activities gets learners communicating, moving, thinking critically. Music builds classroom unity, and leads learners to explore culture and linguistic concepts. We show the steps, share tips, lessons learned when choosing songs appropriate for your curriculum and learner levels, and when creating activities that accompany songs. We offer suggestions and websites for learners at all levels to use and enjoy in online class and at home.

2. Visual Arts to Spark Interest and Learning

Carol Woodside

Incorporating Visual Arts into adult ESOL classes in innovative ways stimulates learner engagement and discussion. Learn about interesting online art resources and activities to use in multi-level classrooms. A lesson plan will be presented demonstrating how the Arts can improve speaking, listening, and writing skills. Participants will also identify ways to assess learning through the Arts.

3. Edmodo in the Zoom Classroom

Patricia Sawyer

Integrating Edmodo with Zoom boosts online learner engagement while doing most of the work for you. Explore and collaborate as we survey and share strategies and approaches to using Edmodo collaboratively, or as a standalone tool, in the Zoom classroom. Create quizzes that deliver immediate assessment results. Customize learner writing assignments providing comments and corrections, or share with the whole class. Create group projects for easy collaboration. Useful for all levels, ABE/Pre-GED, GED classrooms.

4. Google Docs in the Zoom Classroom (intermediate/advanced level)

Eve McCarey

Using Google Docs with Zoom maintains interaction and collaboration among learners with tools that recreate a physical classroom in the online setting. Learn teaching ideas and techniques that work with Google Docs to allow learners to write, highlight, and edit documents in their separate breakout rooms. Teachers are now free to join and provide immediate written and oral feedback, explanations, and clarification to different pairs and groups. Participants collaborate to share ideas, concerns, and solutions.

5. Teaching Science in Math Classes / How Technology Removes Learning Barriers in Online Learning

Mengsteab Weldegaber/Mark Doze

Using science in math class creates a practical context for math that may otherwise be too abstract for learners preparing for the GED. Understanding the relevance of math to science in the real-world makes math class outcomes more relevant to learners and deepens engagement. Participant collaboration will address other ways to integrate science into math classes or other subjects.

Universal Design for Learning is an initiative that improves outcomes for all learners with different needs, abilities, and styles of learning. Learners require different kinds of support and materials to fully engage in the online classroom. Various technologies will be discussed that demonstrate how to approach different learner knowledge and skills. Adapting classroom materials, modifying materials and developing personalized resources for specific learners are some of the solutions available to teachers.



3:45 – 4:15 Track 2: Sharing Sessions (with Teacher Moderators)

1. Successes and Opportunities in Remote Learning

Comfort Mingot

2. Promoting student engagement in remote instruction

Caroline Barry

3. Assessment in the remote classroom

Patricia Huffman

4. Optimize use of career coaches in a remote classroom setting

Mikkia Cordle

5. GED ideas and issues in a remote learning environment

Genevieve Liu /Rosemarie Dapena

4:20 – 4:30 Evaluation / Closing remarks

Presenter Biographies

Mark Doze is a career educator serving as a Specialist for Special Education Programs in DC Public Schools and teaches part-time with AELG's GED program.

Carmen Durham joined AELG in 2019 teaching Beginners and Intermediate level learners at various locations. She's working on her PhD in Applied Linguistics at UMD.

Janet Hughes has been teaching ESOL for 20 years, and joined AELG in 2008. She uses levity to help learners relax and learn more easily.

Eve McCarey has been teaching all levels of adult learners with AELG since 2010.

Patricia Sawyer has been using Edmodo in her classrooms since Summer 2019. She has taught ESOL for 4 years and has been with AELG since 2018.

Mengsteab Weldegaber has been teaching adult learners with AELG since 2018.

Carol Woodside has been teaching English at various organizations for 7 years, and joined AELG in 2017 to teach beginners and intermediate adult learners.