This 1-credit course aims to familiarize teachers with the concept of reflective practice. The course introduces the principles and practices associated with reflective practice for language teachers. Reflective practice is central to a language teacher’s development so that they can not only improve the quality of their teaching, but also provide better opportunities for their students to learn. The primary course objectives are to:

- understand the theories & approaches behind reflective practice
- become familiar with major research findings on reflective practice
- be able to apply a particular framework for reflecting on practice
- become aware of themselves as language teachers and their philosophy, principles, and theory of practice and their impact on practice and beyond practice
- become aware of the impact of practice on students, colleagues, community and society

**Course content**

Reflective practice generally means that language teachers subject their assumptions, beliefs and teaching practices to a critical analysis so that they can become more aware of their practice. Gaining teaching experience as a language teacher is not enough to provide automatic professional development, for we do not learn much from experience as much as we learn from reflecting on that experience; thus experience combined with systematic reflection can lead to professional growth so that we can become more effective language teachers. In this course we will use the Framework for Reflecting on Practice to explore reflective practice as a multidimensional activity that includes reflecting on self, practice and beyond practice.

**Required Text**

  - Available at Amazon Japan: [https://www.amazon.co.jp/Promoting-Teacher-Reflection-Language-Education/dp/1138025046/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1534251664&amp;sr=8-1-2&amp;refinements=p_27%3AThomas+S.+C.+Farrell](https://www.amazon.co.jp/Promoting-Teacher-Reflection-Language-Education/dp/1138025046/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1534251664&amp;sr=8-1-2&amp;refinements=p_27%3AThomas+S.+C.+Farrell)

**Additional Readings**

**Recommended reading before the course: choose from among the following**


### Tentative Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:00-20:00</td>
<td>Defining Reflective Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-20:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Oct 6</td>
<td>Reflecting on Philosophy</td>
<td><em>Farrell (2015) Ch 4</em></td>
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<td>15:00-20:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct 7</td>
<td>Reflecting on Principles</td>
<td><em>Farrell (2015) Ch 5</em></td>
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<td>10:00-17:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct 7</td>
<td>Reflecting on Theory</td>
<td><em>Farrell (2015) Ch 6</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct 7</td>
<td>Reflecting on Practice</td>
<td><em>Farrell (2015) Ch 7</em></td>
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<td>10:00-17:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Oct 7</td>
<td>Reflecting Beyond Practice Navigating the Framework</td>
<td><em>Farrell (2015) Ch 7, 8,9</em></td>
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<td>10:00-17:00pm</td>
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### Course Assignments

**Choose from only ONE of the following**

**1: Life History/Philosophy Of Practice**

From the course reading you will, through contemplation and reflection, gain more self-knowledge and as such you will be better able to explore any and all influences from the past that have been significant in developing your perspective as a language teacher. Use some of the tools of reflections provided in the text (ie. The Tree of Life; Narrative Frames; Johari Window; Career Critical Incidents) to construct and Full Life History of Who You Are as a language teacher and Your Philosophy of Practice.

**2: Principles Of Practice**

Reflect on your Principles of Practice by closely examining your *assumptions, beliefs* and *conceptions* of teaching and learning. Give a detailed account of: Beliefs; Metaphors; Maxims & Conceptions of Teaching.

**3: Theory Of Practice**

Most teachers tacitly hold speculative theories to explain aspect of their practice that seems to work for them although they probably do not have any hard evidence to back up these theories. Reflect on your Theory Of Practice by detailing how you **plan** your practice.

Or
Outline **TWO specific critical incidents** that have impacted your theory of practice.

**4: Your Practice**
Your Teaching Frames: Give a Detailed Account (with specific rationale and references) to the following questions and design an Action Research Project:

- An aspect of my teaching I find challenging is…
- I’m not sure what to do about this. But one possibility might be for me to…
- It would also be good to get help from…
- The aim of my exploration and reflection would be to…
- A major constraint, though, might be that…

**5: Beyond The Classroom**
Reflecting beyond practice involves a process of making judgments about whether professional activity is equitable, just, and respectful of persons or not. Write a paper on your perspective on the TESOL profession and take a critically reflective stance towards the profession.

Evaluation Criteria: “Pass or Fail”