Dear Friends,

Happy 2021! A new year has begun and so has another semester in LEAP. When you read this, we will have just finished our third week of classes. Time flies! This term, our program includes students from China, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Thailand. We are offering our students hybrid classes with most attending in-person on campus.

We are excited to partner up with Wright State’s TESOL Program once again this semester. The TESOL students get hands-on experience working with English as a second language learners while the LEAP students get extra English practice with their WSU partners. Read more about our collaboration below. It’s a true win-win for all involved!

Jeannette Horwitz
LEAP Director

LEAP & TESOL Collaboration

A reading of Wright State’s mission,
vision, and values yields a clear understanding that it is Wright State’s goal to help every unique individual in our community learn together so they can serve well in their spheres of influence. “Our daily life is made rich by the diversity of individuals, groups, and cultures.” The international students in the university’s intensive English program, LEAP, bring their rich cultural backgrounds to the Wright State campus and provide a great opportunity for the university’s U.S. students to get a taste of the world beyond the country’s borders.

Each semester, LEAP partners with the TESOL Program in the Department of English Language and Literatures. TESOL students complete internships in LEAP and serve as in-class helpers, tutors and conversation partners. Read more about the benefits of our work together in this WSU Newsroom article, “Students helping students.”

Says Dr. Deborah Crusan, Professor, TESOL/Applied Linguistics, in reference to the many collaborations between LEAP and TESOL:

“Collaborating with LEAP faculty has afforded my students tremendous opportunities for hands-on experience with English learners. Even before my pre-service teachers step into their own classroom, they are immersed in what it means to be an English language teacher; the LEAP faculty offers exceptional examples of theoretically informed and ethical teaching. Thanks to the LEAP program, my students feel welcome and comfortable in their work with students.”

To learn more about the TESOL Program (B.A., Minor, Certificate, M.A., and Combined B.A. and M.A., visit TESOL’s website by clicking here.

Are you interested in collaborating with LEAP? Check out the different opportunities we provide >>>

Collaborate with LEAP.
Yijing Zhang is from Jiujiang in the Jiang Xi Province of southern China. She studied in LEAP in 2019. Spring 2020, she started the MA TESOL Program at WSU where she is currently a student, expected to graduate in Fall 2021. This semester, Yijing is partnered with a LEAP student from Saudi Arabia whom she meets with weekly to tutor. As part of her TESOL Speaking and Listening course, she will also be creating speaking and pronunciation activities for her LEAP partner.

What did you enjoy about being a LEAP student?

"To be honest, looking back on it now, I feel all the LEAP time is interesting and memorable. When I was in LEAP, I felt like I was noticed and had the opportunity to express myself, and more importantly, I didn't have to worry about making mistakes in LEAP. Also, LEAP is a resourceful place that provides us with a lot of academic guidance and helps each of us to succeed."
What made you interested in doing the MA TESOL Program?

"Influenced by many factors, I wanted to be a teacher since I was a child, and my interest in English, language and different cultures made this idea even stronger. I was thinking about studying abroad when I was an undergraduate, so I chose TESOL major after comprehensive consideration, just like the name of this major 'Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.' This major gives me the opportunity to speak English, teach, engage with people, experience different cultures, and embrace diversity - those are what I like."

What have you enjoyed most so far about being in the MA TESOL Program?

"As we often say, interest is the best teacher. What I enjoy most in my current learning process is every time I learn something new. Of course the difficulties and boredom in learning are sometimes unavoidable, but every time I look back and see how far I have come and what I have gained from it, I keep going. And, in the MA TESOL program, I think it’s like finding a group of friends who share the same interests, and together we keep getting better and moving forward."

---

Former LEAP Students:

What are you up to? Do you have a success story of your own? Email Jeannette at jeannette.horwitz@wright.edu. We love to follow up with LEAP alumni and would like to feature your story in an upcoming edition of LEAP News!

Improve Your Pronunciation with LEAP!

The next session of LEAP's 6-week Pronunciation Improvement course is offered during Spring B-term, March 9 - April 15, 2021. Deadline to register is March 1. **Not in Ohio or the US? No problem!** The course meets "live online" Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:50 p.m. EST. Contact us at leapadmissions@wright.edu to find out how to join!

[Click here to learn more about LEAP's Pronunciation Improvement course.](#)
in this video. Taught "live online" Spring 2021, the class will be similar to the in-person version with lots of interaction. Students are given access to digital class and personal notebooks where they can access pronunciation resources, upload recordings of their own speaking, receive out-of-class help and feedback from the instructor, and collaborate with other students.

To watch video, click here.

New Online Courses!

We're making it easier to improve your English with these new courses:

1) The LEAP Basic Writing Workshop is a 6-week fully online self-paced program that takes beginning non-native students of English through basic sentence structure and grammar to complete sentence and paragraph writing.

2) The LEAP Test Preparation Workshop is designed to help non-native students of English prepare for standardized English tests such as the TOEFL and IELTS. The workshop includes strategies for test-taking in addition to practice exams with instructor feedback.

Additionally, students outside the United States can now register for our 6-week Pronunciation Improvement course via the LEAP Intensive English Program store on Wright State University Stores page. Note: this course meets "live online" with the instructor, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:50 p.m. EST, March 9 - April 15, 2021.

For more information and to register for these courses, contact us via email: leapadmissions@wright.edu or click here.
More online mini-lessons have been added to LEAP's YouTube page!

LEAP's Assistant Director Tom Fenton has created lessons to help students prepare for the TOEFL and IELTS. Instructor Pam Everly shares Pronunciation Improvement lessons. Be sure to check them out here: LEAP on YouTube and subscribe to get notifications when we add new lessons!

LEAP For Locals & LEAP Community Scholarship

Are you an Ohio resident holding U.S. citizenship or permanent residency? Are you looking to improve your English skills for academic, professional, or community advancement? If so,
you can take advantage of LEAP’s half-price fees. We are proud to offer in-state fee options for Ohio residents. You can study full-time or part-time.

To learn more, visit our website, LEAP for Locals, or contact us at leapadmissions@wright.edu to schedule a one-on-one virtual meeting.

The deadline to apply for the LEAP Community Scholarship for Summer Semester 2021 is April 23. Don’t delay - apply today! You'll find instructions and the scholarship application by clicking here >>> Community Scholarship.

#PreparedForSuccess

Spring Semester 2021 Office Hours:
The office is open for in-person visits, Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Appointments are encouraged. All other days, we work remotely. You can always reach us via email: leapadmissions@wright.edu