

RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES



Professor Steve Walsh

Visiting Professor Faculty of Education, HKU

April 16, 2020 (Thursday) 17:00 - 18:30 The session will be conducted through Zoom

(Online Registration: Please register at

https://hkuems1.hku.hk/hkuems/ec_regform.aspx?guest=Y&ueid=69187 by April 15, 2020 (Wednesday). The meeting ID will be sent to registrants by email.)

Abstract:

Most students spend an enormous amount of time learning to speak English, while teachers devote hours and hours to creating materials which will engage students in oral practice. In this session, we consider how recent developments impact on the ways in which speaking is taught. Specifically, we will look at the influence of spoken corpora, review debates concerning NS and NNS models and evaluate the role of authenticity in spoken materials. In addition, we will look at the ways in which recent research on fluency, listenership and interactional competence might affect the ways in which we teach, learn and test English. Advances in technology, together with new thinking in relation to what models we should be teaching, have led to a radical re-thinking of appropriate approaches to the teaching of speaking. Finally, we'll review some of the practical issues around the teaching of specific spoken genres and consider probable future directions.