BOOK STUDIES

PAST AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

This summer we held our first summer book studies which were very well attended and provided a great opportunity for educators to discuss some very important topics regarding ML/EL students.

This school year we will be continuing our book studies. It's not too late to sign up! Our next book is *The Language Lens for Content Classrooms.*

[Register here!](#)

WIDA NEWS AND UPDATES

WIDA SCREENERS AND STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

The new WIDA Screener for Kindergarten is here! The training and certification course is live in the [WIDA Secure Portal](#). The K W-APT screening tool is still available through spring, but will be retired after this school year.

- Please ensure that your district distributes a [home language survey](#) to flag potential ML/EL students.
- Positive identification must be based on documented screener scores. See the OPI's [English Learner Guidance for School Districts](#) for detailed information.
- Work with your district clerk to [enroll students in the EL program in AIM](#).
BEST PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES FOR ML/ELS

EQUITABLE GRADING PRACTICES FOR ML/ELS

This mini-webinar explores equitable grading practices for your ML/EL students. Use this reflection tool and the guidelines tool to guide the discussion at your school or district.

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE INSTRUCTION

This mini-webinar will allow all stakeholders to reflect on their role in culturally responsive instruction and how to create an inclusive community for ML/ELs in your schools. The attached discussion tool will guide discussions at your school or district.

3 Different Levels of Culture

- **Surface Culture** (Low emotional impact)
  - Food, flags, festivals, clothes, holidays, music, games, literature, language, art

- **Shallow Culture** (High Emotional Impact)
  - Concepts of time, personal space, eye contact, ways of handling emotion, nonverbal communication, child rearing, principles, thoughts on wellness, work ethic

- **Deep Culture** (Intense emotional impact)
  - Decision-making, concepts of self, worldview, spirituality, notions of fairness, preference of competition or cooperation, relationship to nature and animals, definitions of kinship

SPOTLIGHT

EL SUMMER CAMP IN BOZEMAN

The spotlight this Fall features Bridget Kevane who is a professor of Latin American and Latino Studies Program and the director of Liberal Studies at Montana State University. Her research is centered around Latino/a studies, focusing on the literature, culture, and history of Latinx communities in the United States. Through her research and awareness of the struggles of the Hispanic/Latinx community in Montana, she has become an advocate and voice for this population.

Most recently she has created a partnership between MSU and the Bozeman school district to run the first English Learner summer camp in the city Bozeman. Watch spotlight here!