



Session Title:
Unleashing Creativity with iOS
Nicholas Yates
Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

G-09

Bio

Nicholas Yates is an Instructional Designer in the Center for Educational Innovation at Zayed University and is an Apple Distinguished Educator (Class of 2013). Being a passionate educator, he loves designing and developing active student centered pedagogy. Use of 1:1 iPad in classes has made him see his teaching and student learning transformed with opportunities.

Abstract

Teachers of Math and Science always ask for demonstrating the process in which they arrived at the solution. From a didactic approach to inquiry-based model of learning, it is the same catch cry heard. What if the challenge was set to students to not only show the answer and the process of getting there, but to be creative in their demonstration of this knowledge and skill? Simple creative stages in a workflow of generating, capturing, collecting, and realizing would encourage and motivate them. This workshop will explore and apply various apps to the workflow.



Session Title:
Repurposing Games Programming for STEM
Enas Tarawneh
ICT Teacher, ATHS AUH-Girls. Abu Dhabi, UAE

G-10

Bio

Enas is a honours student from Mutah University in Jordan and holds a Masters Degree in Computer Science. She has worked as teacher, lead teacher and e-learning coordinator for many schools and with different age groups. She enjoys volunteering for activities in the education field. Currently, Enas works at the Applied Technology High School in Abu Dhabi Girls.



Session Title:
Repurposing Games Programming for STEM
Heba Daraghme
ICT Teacher, ATHS AJM-Girls. Ajman, UAE

Bio

Heba is an Electrical Engineer from the University of Jordan. She is currently pursuing her Masters degree in Education at the British University in Dubai. Heba works as an ICT teacher and e-learning coordinator at the Applied Technology High School, Ajman. She enjoys conducting professional development workshops and works simultaneously with other colleagues in the Professional Learning Committee PLC.

Abstract

The workshop will present GameSalad as an innovative 2D programming environment that makes it easy to create an animation for telling a story or playing an interactive educational game. Attendees will create a simple animated 2D game to serve the purpose of delivering a concept within a STEM context. Consequently, attendees will have a scope of how GameSalad can serve Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



Session Title:
Challenge-Based Learning (Part 1)
Darryl Bedford
Oak Lodge School for Deaf Children. London, UK.

G-12

Bio

Darryl Bedford is an Apple Distinguished Educator working in central London. He works closely with several local mainstream schools, providing advice, support and training focused on future technologies in the classroom. He has extensive knowledge and experience of creative Challenge Based Learning approaches featuring Apple technology. Darryl utilises video, animation, portable devices and Internet technologies to encourage collaborative learning and deep thinking.

Abstract

Preparing students for a rapidly changing society means equipping them with the skills to embrace change and solve complex problems. Creativity, collaboration, persistence, critical thinking and confidence are lessons that cannot be taught from a textbook. Challenge Based Learning is a student centred, active learning approach that encourages students to use technology they use in their daily lives to solve real world problems. This is a hands-on workshop that will exercise your own problem solving and collaborative skills. Examine the theory behind this modern approach to reveal how it can transform teaching and learning.



Session Title:
The New Face of IAT PLATO
Shadi Ayoub
Manager, Instructional Technology, ATHS Directorate of Schools, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Audit. A

Bio

Shadi holds a master degree in computer engineering and currently finishing his doctor thesis in education with a focus on instructional technology. He worked as an IT lecturer in different universities for about nine years before shifting to curriculum development and design. He has a passion towards programming, web development, and technology integration. Currently, Shadi is the manager for the instructional technology department in the directorate of the Institute of Applied Technology.

Abstract

Since its implementation, IAT PLATO has received recognition as an effective e-learning portal to deliver curriculum and assess students learning. At the same time, the many feedbacks received from the ATHS schools have identified some areas that can be improved. Moreover, upgrading the core engine of the system, which is based on Moodle 1.9, into the current Moodle 2.6.1+ has opened the door for more capabilities and better user experience.

In this session, some aspects of the new version of IAT PLATO (V 2.0) will be demonstrated. This includes not only improvements in the performance, the interface, and the user experience; but also additions of new functions that would further promote collaboration, teacher autonomy, and integration with the iPad.



Session Title:
iOS for Arabic Language Learning
Rani Saleh
Arabic Teacher, ATHS DXB, Dubai, UAE

G-14

Bio

Rani Saleh holds a BA degree in Arabic Literature. He started his career as an Arabic Language teacher in 2000. Rani enjoys using technology in the classroom to engage students and explore its ever-changing world. Lately, he presented at GESS and GEF 2014 on 'How to Create a Flipped Classroom?'



Session Title:
iOS for Arabic Language Learning
Hazem Al Asmar
Arabic Teacher, ATHS DXB, Dubai, UAE

Bio

Hazem Al Asmar holds an MA in Islamic Doctrine from Jordan University. He started his career in Arabic Language Teaching in 2000. Hazem is passionate about technology integration in the classroom. He has also studied Computer Science at the Polytechnic College in Amman, and made many contributions in this field.

Abstract

Learning Arabic in a 1:1 iPad classroom provides many opportunities for students to be creative, productive, collaborative and independent in their learning. In this workshop, we will share with you ways to encourage students to learn Arabic with their iPad using authentic learning activities that we have been designing for the past two years. Don't forget to bring your iPad along!



Session Title:
STEM Inquiry in Action
Dr. Naser Al-Ashab
Acting Physics Supervisor & Instructional Developer, ATHS Directorate of Schools, Dubai, UAE.

G-16

Bio

Dr. Naser holds a Ph.D in Science Curricula and Methods of Teaching Science. Dr. Naser currently works as the Acting Physics Supervisor & Instructional Developer at the ATHS Directorate of Schools. He served for three years as the Middle East regional coordinator of AdvancED NCA SACS. He worked as Science Academic Supervisor for 10 years in UAE before joining IAT ATHS Dubai campus in Jan 2012.

Abstract

The STEM education offers the right solution for an inquiry based learning for an effective Science classroom. Here Science, Technology, Engineering and Math are integrated. This workshop encourages Grade 9 Physics teachers to conduct a variety of STEM activities. They will run some inquiry based learning activities that will allow them to construct models and conclude the factors affecting the applications and the purpose of the models. The 'How', 'Where', 'When' and 'Why' in conducting these activities will be provided by the trainer. Handouts will be shared with the trainees in order to give them some reference websites that support the STEM concept in the Physics classroom.



Session Title:
Developing English Language Skills for STEM
Phoebe H. Ayoub
English Supervisor & Instructional Developer, ATHS Directorate of Schools, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

GL-002

Bio

Phoebe has a Masters TESOL along with a DELTA degree. She has been in education for more than 10 years. Her experience is in teaching, developing English Language Curricula for ESL students and training teachers. She is currently the Curriculum Developer at Applied Technology High Schools.



Session Title:
Developing English Language Skills for STEM
Mireille Makhoul
Lead Teacher - English Department, ATHS AUH Girls, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Bio

Mireille Farah holds a Masters in TESOL and a BA degree in English Language and Literature. She has been in education for more than 10 years teaching English and working on academics, curriculum and assessment. She is interested in new teaching methodologies that encourage better learner autonomy. She is currently the Lead Teacher at ATHS-AUH Girls Campus.

Abstract

It is clear that a new movement for ESL in the Middle East and around the world is needed. The STEM approach requires learners to design experiments, collect, analyze and interpret data. However, reviewing and presenting findings is limited to learners with a certain language proficiency level. Therefore, rethinking how English Language is designed and delivered is essential thus bringing in a practical connection between STEM and language learning. Instead of approaching ESL as an individual subject or even in a cross-curricular setting, English is incorporated within all subjects thus enabling students to present their academic findings in the target language – English.



Featured Session A
Session Title:
Can Mobile Technology Assist Learning? A Case Study
Dr. Christina Gitsaki
Assoc. Dean of Foundations, Academic Central Services, Higher Colleges of Technology. UAE.

Audit. B

Bio

Dr. Christina Gitsaki is Associate Academic Dean of Foundations at HCT and an Honorary Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, The University of Queensland, Australia. She served as UNESCO Chair in Applied Research in Education at the Sharjah Higher Colleges of Technology (SHCT) Dr. Gitsaki has presented her research at International Conferences; is an invited speaker at professional events; has published over 50 papers in refereed journals; is an author, editor and co-editor of six books on language education research.

Abstract

This presentation will outline an applied research study that examined the impact of the use of iPads by post-secondary Emirati students for learning English. The longitudinal study was conducted in a higher education institution by Dr. Christina Gitsaki and Dr. Matthew Robby, UNESCO Chair in Applied Research in Education, Higher Colleges of Technology, and looked into a number of different aspects of the learning process including student motivation and engagement in classroom activities, the use of the iPad for out-of-class activities, the frequency of iPad use and its impact on student academic success.