



The ALTE Course in Languages for Specific Purposes Test Design

Presenter: Professor Anthony Green (CRELLA, University of Bedfordshire)

Location: Karolinum Building, Ovocný trh 3, Prague 1

Rooms: [Green Lecture Hall](#)

Schedule: Tuesday 8th November, 9am to 5pm. Each session is expected to last 90 minutes.

Overview:

This course is suitable for people with an interest in developing or understanding the testing of languages for specific purposes (LSP). These are tests of languages for clearly defined test taking populations such as foreign service personnel, call centre operatives, or healthcare workers and are distinguished from tests of general language proficiency intended for all. Course participants should already have some experience of language test design and be familiar with concepts in language assessment such as reliability, validity and test impact.

The course offers an introduction to the issues affecting the design of LSP tests and provides practical ideas on how to implement a LSP testing programme. It is intended to support use of the [ALTE Guidelines for the Development of Language for Specific Purposes Tests](#) and participants will gain most if they read these guidelines before attending the course.

The course will take participants through the process of designing, building, scoring and monitoring a test of LSP, working from examples of real-world projects in a variety of fields. It will consider the challenges involved in achieving the appropriate level of specificity, balancing linguistic considerations with technical knowledge, and working collaboratively with experts. The course will balance input from the course leader with opportunities to share ideas with others engaged in similar projects.

	Tuesday 8th November
9.00am -10.30am AM Session 1	Designing your LSP test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes a LSP test specific? • Setting up the systems and procedures • Involving the experts
10.30am – 11.00am	*Coffee Break 30 minutes
11.00am – 12:30pm AM Session 2	Building your LSP test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task types • Specifications • Reviewing and refining your tasks
12:30pm – 13.30pm	*Lunch 1 hour
13.30pm – 15.00pm PM Session 1	Scoring and reporting results from your LSP test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What score users need to know • Ways of scoring • Reporting results
15.00pm – 15.30pm	Coffee Break 30 minutes

15.30 – 17.00pm PM Session 2	Maintaining your LSP test <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can you tell if your test works?• Managing data• Keeping up to date
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*Coffee breaks (in the morning and in the afternoon) and the lunch are included in the price of the registration for the participants.