

## Thai-UO Tsunami Zone Web-based English Language Teaching Materials Project: Course Description



Welcome to our course! Please contact me if you have any questions or problems:

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You can read more about me on my website,

<http://www.uoregon.edu/~dhealey/personal.html>

I am usually on email between 9am and 9pm Monday through Friday, and occasionally on Saturday and Sunday. Oregon is about 14 hours behind Bangkok, so I'll do my best to respond to you as soon as possible.

### Materials

Course website: <http://thaiuo.uoregon.edu/tsunami.html> - course materials are here

Online discussion: <http://www.nicenet.org> - weekly discussions are here

### Description

The goal of the Tsunami Zone Web-based English Language Teaching Materials Project is to serve secondary level Thai teachers who work in the 4 provinces damaged by the 2004 Sumatra-Andaman Earthquake Tsunami. This course offers training and free copyable materials for teaching in English, using tsunamis and other related disasters as a focus for content.

The Tsunami Zone materials are based on a communicative, integrated skills approach with activities to support the development of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills for low-proficiency English language learners. The materials incorporate critical thinking skills, encouraging learners to develop and use problem-solving strategies and creativity in their learning tasks. Activities also vary in style in order to create opportunities for learning at different levels and with different learning styles.

### Course Objectives

- Using the content and activities in this course, English teachers will work with science teachers to develop specific ways to use tsunami- and other disaster-related content in their own settings.
- Course participants will use online discussion forums to share ideas each week.
- Participants will improve their English language skills, particularly reading and writing, by interacting with the course instructor and each other in English in discussion forums.
- Starting in Week 6, participants will create and add to an e-portfolio with the work that they do during the course.

### Course Expectations

Participants will contribute to the discussion with at least two posts each week.

Participants will participate in weekly tasks (that they discuss) and add to an e-portfolio.

Participants will share ideas in a respectful way where we appreciate each other's contributions.

The deadline for each week's activities is **Monday** of the following week.

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## Syllabus

The activities may change, depending on participants' interests.

Week 1 October 4-10	<p>Introduction to the course - look in your email for information about our discussions on Nicenet, <a href="http://www.nicenet.org">http://www.nicenet.org</a>. Contact Deborah if you do not have that message.</p> <p>Needs analysis - look for the link in your email.</p> <p>Nicenet discussion topics: Introduce yourself. What would you like to focus on in this course? Make sure you post your ideas and comment on at least one other person's idea. For example, you can say if you agree with someone else's idea and why.</p>
Week 2 October 11-17	<p>WebQuest: "The Moving Earth" at <a href="http://thaiuo.uoregon.edu/dox/tsunami_week2.html">http://thaiuo.uoregon.edu/dox/tsunami_week2.html</a></p> <p>Read about WebQuests at <a href="http://www.zunal.com/help-about-whatwebquest.php">http://www.zunal.com/help-about-whatwebquest.php</a></p> <p>Nicenet discussion topics: How could you use this information in an English class? How about a science class? How would it be different? Because each person and each setting is different, you will probably have some different ideas about what you could or could not do with this activity.</p>
Week 3 October 18-24	<p>Lesson Plan Activity: Add English Easily</p> <p>Read about rubrics for assessment at <a href="http://edtech.kennesaw.edu/intech/rubrics.htm">http://edtech.kennesaw.edu/intech/rubrics.htm</a></p> <p>Nicenet discussion topics: How would you adapt this lesson for your students? What additional activities could you do with it? What kind of rubric could you create to measure how well students learned?</p>
Week 4 October 25-31	<p>Lesson Plan Activity: Survival-Escape Plan</p> <p>Read about learning styles and strategies at <a href="http://www.chaminade.org/INSPIRE/learnstl.htm">http://www.chaminade.org/INSPIRE/learnstl.htm</a> or watch a video by Richard Felder at <a href="http://ctl.csudh.edu/SpeakerSeries/Felder.htm">http://ctl.csudh.edu/SpeakerSeries/Felder.htm</a></p> <p>Nicenet discussion topic: How can you use this activity to appeal to students with different learning styles?</p>
Week 5 November 1-7	<p>Finding material</p> <p>Read about web searching at <a href="http://www.uoregon.edu/dhealey/techtips/june2009.html">http://www.uoregon.edu/dhealey/techtips/june2009.html</a></p> <p>For more ways to search, look at NoodleTools: Choosing the best search for your information needs at <a href="http://www.noodletools.com/debbie/literacies/information/5locate/adviceengine.html">www.noodletools.com/debbie/literacies/information/5locate/adviceengine.html</a></p> <p>For a fun site with many different topics, look at Breaking News English: <a href="http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com">http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com</a></p> <p>Nicenet discussion topics: How do you search the web? Can you use any of these techniques? What sites would you recommend to others?</p>
Week 6 November 8-14	<p>Lesson Plan Activity: Disaster Supply Kit</p> <p>E-portfolio on Google Sites to save what you create</p> <p>Nicenet discussion topic: How can you incorporate critical thinking in your lessons?</p>
Week 7 November 15-21	<p>Lesson Plan Activity: Disaster Computer Simulation</p> <p>Read about techniques for encouraging group work at <a href="http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/coopcollab/exploration.html">www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/coopcollab/exploration.html</a> and <a href="http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/collaborative.html">http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/collaborative.html</a>. Here are some guidelines for students doing group work: <a href="http://employees.oneonta.edu/vomsaw/w/handouts_general/GroupWorkGuidelines.htm">http://employees.oneonta.edu/vomsaw/w/handouts_general/GroupWorkGuidelines.htm</a></p> <p>Discussion: How can you use this lesson to encourage discussion? What roles could you give students in this simulation when they work in groups?</p>
Week 8	Lesson Plan Activity: Earthquake-Tsunami Events

November 22-28	Read about using graphics and find free images at <a href="http://www.webcreationz.co.uk/imagearchive.php">http://www.webcreationz.co.uk/imagearchive.php</a> and <a href="http://www.freeimages.co.uk/">http://www.freeimages.co.uk/</a> Nicenet discussion topics: What types of graphic information are most helpful to your students? What do you use now?
Week 9 Nov. 29- Dec. 5	Adapting material Create an easy exercise with Hot Potatoes (download the program at <a href="http://hotpot.uvic.ca">http://hotpot.uvic.ca</a> ) Nicenet discussion topics: Think about what we've been looking at during this course. What type of information would be useful to adapt for your students? What types of exercises would be good?
Week 10 December 6-10	E-portfolio and future plans Discussion: What will you do next to enhance your students' learning? NOTE: This week ends on Friday, December 10.