

## ILE SIG

### Description:

#### **Conflict, Values, and Intercultural Communication**

The contemporary world is characterised by increasingly polarised world-views. Societies are often divided into conflicting groups whose values are frequently reinforced by social media stories and 'fake news'. Electoral campaigns in various countries – including Brazil – are marked by deep political divisions, aggression, and an unwillingness to see the other person's point of view. Meanwhile, English teachers are encouraged to keep political debate out of the classroom. Understandably, many teachers simply choose to avoid controversial topics in the language classroom; however, others advocate its use as a 'safe space' where students can explore culturally diverse values and opinions. Many teachers who would like to choose the latter option lack confidence in addressing potentially explosive subjects in a way that encourages respect for differing values. Our interactive PCE explores possible ways of raising, exploring and mediating between the diverse sets of values and point-of-view that we and our learners hold. The PCE offers practical activities and a forum for discussion of language activities and programmes that promote critical thinking, intercultural awareness, and respect for views that one does not necessarily share. The PCE also considers the role of international and national language curricula in exploring the relationship between values and language learning in situations where learners and teachers might find themselves holding conflicting views. It should appeal to teachers who are interested in addressing issues such as politics, inequalities, religion, gender, and race in the language classroom from different cultural perspectives.

### Topics:

- The CEFR and intercultural mediation: Beyond A1-C2
- The Brazilian national curriculum and language education in interesting times
- Politics in the classroom: turning a taboo into a learning opportunity

### Presenters:



**John Corbett** is a CAPES International Fellow and Visiting Professor at USP. He is President of the BRAZ-TESOL Intercultural Language Education SIG.



**Hugo Dart** has been a teacher at IBEU-RJ (EFL, CLIL, and teacher training) since 2010. At NILE (Norwich Institute for Language Education) he specialized in intercultural education in 2012 and was awarded the Professional Award for Teacher Educators in 2019. He is Secretary of the BRAZ-TESOL ILE SIG.



**Bruno Lima** has been a teacher at the Federal Institute of Rio Grande do Norte since 2008. He holds a PhD degree in Language Studies (UFRN). As a researcher, he is interested in investigating intercultural experiences. He is a board member of BRAZ-TESOL RN Chapter and Vice President of the ILE SIG.

For more information, please write to [ilesig@braztesol.org.br](mailto:ilesig@braztesol.org.br)

**Time: 1.00 – 5.00 p.m.**

**Fee: R\$ 50,00**