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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
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# USA Learns: An Introduction to Remote Learning for Community Programs

Presented by: Kristin Quach



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# About the Presenter: Kristin Quach



Middlebury Institute of  
International Studies at Monterey



CHINESE COMMUNITY CENTER  
中華文化服務中心



# Chinese Community Center

- Houston, TX
- Social Services Non-Profit Organization
- ESL Program for 10+ years
- Part of Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Consortium
- Serve ~ 250 AEL students per year





# Who is in the audience?

- Where is everyone located?
- Do you currently use DL in your program?
- Have you used or are you looking to use USA Learns?



# Agenda

- Brief introduction of presenter and program & brief survey of audience
- Navigation of USA Learns website and dive into ESL levels and curriculum available
- Account overviews- How to sign up for an account & student side vs teacher side
- Proxy Hours and Reporting for TWC
- Highlights and Challenges
- Q&A



# USA Learns Overview & Curriculum

- Five Different courses
  - First English Course: a 20-unit, video-based beginner-level course
  - English Plus 1 Course: a 5-unit, video based high beginner-level course
  - Second English Course: a 20-unit, video-based intermediate-level course (English for All videos)
  - Practice English and Reading: 44 intermediate-level stories and activities
  - USA Learns Citizenship: a 4 unit, video-based intermediate-level course





# USA Learns Overview and Curriculum Links

- [Learn more about USA Learns  
\(https://www.usalearns.org/curriculum\)](https://www.usalearns.org/curriculum)
- [Direct Link for USA Learns Overview Document  
\(https://www.usalearns.org/Content/Documents/USA\\_Learns\\_Overview.pdf\)](https://www.usalearns.org/Content/Documents/USA_Learns_Overview.pdf)
- [Direct Link for USA Learns Curriculum Scope & Sequence Document  
\(https://www.usalearns.org/Content/Documents/ScopeSequence.pdf\)](https://www.usalearns.org/Content/Documents/ScopeSequence.pdf)



# Teacher's Side

- Enroll students in your class to keep track of their progress
- At the end of the semester, you can clear their progress

## My Home

kristin@ccchouston.org

Start a New Class or manage your existing classes on this page. Select a class title to access your class roster, view scores, write messages, and more.  
(Press the class title again to close the menu.)

### Class Overview

[Start a New Class](#)

Title	End Date	Enrollment	Class Key
<u>1st English Course</u>	4/2/2020	2	f7a35f22
1st English Course -	n/a	2	4ef24b03
2nd English Course	n/a	1	baeaae64
English 1 Plus	3/27/2020	0	7f7b6f16
English 1 Plus - Test 2	6/10/2020	0	8bfa9644
Practice English and Readin	3/23/2020	0	ac9e3215
USA Learns Citizenship	3/23/2020	2	4b7dafdb

**Manage '1st English Course'**

- [View Class Roster](#)
- [New Message](#)
- [Student Activity by Class](#)
- [Share Class Key](#)
- [Edit Class Details](#)

- [Messages](#)
- [Graded writing activities](#)
- [Change my password](#)
- [Change my email address](#)
- [Change my name](#)

### News for teachers

Have you checked out our newest course – English 1 Plus? It's a beginning high / intermediate low course based on videos from the Voice of America Let's Learn English series. This course has 5 units, with six lessons each. We recommend that learners complete this course after the 1st English Course.

[Why Ads?](#)

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# Student's Side

- Units -> Lessons -> Activities

1st English Course - Test / Around the Clock

Unit Menu

## Lesson Menu

#	Name	Completed?	Score
1	<a href="#">Introduction &amp; Vocabulary 1</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
2	<a href="#">Language Practice 1</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
3	<a href="#">Vocabulary 2</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
4	<a href="#">Language Practice 2</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
5	<a href="#">Review and Quiz</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•

A weather widget with a blue sky, white clouds, and a bright sun. In the bottom right corner, there is a black rectangular box with the text "12:00 P.M." in red.






# Student's Side

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1st English Course - Test / Around the Clock / Introduction & Vocabulary 1 Lesson Menu

### Activity Menu

#	Name	Completed?	Score
Unit Introduction			
1	<a href="#">Learning Goals</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Times of the Day			
1	<a href="#">Classroom Lesson</a> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
2	<a href="#">Learn New Words</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
3	<a href="#">Meaning Match</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
4	<a href="#">Say it!</a> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
5	<a href="#">Spell it!</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
Clock Time			
1	<a href="#">Learn New Words</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
2	<a href="#">Listening Match</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
3	<a href="#">Say it!</a> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	—

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade


4th Grade

5th Grade

6th Grade

7th Grade

8th Grade

Adapted Mind 

- Students can redo sections as many times as they want, but only the most recent attempt will save



# Tips to Consider

- Create your own student account
- Spend a week (or more!) to familiarize
- Have the same password for all students
- Have an excel sheet which marked when students have completed which units (teachers should assist)



# Proxy Hours and Reporting for TWC

- On the [TWC approved list of DL](https://tcall.tamu.edu/twcael/initiatives/distcurriculum.html)  
[\(<https://tcall.tamu.edu/twcael/initiatives/distcurriculum.html>\)](https://tcall.tamu.edu/twcael/initiatives/distcurriculum.html)
- Only English 1 and English 2 courses
- Clocktime OR Mastery Models



# Clocktime Model

- Click on “Download CSV File” to access the report

The screenshot shows the USA Learns For Teachers web application. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Instructions, Resources, U.S. Citizenship, Apps, About Us, and Student Site, along with a Sign off button. The main content area is titled '1st English Course - Test' and 'Student Activity By Class'. It features a toolbar with buttons for Class Roster, Class Key, Edit Details, Delete, and Student Activity by Class. Below this, there are date selection fields for 'Date Starting' (08/01/2020) and 'Date Ending' (08/31/2020), a 'Generate Report' button, and a 'Download CSV File' button. The report itself is titled 'Student Activity by Class: 1st English Course - Test ; 8/1/2020 — 8/31/2020' and contains a table with the following data:

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Hours	Minutes	Total Elapsed Hours
Student	Kristin	0	18	0.32

The footer of the page includes the copyright notice '© 2020 Sacramento County Office of Education', links for 'Site Map' and 'Need Help?', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



# Mastery Model

- Provide an explanation in your SOP for your processes
- Students must complete each unit exam with at least 70% proficiency before proxy hours are awarded



# Mastery Model – CCC Procedure

- At least 80% proficiency in each unit
- On the Student Scores page, we annotate the amount of hours the student earned and the date we input it into TEAMS
- Explain procedures in SOP
- Ask Lori Slayton when in doubt!

## Unit Menu

### Student, Kristin

This page shows the completion status and scores for the individual student you selected. Select a unit title to drill down for more details.

#	Unit Title	Completed?	Score
1	<a href="#">Steps to Becoming a U.S. Citizen (/student-scores-by-unit/3eede02c-6f8b-479c-9bb7-9c23deea823b/2833e6b4-a956-49f9-9ffb-17c05c2af5b3)</a>	<div><div></div></div> 3 hours - April 29, 2020 Staff Initial: KQ	95%
2	<a href="#">N-400 Interview Practice (/student-scores-by-unit/3eede02c-6f8b-479c-9bb7-9c23deea823b/174ee1c2-ea91-4662-bb9f-4277a6e0197e)</a>	<div><div></div></div>	•



# Highlights and Challenges

Highlights	Challenges
Free curriculum	Limited ESL levels
A wide range of topics	No dedicated IT staff
There's an app!	Not really suitable for medium to large programs
Easy interface	Only as a supplement, not to be used as a solo curriculum
Good to test out with students who have never tried DL before	



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# Thanks for attending this session!

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