

Texas Workforce Commission

Adult Education and Literacy



Fall Institute 2020

Handout

September 16, 2020

Day 2, Session 4

USA Learns: An Introduction to Remote Learning for Community Programs

Presenter: Kristin Quach, kristin@ccchouston.org

Session Description: This presentation will discuss how to use USA Learns, a free and TWC-approved DL curriculum. We will be navigating the website, looking at the student and teacher accounts, and looking at how to approach proxy hours and documentation needed for monitoring visits. The target audience is for program managers and classroom teachers.

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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>)
- Direct Link for USA Learns Overview Document (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>)

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

Manage *1st English Course*

- View Class Roster
- New Message
- Student Activity by Class
- Share Class Key
- Edit Class Details

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	n/a	7f7b6f16
English 1 Plus - Test 2	6/10/2020	n/a	8bfa9644
Practice English and Readin	3/23/2020	n/a	ac9e3215
USA Learns Citizenship	3/23/2020	n/a	4b7dafdb

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	Introduction & Vocabulary 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
2	Language Practice 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
3	Vocabulary 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
4	Language Practice 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
5	Review and Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>	•



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

Activity Menu

#	Name	Completed?	Score
Unit Introduction			
1	Learning Goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
Times of the Day			
1	Classroom Lesson 	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
2	Learn New Words	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
3	Meaning Match	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
4	Say it! 	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
5	Spell it!	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
Clock Time			
1	Learn New Words	<input type="checkbox"/>	—
2	Listening Match	<input type="checkbox"/>	•
3	Say it! 	<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>)
- Only English 1 and English 2 courses
- Clocktime OR Mastery Models

Clocktime Model

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

1st English Course - Test

Student Activity By Class

Select the date range for which you would like to generate this report.

Date Starting: 08/01/2020

Date Ending: 08/31/2020

Generates Report

Download CSV File

Student Activity by Class: 1st English Course - Test : 8/1/2020 — 8/31/2020

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

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

Highlights and Challenges

Highlights

- Free Curriculum
- A Wide Range of Topics
- There's an app!
- Easy interface
- Good to test out with students who have never tried DL before

Challenges

- Limited ESL Levels
- No dedicated IT staff
- Not really suitable for medium to large programs
- Only as a supplement, not to be used as a solo curriculum