Cultural and Linguistic Immersion in the Beginning French Classroom
by Julia Chamberlin

This workshop will explore the instruction of beginning French and will focus on the unique challenges faced by teachers of beginner students, including the introduction of unfamiliar material and the development of cultural competency. We will work to find creative solutions that help instructors establish and maintain communication in the target language. There will also be an emphasis on leveraging technology to improve language instruction for beginners. Workshop participants will engage in interactive activities on how to find, edit and create a database of level-appropriate authentic multimedia materials.

Julia Chamberlin is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Southern California. She has over 15 years of experience with French language instruction, is ACTFL certified and has broad interests in second language acquisition and language assessment. Her courses focus on bringing authentic materials into the classroom to further acquisition of the language as well as gaining cultural competency. As coordinator of the French 120 program at USC, Julia is responsible for curriculum development as well as the training of new Assistant Lecturers.