

## SEMINAR “APPLICATION OF CREATIVE TEACHING METHODS”

Teaching method is one of the most important factors determining the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process of lecturers and learners, as well as the quality of the training institution. Therefore, to provide opportunities for lecturers to approach creative and effective teaching as well as testing and assessing methods, on August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022, under the permission of the Board of Directors of University of Foreign Language Studies – the University of Danang, the Faculty of International Studies held the seminar named “*Application of creative teaching methods*” on campus at 131 Luong Nhu Hoc. This is the first mini-seminar in the series of thematic reports on “Innovation in teaching – learning – assessment methods to measure the level of program/course learning outcomes” organized by the Faculty of International Studies in August and September 2022.

Participating in the seminar were representatives of the Board of Directors of University of Foreign Language Studies – the University of Danang, and Department of Science and International Cooperation, the FIS Board of Dean, many lecturers of FIS and other faculties at the university, and three reporters are lecturers of FIS.

Opening the seminar, Ms. Le Thi Phuong Loan – Acting Vice Dean of the Faculty of International Studies stated purposes of the series of thematic reports as well as the first seminar “Application of creative and effective teaching methods”. “This was one of professional activities of the faculty to improve the teaching capacity of lecturers, helping them to attract students in learning hours by creative and innovative teaching methods”, Ms. Phuong Loan emphasized. It is an effective solution to help learners become more active in the process of mastering academic knowledge at the university. In addition, the seminars also help lecturers easily assess and measure the students’ achievement level of course learning outcome in different courses.



*Ms. Le Thi Phuong Loan (MA) – Acting Vice Dean of the Faculty of International Studies is giving a speech at the seminar*

After the speech of Ms. Le Thi Phuong Loan, the reporters in turn presented their reports: Ms. Vo Thi Giang (MSc) and Ms. Hoang Le Tra My (MA) presented “The teaching – learning – assessment methods” of the courses *Academic Skills for University* and *Soft Skills*, and Ms. Le Nguyen Hai Van (MA) presented “The teaching – learning – assessment methods” of the course *The East in Globalization*.

Regarding *Academic Skills for University* and *Soft Skills*, these are two courses that many students in all majors in the Faculty of International Studies have learned in the first year of the university. Through two courses, students will be equipped by the foundation and practice of necessary academic skills to study and do research both during and after studying at the university. They will be able to quickly adapt with the teaching style of lecturers, actively access knowledge, process information, and master their own activities.



*Ms. Vo Thi Giang (MSc) is reporting at the seminar*

With the knowledge investment and enthusiasm, as well as self-experiences from the reality of teaching students, Ms. Vo Thi Giang (MSc) and Ms. Hoang Le Tra My (MA) specifically presented their teaching and learning methods to prepare students with academic skills and other soft skills at university. Accordingly, students will perform their individual and group assignments in various forms such as individual projects called scrapbook, video, or animated video, group discussion, mini-lecture, mini workshop, etc. Under these assessments, lecturers enable to evaluate students' skills simultaneously, help them to reinforce multi-dimensional thinking, enhance the interaction and reflection in the model of debate at class, and develop their critical thinking and communicate information in an effective manner. Additionally, students might master necessary skills such as self-awareness, time management, work organizing skills, emotion management, communication, leadership skills, and so on.



*Ms. Hoang Le Tra My (MA) is reporting at the seminar*

After the presentation of Ms. Vo Thi Giang (MSc) and Ms. Hoang Le Tra My (MA), Ms. Le Nguyen Hai Van (MA) presented her teaching and learning, testing and assessing methods implemented in her course of *The East in Globalization*. This is a compulsory specialized graduation course that requires advanced knowledge and skills for the final-year students in Oriental Studies Programme. Therefore, Ms. Le Nguyen Hai Van (MA) has always done research on new and attractive methods for the practical effectiveness of teaching and learning ways. Individual and group assignments are implemented in her course, for example blog posts and discussions (students do research and share information on their blogs, then discuss the issues on their posts). Or groups are assigned to be in charge of early-hour activities (including introducing book, recommending film, sharing information, etc.), read and discuss on materials, present and analyze group ideas on mind map, read and watch course-relevant works (movies, stories) and write reflections, or create infographic videos. After the course, the lecturer also collects feedbacks of students to appropriately adjust on the implementation methods for the next classes.





*Ms. Le Nguyen Hai Van (MA) is reporting at the seminar*

After the presentation of reporters about the teaching – learning – testing – assessing methods for chosen courses clearly and in details, reporters also analyzed the advantages as well as the difficulties and limitations of those methods, then suggested the improvement.

After three presentations, the lecturers all had interests in the teaching – learning – testing – assessing methods of three courses. They are creative and effective methods and great suggestions for other lecturers. Therefore, a focused and interesting discussion between attenders and reporters was taken place. Lecturers asked many questions relevant to issues that three of reporters presented, such as how the implementation process is, how much time for the preparation to students for group assignments, how to assess the capability of each student in a group assignment objectively and exactly, and so on. Additionally, some experienced lecturers also gave practical suggestions on the implementation methods presented by the reporters at the seminar.



*The discussion between lecturers and the reporter at the seminar*

The FIS Boar of Dean and lecturers attending the seminar highly appreciated the effectiveness and practicality of the mini seminar. Despite the certain difficulties and limitations of these teaching – learning – testing – assessing methods, they are really demanding methods that require the enthusiasm and focused investment, constantly discover, and innovate new methods of lecturers to provide the most effective quality of teaching and learning at the university. The seminar is an opportunity for lecturers in the Faculty of International Studies and other faculties to learn, apply new and creative methods to their courses./.



*The Dean's Committee, reporters and lecturers take photo at the workshop*