

A transition to Language Coach

Interview with Evgeniya Medvedeva, Mandarin Chinese/ Russian/
ESL tutor, The Russian Federation



“I found this course very inspirational, it motivated me to look differently not only at my way of teaching, but also at my general attitude”

Can you describe your professional career before taking the language coaching certification (LCC)?

I am a professional qualified Mandarin Chinese teacher. I have five years of experience with one-on-one teaching Mandarin as well as teaching in a classroom setting. I have taught Mandarin Chinese to students aged 6 -18 at a Chinese Language Specialty School in Moscow, to sophomore, junior students and adults.

I worked as a private Mandarin Chinese/ Russian/ ESL tutor, also worked in Language schools, I developed my own style of delivering classes through conversations, dialogues, however, most of the time I used traditional approaches, and was not happy with it.

How did you find the course?

It was a great experience for me. I have been looking for new approaches, new ways of learning a language, and I think I found exactly what I had been looking for.

“I am definitely better equipped to help language learners to achieve their goals”

I found this course very inspirational, it motivated me to look differently not only at my way of teaching, but also at my general attitude. The course was very practical and engaging, at a calm pace, step-by-step Rachel was taking us through learning coaching principles, then neuroscience, then neurolanguage coaching theory, tools and application.

Which highlights or insights did you gain from the LCC?

The LLC gave me an opportunity to learn more about brain-based learning, I became more aware of how our brain learns and now I have a strong desire to learn more and more about our “beautiful brain”. Coaching principles and models were very new to me and it was an interesting discovery, it’s amazing how helpful these principles together with neuroscience knowledge are. I loved The 3 Ms model, and especially the Motivation diagnostic, I understand now the importance of a goal setting process more. Using the mother tongue was also one of the insights that the LCC gave me.

“I became a better listener and I am asking more powerful questions, this had a significant impact on my interpersonal relationships”

What was the immediate impact on your way of teaching after taking the course?

The course made a great impact on my way of teaching. I immediately began using active listening, powerful questioning, using goal setting tools, positive attitude. Now I am less directive, more flexible, I allow my clients to feel in control of their own learning journey. I began to provoke more language connections, ask my clients to look for similarities or differences with their mother tongue, and I already see the results! I am definitely better equipped to help language learners to achieve their goals.

Were there any impacts on your personal life during or after the course?

It helped me to understand why people react in a certain way in different circumstances, and it has explained a lot unanswered questions to me. I became more interested in neuroscience and now I am trying to gain more knowledge about the latest studies. I became a better listener and I am asking more powerful questions, this had a significant impact on my interpersonal relationships. Moreover, I believe that the course helped me to develop confidence in my communication skills.

How would you describe your professional development after the course?

I am doing more and more individual language sessions with adults, I feel more confident and became more clear of what I am doing and what I would like to do in future.

“I also witnessed the “aha moments” which my clients are experiencing, and it’s amazing”

How has the course changed the way you deliver a language course?

I started to pay more attention to the learning style of my clients and adapt the sessions accordingly. I teach less and less, but assist my clients in their own learning journey, walking with them towards their goals. I enjoy the process even more now, and my clients definitely feel my energy and enjoy the sessions too. I make the learning easy by chunking it down into parts and always try to raise dopamine levels in my clients at our sessions!

How would you describe the impact you are now having as a language coach on your learners?

I found that my learners are more focused and more motivated now, they feel that they are in charge of their own learning. I also witnessed the “aha moments” which my clients are experiencing, and it’s amazing!

“I was a teacher with passion and now I have a passion for Neurolanguage Coaching!”

Is there any additional information that you would like to add?

I am so glad that I decided to take LLC, Rachel made the learning process easy, interesting, practical and very useful! The course gave me new ideas, new goals, new horizons, I was a teacher with passion and now I have a passion for Neurolanguage Coaching! Thank you!

November 2017