

A transition to Language Coach

Interview with Gabriella Szabó-Szűcs, Language Teacher, Hungary

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

I studied to become an English and German language teacher. After university I spent about 10 years working for multinational companies, although not as a teacher but in middle-management. I missed teaching a lot so in 2014 I decided I change my career and work as a language teacher 100%..

How did you find the course?

Although I have enjoyed teaching a lot and I have participated in yearly conferences for teachers to improve my teaching style, I could feel there must be more. Something to make teaching much more effective. LCC gave me exactly what I needed. It gave me lots of energy, motivation and confidence.



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Which highlights or insights did you gain from the LCC?

I loved hearing about all the scientific facts and evidence that support the view that all of us is unique. I used to read about neuroplasticity before, but what I learned here was way beyond what I had expected. I also enjoyed working with the other course participants, the team was very positive and reassuring.

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

My students can feel the difference. I got very positive feedback about the goal-setting process, as learners feel they get what they need. For some of the learners I work with it was strange that they have to / can make decisions about what we learn and how we do it, but after 2-3 sessions and after I have explained the science behind it, they started to enjoy it. I enjoy getting the feedback from learners who are in their 40s or 50s that now they are discovering how exciting and non-repetitive can language learning be. My clients appreciate that they are treated as unique individuals and I do not follow with them the lesson plans I used with other learners. We follow their way of learning. What I personally enjoy the most is that I would never have imagined I can feel so confident without following a coursebook. I love not being dependent on coursebooks.

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

I try to meditate more and to be more conscious about what I do and how I do things. I learned how important it is that we appreciate ourselves. I also added books to my reading list that were not there before. Books that Rachel or other participants mentioned during the course. I love reading professional books and I appreciate that it got help regarding what is really worth reading.

“This course came at the right time. I was looking for ways to make my teaching more efficient and this course answered my questions, gave me the motivation I needed and opened up new horizons as to in which direction to go”

How would you describe your professional development after the course?

Well, I feel I am still at the beginning and there is a lot of work ahead of me to become a full time Neurolanguage coach. I can definitely feel I can add more value to what I am doing, but I have lots of plans further down the road. I honestly feel I got the push I needed to feel professional.

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

First of all, I rely more on what my clients need. I do not have to guess any more what they might like and what they might be interested in, because I know there is no problem with asking them. We also learned how to ask and when they are wondering why I am asking them, I can explain. My courses are now really to the point. Any my clients get tired after the classes, because I know how to make them do lots of brainwork. They like it a lot. :)

Were there any impacts on your learners?

I definitely feel they are enthusiastic. They work more at home, out of class and they come to class more prepared. I work with clients who know what they want, but the fact that they determine what sources we are working with and they influence the quantity of their home assignments help them take the ownership. They feel more responsible for their own learning journey.

Is there any additional comment you would like to add?

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This course came at the right time. I was looking for ways to make my teaching more efficient (and I think I was efficient before as well, but I felt I needed something more) and this course answered my questions, gave me the motivation I needed and opened up new horizons as to in which direction to go. I also enjoyed the way Rachel was explaining things, with lots of clarity and always to the point.