



LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT - STANFORD UNIVERSITY

# An Invitation to CALL

## Foundations of Computer-Assisted Language Learning

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The materials in this website have been updated into an ebook published by Asia Pacific Association for Computer-Assisted Language Learning.

The book, *An Invitation to CALL: Foundations of Computer-Assisted Language Learning*, is available as a free download: <https://www.apacall.org/research/books/6/>.

September 10, 2021

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Note: This course was last offered January - March 2020. The notes in the units were updated during that period. I retired from Stanford in August 2020, and there are no plans to teach this course again at present. I intend to leave the notes up here for a while for anyone who finds them useful either for teaching CALL or for individual professional development.

Please make use of this resource as you see fit, subject to the Terms if Use below.

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### **Introduction.**

*An Invitation to CALL* is a website providing a short introduction to the field of Computer-Assisted Language Learning, designed originally as a supplement to in-class instruction. Specifically, this website has grown out of a "mini course" I have taught since 1998 as part of an ESL methodology class at Stanford ([Linguistics 291](#)). The present site makes the material

available to a wider audience for general reference, self-instruction, and in-service or pre-service training.

Computers have become so pervasive in the rest of our lives that it is important for us as language teachers to understand their role in language instruction. Without such a foundation, it is difficult to make informed judgments about how to incorporate computers into language classes to make certain aspects of student learning more engaging, efficient, and/or effective. Ideally, a language teacher being trained today should either have one or more full courses in CALL or be engaged in a professional training program where the integration of technology into language teaching permeates the whole curriculum. Over time that ideal may be met, but currently CALL training remains somewhat spotty. Furthermore, many competent practicing teachers are interested in learning more about CALL as part of their professional development but lack the means to fulfill that interest. This site aims to provide one such resource.

This heavily revised version of the course was new in 2012, and has had annual updates in 2013-15 and 2017-2020. The previous version is still available at [www.stanford.edu/~efs/callcourse](http://www.stanford.edu/~efs/callcourse) for those who might be interested.

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Please note that I am happy to receive comments about this site, but I am not able to respond to individual questions about CALL.

### **List of Topics.**

The course is divided into 8 units. While they may be accessed in any order, the materials in later units may assume familiarity with definitions and concepts from previous ones.

Unit	Topic
1	<a href="#">Introduction to Computer-Assisted Language Learning &amp; TESOL Technology Standards</a>
2	<a href="#">Finding and Evaluating CALL Resources</a>
3	<a href="#">Computer Mediated Communication</a>

4	<a href="#">CALL and Language Skills</a>
5	<a href="#">Environments, materials, and activities</a>
6	<a href="#">CALL Theory and Research</a>
7	<a href="#">Teacher Education, Professional Development and Learner Training</a>
8	<a href="#">Current Trends and Future Directions</a>
Supplement	<a href="#">Supplementary material</a>

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