

Program Description

Name	Seminar on Technology and Application in Cloud-Based Distance Education Platform Building for Developing Countries		
Organizer	Zhejiang Normal University		
Time	Nov. 30 - Dec. 13, 2023	Language	English
Professional Background	Experts, scholars and officials in the field of distance education platform building		
Number of Participants	25		
Requirements	Age Limit	(Seminars) Under 45 for officials at or under director's level; under 50 for officials at director general's level/ (Training Course) Under 45	
	Health Condition	Be in good health and provide a health certificate or medical examination form issued by a local public hospital; free of conditions that are prohibited from entry into China under Chinese laws and regulations; free of severe chronic diseases such as hypertension, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, diabetes, mental illness, or infectious diseases that may pose a serious risk to public health; not in the recovery period after major surgery or acute illness, not severely physically disabled, and not in pregnancy.	
	Language Proficiency	Fluent in English (speaking, writing, listening, and reading)	
	Other	Participants are not allowed to bring their spouses, family members or friends with them during the training.	
Host city	Jinhua, Zhejiang	Local Temperature	Winter, about 10-20°C
Cities to visit	Hangzhou	Local Temperature	Winter, about 10-20°C
Notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please prepare research materials related to distance education platform building for exchange and discussion. 2. Please wear formal attire, traditional attire, or leadership uniforms to attend formal events. Please also prepare comfortable shoes and sportswear for participating in sports courses or using campus sports facilities. 3. Please bring commonly used medications to prevent and treat malaria, colds, etc. 4. Computers are not provided in the hotel. If needed, please bring your own. 5. In principle, participants are not allowed to change their flights to and from China. If there 		

	<p>is a need, please contact the commercial office to follow the procedure for changing tickets. If there are special circumstances that prevent you from departing on time or cause flight delays during transfer, please contact the commercial office or the program team in a timely manner to inform them of the latest flight information so that they can arrange for airport pick-up.</p> <p>6. Please confirm whether you need to re-check your luggage when transferring. After landing and retrieving your luggage, please wait patiently at the international or domestic arrival exit, where the program team holding a pick-up sign with “Zhejiang Normal University” written on it will meet you. If you have been waiting for more than 15 minutes, you can contact the project contact persons by phone.</p>	
Contact of Organizer	Contact Person(s)	Chen Rui
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About the Organizer	<p>Zhejiang Normal University (ZJNU), established in 1956, is a key provincial university known for its teacher education. Over the past 67 years, ZJNU has nurtured more than 300,000 talents including 210,000 in the educational field. It is thus acclaimed as the “cradle for basic education teachers in Zhejiang Province”. ZJNU upholds the value of educational internationalization and has established partnerships with more than 280 foreign educational institutions situated in over 60 countries and regions spanning 5 continents. It has collaborated on study abroad and exchange programs with more than 70 foreign universities, and it has welcomed over 3,000 international students participating in short-term, long-term, and CSC scholarship programs.</p> <p>Over the past decades, ZJNU plays an active role in international exchanges and cooperation by taking full advantage of its strength. It serves as the “Base for Educational Aid and Development” approved by the Ministry of Education, the “China Aid Training Center for Primary and Secondary Education” approved by the Ministry of Commerce, and the “China-ASEAN Education and Training Center” approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education. Up to the present, ZJNU has held 215 foreign aid training programs, including 8 academic degree programs with 166 participants, 206 short-term foreign aid training programs with 5,231 participants, and 1 remote recording and broadcasting program with about 200 participants. ZJNU has trained participants from 112 countries, regions, and international organizations, including outstanding alumni such as Faustin-Archange Touadéra, the sitting president of the Central African Republic. ZJNU strives to maintain good relations with alumni.</p>	
Training	This seminar incorporates classroom lectures, immersive cultural experiences, and	

<p>Content</p>	<p>engaging economic and cultural visits. Esteemed experts and scholars will be invited to deliver lectures, covering a wide array of topics, including China’s national conditions, blended teaching, etc.</p> <p>1. Lecture Content</p> <p>(1) Overview of China: introducing China’s history, geography, society, economy, culture, China’s political system & foreign policy, mainstream Chinese societal values and public morality, etc.; to give participants a general understanding of China and a theoretical framework for further learning and exchange.</p> <p>(2) Common Prosperity: Common prosperity is not only the essential requirement of socialism with Chinese characteristics, but also a distinctive feature of China’s modernization, and more importantly, a shared aspiration of the Chinese people. This lecture starts with a case study of a village relocation project in Wuyi County to showcase poverty alleviation in China: starting from Initiative plan 1.0 – the relocation of mountain villages and guaranteeing the right to an adequate standard of living, to Initiative plan 2.0 – migration to cities for work opportunities and encouraging entrepreneurship and wealth building, and to the ongoing Initiative plan 3.0. This lecture also introduces the people-oriented concept in China. In 2021, China achieved a comprehensive victory in poverty alleviation, and now Chinese people are striving to achieve common prosperity.</p> <p>(3) Blended Teaching: This lecture delves into the landscape of online education in China, focusing on national quality course development. By sharing insightful case studies from various quality course development initiatives, it introduces the integration of these courses into blended teaching approaches.</p> <p>(4) Empowering Classroom Teaching Reform Through Enhanced Intelligent Interactive Technology: This lecture introduces the core functions of enhanced intelligent interactive technology and its innovative application in classroom settings. This lecture is designed to actively involve participants in an enriching experience, fostering meaningful engagement and stimulating thoughtful discussions.</p> <p>(5) Evolution and Prospects of Teachers’ ICT Literacy Enhancement Policies: This lecture introduces the evolution of ICT literacy policies for primary and secondary school teachers in China. It traces the progression from the inception of ICT literacy standards to the pioneering projects aimed at enhancing ICT application competency among teachers. With a specific focus on the “2.0” iteration of these enhancement projects, it dissects the logical underpinnings that have steered this evolution. By casting a forward-looking gaze toward the prospects, it aims to enrich participants’ understanding of teachers’ ICT literacy enhancement policies.</p> <p>(6) Crafting and Implementing Quality Assurance Mechanisms for Extensive Blended Training – A Case Study of Zhejiang Province’s Primary and Secondary School Teachers’ ICT Skills Enhancement Project 2.0: This lecture introduces approaches to</p>
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guarantee implementation quality through training mode design, operational system planning, and evaluative framework construction in extensive distance and blended training.

- (7) Tai Chi is a type of martial art in China that emphasizes achieving balance, harmony, and well-being through the cultivation of mind, body, and spirit. Through learning Tai Chi moves, participants can learn about Chinese culture and philosophies behind Tai Chi.

2. Lecturer Profile

- (1) Zhang Genfu: Ph.D. in History, Professor, Ph.D. Supervisor, Vice President of Zhejiang Normal University, Vice President of Zhejiang Province Association for Higher Education.
- (2) Xu Lihua: Professor, Dual Master's Degree, Ph.D. Supervisor, former Director of International Office, Office of Chinese Language Council International & Office of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs at Zhejiang Normal University. Research interests: international Chinese education, second-language acquisition, Chinese language promotion in Africa, and language policy and planning in Africa. Prof. Xu has presided over 8 research projects under the National Social Science Fund of China and other funds. Prof. Xu has published numerous academic papers in journals such as *Language Teaching and Linguistic Studies*. Prof. Xu is the editor-in-chief of 9 textbooks and monographs, such as *Confucius Institutes in Africa: Retrospect and Prospect*.
- (3) Huang Lixin: Professor, Ph.D. Supervisor, committee member of Zhejiang Higher Education Institutions Informatization Guidance Advisory Committee, ADE (Apple Distinguished Educator) and APLS (Apple Professional Development Specialist for Teachers), leader of the prestigious national online open course – “ICT Teaching Application”, and the national online-offline blended course – “Modern Educational Technology”. Prof. Huang also leads the national teaching team for the modern educational technology course group.
- (4) Zhang Lixin: Professor, Ph.D. Supervisor at Zhejiang Normal University, Deputy Director of the Institute of Intelligent Education at ZJNU, and Deputy Director of the ICT Education Committee of the China Association for Educational Technology. Prof. Zhang plays a leading role in the national quality course of “Education Technology” and the national quality resource sharing courses of “Modern Education Technology”. Prof. Zhang's scholarly achievements include authorship of significant works such as *Design and Development of Ecological Virtual Learning Environment* and *Teaching and Learning Application of Network Learning Space* in addition to over 40 academic papers. Prof. Zhang leads several national projects, including “Design and Development of Ecological Virtual Learning Environment”, “Research on Effective Application of Students' Personal Network Learning Space” and “Educational Ethics Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence” under the national educational science planning. His dedication has also materialized in the form of a voice-based intelligent interactive teaching

platform, where he secured software copyrights, seamlessly integrating academia, industry, and research pursuits.

- (5) Du Hua: Ph.D. in Education, Associate Professor and Master’s Supervisor, Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee of the Department of Educational Technology at the College of Education at Zhejiang Normal University. Dr. Du used to hold the chairmanship of the Teacher’s Forum of GCCCE 2022, agenda council member of the sub-conference of GCCCE 2023, reviewer for esteemed CSSCI journals such as “Modern Distance Education Research”, and part-time researcher at SquareStrategics Research Institute and Danuokejiao Co.
- (6) Ruan Gaofeng: Lecturer at the Department of Educational Technology at Zhejiang Normal University, Vice President of Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Popularization of Science Education, Director of the Zhejiang Basic Education Outstanding Teacher Workstation, Vice President of the Jinhua Digital Economics Association and Director of the Digital Education Committee. Research interests: education informatization, internet and distance education, teacher education, and ICT curriculum and pedagogy. He plays a pivotal role in the development of Zhejiang Province’s “Enhancement Project” 1.0 and 2.0 implementation specifications and performance evaluation, the development of national and provincial quality courses, as well as numerous ministerial and provincial major research projects.
- (7) Luo Chunyan: Associate Professor of the College of Physical Education and Health Sciences at Zhejiang Normal University, martial art instructor. Her pioneering work includes the establishment of ZJNU’s first “Dragon and Lion Dance Team” which has garnered numerous martial art group championships and participated in multiple overseas tours.

During the seminar, the organizer will also arrange economic and cultural visits for participants to Hangzhou and Yiwu, to examine the institutions dedicated to distance education platforms building and application, as well as new rural reconstruction in China. Through visits to vibrant cities, the participants will be immersed in the diverse and rich culture of China and gain first-hand experience with China’s economic, social, educational, and cultural progress since the Reform and Opening-up. The seminar aims to further strengthen the cooperation and exchanges between China and other developing countries.

