The ALTE course in Technology in Language Test Production and Validation

ALTE is running a week-long course in **Technology in Language Test Production and Validation** in Cambridge, UK, in September 2018. The course will be coordinated by **Dr Guoxing Yu** (University of Bristol), with invited contributions from selected specialist speakers.

Participants are expected to have a professional interest in language testing, and may be employed by an ALTE member or affiliate, though are not expected to have a profound knowledge of the subject area. A basic, but not expert, knowledge of computers, the internet, is expected.

Dates: 17th - 21st September 2018

Location: The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

The course will start by examining the use of technology within the broad test development framework set out in ALTE's *Manual for Language Test Development and Examining*. It will then examine technologies which can assist in the Planning, Design, Trialling and Delivery phases, with demonstrations and hands-on activities.

As part of this stage, participants will be guided step-by-step in the design and assembly of their own live online test, using a simple online platform, so as to experience at first hand the possibilities and drawbacks of a range of technological tools.

The second part of the course will consider the use of technologies in scoring and marking, and in building a validity argument (Construct Validation). Topics to be addressed will include the automated assessment of speaking and writing, technology for scoring, and technology for classroom-based assessment. We will also consider technologies for assessment research and validation, including eye tracking technology and a range of online analysis tools such as Coh-Metrix and Text Inspector.

By the end of the course participants will have developed their understanding of the roles of technologies in diverse areas of test production and validation, gained first-hand experience of a range of key technologies, and raised their awareness of the potential role of these technologies in their own test development contexts.

Some prior reading will be issued to participants before the course. For the smooth running of the course we would ask the participants to bring their own laptop PC. Further details will be provided in advance of the course.

Tuition fee:
€950: non-members/non-institutional affiliates
€850: ALTE members and institutional affiliates
All prices include course materials, lunch and coffee breaks. Participants should arrange for their travel arrangements and accommodation.

Course coordinator: Dr Guoxing Yu
Other contributors: Dr Nathaniel Owen, Dr Jing Xu, Dr Amy Devine, Marianne Pickles, Dr Helen Yannakoudakis

ALTE Summer Language Testing Courses

Programme: **The ALTE course in** *Technology in language test production and validation*

Coffee breaks: 10.30am (30 minutes); 3.15pm (30 minutes); Lunch 12.30pm till 2pm

Day	Theme	Topic	Presenters
Registration Monday 17th September, 08.30am			
Monday 17th Sept 9.00am - 12.30pm	*The ALTE Framework and the role of technology*	Welcome and Introduction ALTE standards, the socio-cognitive framework The role of technology in the Planning, Design, Trialling and Delivery phases	Guoxing Yu
2.00pm - 3.15pm 3.45pm - 5.00pm	*Constructing tests with technology (a)*	Developing test specifications (and issues in user experience) Game-based language assessment	Guoxing Yu Amy Devine and Marianne Pickles
Tuesday 18th Sept 9.00am - 12.30pm	*Constructing tests with technology (b)*	Workshop: Developing an online test, planning and design WordPress	Nathaniel Owen and Guoxing Yu
2.00pm - 5.00pm		Workshop: Developing an online test, trialling, delivery and extracting	Nathaniel Owen and Guoxing Yu

		results	
Wednesday 19th Sept 9.00am - 12.30pm	*Technology in building a validation argument (a)*	Test validation: eye tracking technology (talk and hands-on workshop to design validation projects, data extraction)	Guoxing Yu
2.00pm - 5.00pm		Eye tracking - a case study	Guoxing Yu
Thursday 20th Sept 9.00am -12.30pm	*Technology in building a validation argument (b)*	Digital tools for assessment research and validation (Coh-Metrix, Text Inspector, inputlog)	Guoxing Yu
2.00pm - 5.00pm	*Technology in scoring and marking (a)*	Online marking and rater management; Automated assessment of the productive skills of speaking and writing	Jing Xu
Friday 21st Sept 9.00am - 10.30am	*Technology in scoring and marking (b)*	Automated assessment and feedback (Write & Improve)	Helen Yannakoudakis
11.00am - 12.15pm	*Technology in Classroom Assessment*	Discussion (What can be learnt from using technology in other fields to inform language assessment practices)	Guoxing Yu
12.15pm - 1.00pm		Summary, questions and close	