

Emotions in English language classrooms - An Insight into Emotion Vocabulary Assessment

Centre for Language and Literacy Education (CLLED), Faculty of Education

Date: 25 August 2025 (Monday)

Time: 14:00-15:00

Venue: E33-2036, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Registration: <https://go.um.edu.mo/a821yajz> or 

Enquiries: Mr. Brendan LEI (Email: FED_Event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-4120)

Speaker:

Prof. Csaba Zoltan SZABO joined the Institute for Language Education at Moray House, University of Edinburgh in October 2023. He specialises in TESOL, Language Education, and Applied Linguistics with specific interest in vocabulary learning, teaching and assessment in bi- and multilingual contexts, emotion vocabulary testing, language assessment, academic achievement in EMI contexts, and cross-linguistic influences at the level of lexis. He is a keen advocate of promoting research with a practical impact and has a commitment to social justice and evidence-informed teaching for high-quality student experience.

Abstract:

Emotions shape cognition and learning, strongly affecting how people acquire and use languages. In English as an additional language, learners need to recognise, understand, express, manage, and navigate feelings. International frameworks highlight the importance of expressing a wide range of emotional states, yet English textbooks often offer too narrow a repertoire. This gap is widened when teachers—both pre-service and in-service—lack the emotion vocabulary and confidence to weave it into their practice. This talk outlines why emotional vocabulary matters in the ESL classroom and shares practical methods for teaching and assessing it. We present findings from our study, including a comprehensive list of English emotion words and adaptive vignette-based assessments, and leave attendees with strategies to boost learning outcomes and engagement.