# World Languages Proficiency Academy Strand Descriptions

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| Strand | Presenter | Audience | Description |
| Foundations | Rebecca Blouwolff, Wellesley Public Schools, 2020 ACTFL Language Teacher of the Year. | Participants who are new to ACTFL proficiency-based instructional practices | With concrete examples and clear steps forward, Rebecca will deepen your understanding of the Guiding Principles defined by the 2021 World Language Curriculum Framework. She will show you how to set proficiency targets for your program or course, help you design engaging and authentic performance assessments and rubrics, and guide you in writing units and lessons that focus on developing students’ proficiency in the language. In addition to Rebecca’s high-quality workshops, you will join a smaller break-out group during the Academy led by facilitators experienced in teaching for proficiency. Hands-on and interactive, the Academy will leave you invigorated and prepared with concrete materials to use in your classroom and program. If you have not attended Proficiency Academy before (regardless of your background experience as a teacher), be sure to sign up for this strand. Come join the Proficiency movement! |
| Implementation | Catherine Ritz, Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development | Participants who are experienced with proficiency-based teaching practices and are looking for guidance with curriculum development | Implementing the 2021 World Language Curriculum Framework can feel like a daunting task. What do these standards mean for our curriculum and assessments? How can we ensure we are "covering" the standards in each of our courses? How do we translate them into a curriculum to guide our courses? In this strand, we will take a step back to look at the big picture of the curriculum framework, then begin our hands-on work of designing meaningful and authentic curricular themes and performance assessments. We will use the Integrated Performance Assessment (IPA) as a lens for designing our units, which will support us in seamlessly integrating a focus on teaching for social justice. Please bring your district curriculum and be ready to start designing a unit for one of your courses**.** In addition to Catherine’s high-quality workshops, you will join a smaller break-out group during the Academy led by facilitators experienced in teaching for proficiency. Hands-on and interactive, the Academy will leave you invigorated and prepared with concrete materials to use in your classroom and program. |