

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS
PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING MEETING**
LANYON BUILDING 01/052
QUB BELFAST

Friday 12 JUNE 2015

9:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00-10:10	Welcome and Introduction (Simon Graham)
10:10:-11:00	The role of a Language Assistant
11:00-13:00	Teaching in a School Classroom (Bill Brodie)

What makes an effective language teaching activity? Learning a language or learning about a language: the difference between drill and communication. Which is more important in the languages classroom? Can they be combined? Interactive session with examples.

Bringing culture into the classroom. You are the culture expert. Language does not exist in a vacuum and should never be taught as if it did. How to maximise the cultural dimension in the classroom for better student motivation. Tips and strategies.

Mind your P's and Q's. Be the language expert! Some important considerations. When is a mistake a mistake - and when is it someone else's standard? Language awareness and issues of *right* and *wrong* (grammar, syntax, pronunciation).

13:00-14:00	Lunch (not provided)
14:00-15:00	Former Assistants: Tips & Advice
15:00-15:15	Short Break for QUB Students/UU Students leave
15:15-16:00	Assessment of the year abroad (QUB Students)
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