

# MAFLT @ MSU

Grand River in Autumn – Photo credit: Amanda Lanier

Fall 2019 Newsletter ~ [maflt.cal.msu.edu/news](http://maflt.cal.msu.edu/news)

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**ACTFL 2019 p.4**  
Washington, DC  
November 22-24  
*All are invited to the Alumni Event!*

## REMINDERS

Further information on all these topics can be found in the **MAFLT Community** on D2L and the website **FAQ list**.

- **Orientation** – Complete the new Orientation Checklist in the MAFLT Community and earn a digital badge. Plan to attend the virtual meeting in early January (exact date TBA).
- **RCR Requirements** – All grad students must complete training in Responsible Conduct of Research. See Research
- **Graduation** – apply to graduate at the beginning of the semester!
- **ePortfolios** – Alumni, please update your site and make sure all materials are shared. Current students, see Model and required elements including Teaching Video..

## WHAT IS NEW IN EAST LANSING?

### New Faculty

As of August 2019, the MAFLT has a new professor! Dr. Haixia Liu comes from China and just finished her PhD in Educational Technology. We are hiring in 2020 also. That call will go out this fall.

### New Certificate

We have been talking about adding a “mini-MAFLT” certificate for years, and we hope to make it a reality soon. Primarily it will allow teachers with MA degrees already to add it. 10 credits = 3 courses + portfolio.

### New Assistants

This fall we are also fortunate to have new graduate assistants in CeLTA. Isaac Sarver is working on his MA in Linguistics on campus, and he is enthusiastic about helping faculty and students in the MAFLT.

### New Facility

If you visit us on campus, you will notice a brand-new facility across the road next to the MSU stadium. It will be dedicated to STEM education, and it is inspiring us to look at FLT-STEM connections.

## CeLTA Mission Statement

*As a locally grounded and internationally minded hub for language education transformation, our mission is to empower language educators, engage language learners, and enhance language learning and teaching practices through innovation, research, advocacy, and professional development.*

## MAFLT by the NUMBERS

Languages Taught

18

U.S. States

35

Countries

10

Graduates as of Sum19

50

**Meet Dr. Haixia Liu!**  
See p.3 for an interview.



Center for Language Teaching Advancement  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Welcome to the MAFLT!

This summer we admitted 14 students, the largest incoming group of MAFLT students since our inception in 2012. This fall, we admitted 10 more. Their profiles will appear in the MAFLT Community and on our [Students](#) page. New students, submit your photo and blurb here: [Your Profile](#).

Madeline Alford – New Mexico  
Katelyn Baddeley - Washington  
Betty Brown - Arkansas  
Katherine Byrne – New York  
Christina Cheezum - Maryland  
Miaomiao Cui - Georgia  
Rebecca Diaz - Ohio  
Kaleigh Doan - Virginia  
Jessi Falcon - Wisconsin  
Chelsea Gordon – Japan  
Matt Johnson – Virginia  
Petra Jones – New Jersey  
Nicholas Lahr - Florida  
Mireille Maalouf – Canada  
(from Lebanon)  
Agnieszka Makles – New York  
(from Poland)

Charlotte Nevin – Texas  
Carolina Diaz Palacio –  
Nevada  
Edward Stanko - California  
Sara True - Iowa  
Tracie Whiting Kipper –  
Missouri

Languages - New Students



■ Arabic ■ Chinese ■ EFL/ESL ■ French ■ German  
■ Ho-Chunk ■ Japanese ■ Polish ■ Russian ■ Spanish

### WE NEED YOU...

to write for [the new CeLTA website](#).

Want to submit a brief article on a tip, technique, or experience, aimed at other language teachers?

Contact us at [maflt@cal.msu.edu](mailto:maflt@cal.msu.edu) to be added to the pool of potential authors.

### Coming soon to a screen near you...

The MAFLT Program is getting a new website! We will be making a switch to the new version based in WordPress this month. Keep your eyes out for these features and let us know what else you would like to see!

- **Orientation & Tips** – New guides to help you start and succeed in your FLT courses. Much more help on the MAFLT Community page in D2L. If you don't see it, ask to be added.
- **Students Page** – Look up your classmates and network from here. Portfolios will be linked to alumni entries.
- **Profiles** – Soon we will begin profiling alumni and some current students – appearing on home page with links to longer articles. We will contact you for your turn.
- **Showcase** – All students can share their work on the Showcase page – portfolios, EM materials, etc. We are exploring ways to create a searchable archive of student work.
- **Help and FAQs** – See updates and new Help Request Form.

## COURSES IN 2020

**Syllabi:** [maflt.cal.msu.edu/courses](http://maflt.cal.msu.edu/courses)

### Spring 2020 – January-May

FLT 808 Assessment in FLT  
FLT 815 Culture in FLT  
FLT 817 Program Dev & Admin  
FLT 860 FL / SL Acquisition  
FLT 841 Special Topics  
FLT 885 EMs & FLT 898 Portfolio\*

### Summer 2020 – May-August

FLT 807 Methods of FLT  
FLT 808 Assessment in FLT  
FLT 860 FL / SL Acquisition  
FLT 881 Technology in FLT  
FLT 841 Special Topics (tentative)  
FLT 885 EMs & FLT 898 Portfolio\*

### Fall 2020 – August-December

FLT 807 Methods of FLT  
FLT 845 Language Concepts  
FLT 881 Technology in FLT  
FLT 841 Special Topics  
FLT 885 EMs & FLT 898 Portfolio\*

\* Contact Dr. Lanier to request override.

***This schedule is subject to change.***

## SPECIAL TOPICS

As of 2020, we have the option of offering FLT 841 Special Topics every semester. In the past, they have offered more depth on particular communicative modes, but we are working on adding a new course. Anticipated this year:

- **Digital Literacies** – Spring 2020 with Dr. Liu
- **Teacher Inquiry** – Summer 2020 (tentative – depending on enrollment)
- **Sociolinguistics & Spoken Language** – Fall 2020 with Dr. Lanier

**Course Details:** Search [schedule.msu.edu](http://schedule.msu.edu), then click section number "730" next to title.

## Interview with Dr. Haixia Liu

*Dr. Liu answered these interview questions for the newsletter in November 2019.*

### **What languages do you speak, and how did you learn them?**

Chinese is my native tongue. English is my second language, and I started learning English in middle school. When I went to college, I needed to choose another foreign language as a student whose major is English Language & Culture. So I chose Japanese.

### **What were you doing before you joined the MAFLT?**

I came to US in the summer of 2014 to pursue a PhD degree. I joined the MAFLT in the Fall 2019. In the summer of 2019, I was at the last stage of my PhD study, defending my dissertation and making revisions based on the committee's suggestions. I was also helping with FLT 807 as a course assistant.

### **What did you focus on in your PhD, especially in your dissertation?**

My PhD study focused on foreign language teachers' technology use, such as the barriers they are perceiving in their teaching, their innovative use of technology, etc. My dissertation was a survey-based study that used the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) as the theoretical framework. It examined foreign language teachers' intentions to use technology for student-centered learning.

### **What do you think the MAFLT can do better?**

The MAFLT is a fully online program, and most courses are offered asynchronously. This is a great advantage to MAFLT students who are busy and in different time zones. However, the interaction and collaboration among MAFLT students and faculty need to be and can be further strengthened. We already have the MAFLT Community on D2L, but I think our next step is to further develop the community to promote more interactions and also facilitate future collaboration among students.



### **What have you learned since you started teaching in the MAFLT?**

I have learned many things from the faculty in CeLTA, but the person that I have learned most from is Dr. Lanier. By observing how she organizes FLT 807 as a course assistant, I was enlightened on designing my own course. Her detail-oriented working, patience with students, and devotion to the MAFLT program set a good model for me. I have also learned much from my students, such as in the discussion forum where my students share their experiences with using technology for their own classes.

### **What do you want to do next in terms of your own research and writing?**

As my research interests lie in foreign language teachers' technology use, my research plan can be in any of the following directions:

- 1) to continue my PhD study topic on examining foreign language teachers' innovative technology use for better learning in different teaching contexts;
- 2) to work with MAFLT faculty on examining foreign language teachers' expectations of foreign language teacher education and how to help them become more successful in their teaching environments; or
- 3) to work with MAFLT students on developing topics related to their interests and to collaborate in presenting at conferences and writing journal articles.

*In Fall 2019, Dr. Liu is teaching FLT 807 Methods, FLT 881 Technology in FLT, and FLT 885 Experiential Modules in cooperation with Dr. Lanier.*

*In Spring 2020, Dr. Liu is scheduled to teach FLT 860 Foreign / Second Language Interaction, FLT 841 Special Topics: Digital Literacy, and FLT 885 Experiential Modules.*

## ALUMNI COLUMN

**Congratulations to our newest MAFLT graduates!**

### Spring 2019

Rachel Emery  
Bill Langley  
Lauren Novak Krause  
Maggie Rutkowski  
Michele Wellman-Teeple  
Susan Tu

### Summer 2019

Mihoko Raub  
Francesca Regalado  
Alona Shupe  
Xiaozhong Tang  
Sarah Wroblewski  
Freda Yoshioka



**Michele Wellman-Teeple, '19** is now sitting on the advisory board of the Mellon Grant now funding new developments in Anishinaabemowin. Also... her daughter, Sarah, now works in our dean's office as an instructional designer.

**Andrew Sewick, '17** recently moved from Old Dominion University in Virginia to Brandeis, where he is a Lecturer in Hispanic Studies.

**Mariela Andrade, '18** comes from Chile, finished the program in Virginia, and is now working on her PhD in Spain. She sent us her colleague Kaleigh Doan!

**Freda Yoshioka, '19**, finished her EM this summer by creating a website for Japanese language teachers, and she is now collaborating with Tracie Whiting-Kipper's art students in Kansas City. See [cultivatingjapanese.org](http://cultivatingjapanese.org).

Several of our alumni have added to their families, including **Maggie Rutkowski, '19**, and **Tiffany Robinson Carter, '16**. You can post pics in the MAFLT Facebook group!

Several alumni are presenting with at ACTFL this year. See you there!



Booth #1041 ~ Info Session  
Friday at 4:30pm

### Alumni Reunion & Networking Event

*You are invited!*

Starting in D.C., we will be holding an annual event for alumni, current students, faculty, and friends in conjunction with ACTFL.

**Saturday, November 23, 6-9pm**  
**Venue: [OpenGovHub](http://OpenGovHub) ~ RSVP: [Evite](http://Evite)**

### MAFLT Presentations – see [Program](#)

**Making Authentic Texts Comprehensible with Corpus Analysis Tools**, Friday at 3:30pm  
→ **Presenters:** Amanda Lanier, Agnieszka Makles, Courtney Mayes, & Maggie Rutkowski

**Reaching Intercultural Competence with Story-Based Methods**, Saturday at 1:30pm  
→ **Presenters:** Rachel Emery, Bill Langley, & Amanda Lanier

*If you are presenting anywhere, let us know so we can announce it!*

