

A transition to Language Coach

Interview with Tania Hoffmann, Luxembourgish and German teacher, Luxembourg



Can you describe your professional career before taking the language coaching certification (LCC)?

Before taking the Language coaching certification, I was a freelance translator and language teacher / trainer for Luxembourgish (and at the very beginning also for German). I was teaching Luxembourgish to adults living and/or working in Luxembourg. As I worked for several Language Schools having their own method, I tried them all and took the best out of everything that worked for me and my clients. I did the certification at the University of Luxembourg to become an accredited Teacher for Luxembourgish in Adult Education. I am very interested in becoming a bit better every day and learning something new every day, so I registered for the Language Coaching Certification.

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How did you find the course?

At the beginning, I thought that I would not need the Coaching part. I was more interested in the Neuroscience part. But Rachel convinced me to do also part I, as I did not have any other real training in coaching before. I then really

discovered what coaching is and it blew my mind. I was so excited to learn more and get this into practice, and I also discovered that I was already doing some coaching without knowing it.

“I realized that the coaching methods we learnt about were so great and that they work. You’ll get a really different view of your work and of your client in front of you.”

Which highlights or insights did you gain from the LCC?

As mentioned, I realized that I was already doing some coaching during my classes without knowing it. And then I realized that the coaching methods we learnt about were so great and that they work. You’ll get a really different view of your work and of your client in front of you. Then the group was so great as well, the people in there were so open-minded and calm, we helped each other not to get limbic when we had to practice coach each other. Rachel was always there to help, support and give you a great feeling of self-confidence.

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What was the immediate impact on your way of teaching after taking the course?

The immediate impact after the course on my way of teaching was that I tried to focus on the “state of mind” of my client. Was he in a good mood, was he feeling fine and calm, what is blocking or what may block his learning state today, how can I improve his motivation? How can I help my client to find some time practicing in-between classes taking his or her preferred learning style into consideration?

Were there any impacts on your personal life during or after the course?

Oh yes, coaching changed my life completely. I am so interested in every subject about coaching that I did another course about Life Coaching and read a lot of books about Coaching and Learning, the brain, NLP, ... I am so glad, that we are able to take people away from the drama, because drama is what blocks our ability to think, act, learn and memorize. Not only in learning, even in our personal lives, we need to stop the drama and stay calm and realistic, to think clearly and find solutions and ways to reach our goals. Today more than ever before.

How would you describe your professional development after the course?

I launched a Neurolanguage Coach website and Facebook page, but it does not really develop as I would love to. I have so many classes and clients this year, also after the publishing of my little book that I have not really enough time left to promote the coaching side as I would love too.

November 2015

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How has the course changed the way you deliver a language course?

I integrate the Neurolanguage Coaching knowledge into my classes without really mentioning it, I think that’s why I get so many more clients as well. They are so happy with my attitude and method that I get a lot of recommendations, and I think that’s the best feedback.

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How would you describe the impact you are now having as a language coach on your learners?

I think that I am now able to get them in a calm state, so that they are not blocked or afraid of something new or get embarrassed when they say something wrong or mispronounce something in a new language. I always laughed a lot with my clients in my classes and I am happy that this was also an important point in the Language Coaching Certification. It’s important that clients feel good and at ease. They know that they can trust me, even if they have social or professional problems, I let them talk about them for a few minutes, so that afterwards the brain is relieved and they feel better. These impacts are very important.

Is there any additional information that you would like to add?

I am very glad I did this Certification, for me, my personal development and my daily work. I look forward very impatiently to the Advanced Neurolanguage Coaching Certification and to working again with Rachel.