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Note: This course is being updated January - March 2018.

Introduction.
An Invitation to CALL is a website providing a short introduction to the field of Computer-Assisted Language Learning, designed originally as a supplement to in-class instruction. Specifically, this website has grown out of a "mini course" I have taught for over ten years as part of an ESL methodology class at Stanford (Linguistics 291). The present site makes the material available to a wider audience for general reference, self-instruction, and in-service or pre-service training.

Computers have become so pervasive in the rest of our lives that it is important for us as language teachers to understand their role in language instruction. Without such a foundation, it is difficult to make informed judgments about how to incorporate computers into language classes to make certain aspects of student learning more engaging, efficient, and/or effective. Ideally, a language teacher being trained today should either have one or more full courses in CALL or be engaged in a professional training program where the integration of technology into language teaching permeates the whole curriculum. Over time that ideal may be met, but currently CALL training is spotty at best. Furthermore, many competent practicing teachers are interested in learning more about CALL but lack the means to fulfill that interest. This site aims to provide one such resource.

This heavily revised version of the course was new in 2012, and has had annual updates in 2013-15 and 2017. The previous version is still available at www.stanford.edu/~efs/callcourse for those who might be interested.

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Please note that I am happy to receive comments about this site, but I am not able to respond to individual questions about CALL.

List of Topics.
The course is divided into 8 units. While they may be accessed in any order, the materials in later units may assume familiarity with definitions and concepts from previous ones.

Unit	Topic
1	Introduction to Computer-Assisted Language Learning
2	Finding and Evaluating CALL Resources
3	Computer Mediated Communication
4	CALL and Language Skills
5	Environments, materials, and activities
6	CALL Theory and Research
7	Teacher Education, Professional Development and Learner Training
8	Current Trends and Future Directions
Supplement	Supplementary material

Comments may be sent to the author:
    Phil Hubbard phubbard@stanford.edu
    Linguistics Department
    Stanford University
    Stanford CA 94305-2150 USA

Note: this site is typically updated annually in the winter, when the course is taught at Stanford. There may be dead links, so please use with patience.