



How to Learn a **LANGUAGE ONLINE**

Think you can't learn a language online? Think again! Rio Salado College uses a unique interactive voice recognition software program to assist students learning foreign languages.

The software program, Tell Me More, has an interactive feature that provides feedback on pronunciation, making it easier for online students to learn.

"It's a virtual language-lab experience," said Dr. Angela Félix, Faculty Chair for Languages at Rio Salado College.

How it works

Homework assignments in beginning language classes call for students to practice basic pronunciation, vocabulary, and sentence structure.

"Students speak into their computer microphones, and Tell Me More assesses if what they said is comprehensible," Félix said. "The program lets them know if their pronunciation was correct or not. If not, it highlights what letters were spoken incorrectly."

Students receive a graph representation of their pronunciations compared to the model pronunciations. The

instant feedback is like having a private language tutor.

"The online language-lab experience lets students practice in a non-threatening environment," Félix said. "And they're able to practice and master their speaking assignments before submitting them for grading."

According to Félix, Rio Salado has used the CD-based version of the software for years, but recently embraced its new online platform.

"Students only need Internet access, and no additional equipment is required because they use the microphones that are built-into their computers," Félix said.

Other benefits include the low cost, ease of use, and the adaptable online format means course content is always current.

Language classes at Rio Salado that use the Tell Me More technology include Spanish, German, French, Japanese, Arabic and Chinese.

To learn more visit www.riosalado.edu/languages.

ASU, NAU Offer Onsite **ADVISING**

Rio Salado transfer students can now meet with advisors from Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University at Rio's Tempe location.

Advisors from both universities are on hand twice a month to offer in-person advising services.

"We have had long standing partnerships with these institutions and look forward to working even closer with them to provide clear pathways from our associate degrees to the student's chosen university majors," said David Hall, Coordinator, Advisement Services.

For more information visit www.riosalado.edu/transfer.