

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE: USING DRAMA TO ENHANCE TEACHING – Ref. OTC09

1 week. Minimum level B1

Alpha College PIC Number: 945 895 889

This 1 week course on Using Drama to Enhance Teaching is of significant benefit to teachers of students from age 10+ who wish to introduce the use of drama and improvisation in their classrooms as a way of stimulating their students interest in a range of subjects, to share ideas on best practice methodologies with colleagues from across Europe thereby improving the overall approach to retention of students interest in their schools and, as a result, the learner outcomes for their students.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this 1-week Using Drama in the Classroom course are

- to familiarise participants with key strategies for using drama in the classroom for students aged 10+
- to help develop participants' skills in the use of improvisation in the classroom
- to help develop participants' awareness of tools such as image theatre and the use of texts
- to help develop participants' devise, develop and present a show for their own class
- to improve participants confidence in their own lesson delivery
- to provide an opportunity to develop and consolidate participants own language skills
- to produce high-quality learning outcomes for participants thereby re-enforcing the capacity and international scope of their schools
- to establish contacts between teachers from a variety of European backgrounds and facilitate future networking among these professionals.
- To promote awareness of contemporary Ireland

Pre-course Preparation

- Pre-course reading list
- Pre-course cultural information
- Pre-Course general arrival information
- Needs Analysis

Support offered by Alpha College

- Course Tutor
- Learning Materials
- On-going evaluation and monitoring
- Setting of learning objectives
- 24 hour emergency contact number
- Accommodation service
- Information on optional extra cultural visits

Follow up provided

- A Certificate of Attendance
- Europass Mobility Documentation Completion
- On the final day of the course, the participants are encouraged to examine benefits gained from the course and how they can implement them in their own professional capacity

- Participants are encouraged to keep contact via email and private social networking and to join our forum for previous trainees
- Alpha trainers are available for follow-up advice and support when teachers return to their schools.

Outcomes

- Increased confidence in introducing drama into the classroom across a range of curriculum subjects
- Greater understanding of students' needs
- Improved learner outcomes for their students
- Greater awareness of participants' awareness of tools such as image theatre and the use of texts
- Increased confidence to help develop participants' devise, develop and present a show for their own class
- Enhancement of personal English Language skills – reading, writing, speaking, listening, fluency, accuracy
- Sharing of experience and knowledge with professionals from a range of European countries
- Increased knowledge of Irish history and culture
- Knowledge of Erasmus+ potential for professional development

Format

This course on Using Drama to Enhance Teaching is a 1week course consisting of 20 contact hours plus an extensive cultural programme which is directly linked to the morning sessions. Advice is provided on opportunities for extended Informal Learning and Personal Research related to their course on Saturday and Sunday.

Methodology

This is a practical, hands-on, participative course which focuses on the application of drama in the classroom. The input sessions are a blend of lecture format and practical activities. Throughout the course participants are encouraged to reflect on their own practice, consider alternative practices and try out a variety of classroom activities through workshops and presentations.

Participants will build up a portfolio of activities for their class and devise and develop a show of their own.

The morning sessions are complemented and reinforced by a series of related afternoon activities where the participants are encouraged to develop their language skills in a more informal environment outside of the classroom and further enhance their knowledge of Ireland.

Course Programme

Day One

- Induction and introduction to the course
- Introduction to drama in the classroom. Key strategies and activities to introduce drama in the classroom.
- An orientation tour of Dublin to provide participants with an opportunity to practise their English in a more informal setting outside the classroom, familiarise themselves with the geography and history of the city and allow participants to collect authentic materials for use in the classroom.

Day Two

- How to use improvisation in the classroom. Techniques for using improvisation.
- Workshop: devising a show. Key considerations for the creation of a show.
- Visit to Trinity College. Contribution of Trinity alumni to Irish and international academic affairs. Book of Kells and influence of early Irish missionaries in Europe. Collecting authentic materials

Day Three

- Introduction to image theatre. How to implement this tool for groups who are confident with drama and groups with little or no experience.
- Workshop – developing a show.
- Guided Backstage tour of Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National theatre.

Day Four

- Using texts in the classroom. Bringing texts to life.
- Voice in the classroom. Activities to focus on the importance of voice.
- Visit to Sweny's Pharmacy. Participate in a reading group and hear Joyce's works brought to life.

Day Five

- Presentation of participants' shows.
- Course review and evaluation. Implications for future practice. Establish of base and guidelines for future contact and networking.

Course Dates

- 20th August 2018 (or by arrangement for closed groups)

Course Fees:

€450 – to include tuition, learning materials, excursions and activities as outlined in the programme, End-of-Course certificate, completion of Erasmus+ documentation.

(Participants on this course may extend their programme, if necessary, by taking a 1 week General English language training course for an extra fee)

Host Family Accommodation, single room, half board

€195 for 1 week (July and August 2018)(+€30 supplement per week, private bathroom)

Student Self Catering Accommodation: July and August only. (10/12 minutes on foot from Alpha and from city centre)

Cost to be finalised - single bedroom, private bathroom, shared kitchen/living room.

Airport Transfers (optional) arrival €70; departure €70

About Alpha College

Alpha College is an approved training centre for the ACELS/QQI Certificate in English Language Teaching (CELT) and has a staff of highly qualified, experienced and motivated teacher trainers who train prospective ELT teachers year-round. They are also practising teachers of English, experienced in using up-to-date methods with learners at all levels of language learning.

In addition Alpha College has been providing in-service training courses for teachers from overseas for the last 17 years. Alpha personnel are committed to providing professionally delivered training in a supportive environment resulting in high quality learner outcomes for participants and are also experienced in completion of Erasmus+ documentation.

Enrolment at www.interprimair.eu

Alpha College is a full member of EAQUALS (Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality Language Services). The most recent EAQUALS inspection took place in October 2015 and as a result of this 2-day inspection the Inspectors identified points of excellence in the following categories:

- Management and Administration
- Client Services
- Teaching and Learning
- Staff Profile and Development
- Course Design and Supporting Systems
- Internal Communications
- Assessment and Certification
- External Communications
- Academic Resources

Sample Timetable

Using Drama to Enhance Teaching					
Wk 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:50	Induction, orientation and Information dissemination.	Using improvisation in the classroom	Working with Text	Working with Voice	Workshop: Presentations
<i>Coffee Break</i>					
11:10-13:00	Introduction to using drama in the classroom. Intro to Forum and Image theatre	Workshop: Devising a show for a drama class	Workshop – devising a show for the drama classroom	Workshop – devising a show for the drama classroom	Course review and evaluation. Establishing guidelines for future contact and networking
<i>Lunch Break</i>					
p.m.	Orientation tour of Dublin	Visit to Trinity College	Backstage at the National Theatre	Sweny's Pharmacy – Joyce related	Visit to the National Gallery
Saturday: Informal Learning. Self-guided research and cultural activities along guidelines from Alpha College					