

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE: USING TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM – REF. OTC04A

1 week. Minimum English language level B1+

Alpha College PIC Number: 945 895 889

This 1 week course on Using Technology in the Classroom is of significant benefit to teachers who need to familiarise themselves with current developments in the use of Technology in their classrooms; to become more confident in delivering their classes using technology in an environment where their students are very familiar with a wide range of modern technology and applications; to share ideas on best practice methodologies with colleagues from across Europe thereby improving the overall approach to using technology in their schools and, as a result, ensuring better integration of school into students' lives and greater student engagement in learning inside and outside the school.

Objectives

The aims of this course on Using Technology in the Classroom are:

- to familiarise the participants with recent pedagogical and classroom technology developments
- to increase participants' skill and confidence in the use of some computer applications, particularly in an environment where many of the students are very digitally savvy
- to increase participants' awareness of the opportunities to integrate ICT into teaching and learning processes in their schools
- to give participants an opportunity, as far as possible, to use the programmes to which they are introduced and to learn to adapt some ready-made programmes to their particular classroom requirements
- to provide an opportunity to develop and consolidate participants own language skills
- to improve participants confidence in their own lesson delivery
- to produce high-quality learning outcomes for participants thereby re-enforcing the capacity and international scope of their schools
- To promote awareness of contemporary Ireland
- To establish contacts between teachers from a variety of European backgrounds and facilitate future networking among these professionals.

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

- Introduction to a range of applications
- Increased confidence in using technology across a range of subject teaching
- Increased awareness of the use of technology in the classroom and the web as a teaching resource
- Increased awareness of how integrating technology into learning experiences can help to integrate school into students' lives so they become more engaged in their learning inside and outside of school.
- Digital portfolio of lesson plans and material created to act as a reference for implementing new techniques in their schools and also as an aid to disseminating the project to colleagues
- Enhancement of personal English Language skills
- Improved learner outcomes for their students
- 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 Technology in the Classroom is a one-week course consisting of 20 morning contact hours as well as 1 afternoon workshop and an extensive cultural and social programme directly linked to the morning sessions.

The excursion programme is designed to allow teachers create an online blog/closed group environment project about their time in Dublin and to give them more practical experience in creating and leading projects with their students.

Methodology

The input sessions are a blend of theory and practice in ELT combining presentation, demonstration and practical activities to facilitate using and developing computer-based programmes.

During the week participants may join in 4 afternoon activities where they are encouraged to develop their language skills in a more informal environment outside of the classroom and further enhance their knowledge of Ireland, with an added focus on exploiting school trips in their own teaching environments to develop language skills.

Course Programme

Day One

- Induction and introduction to the course. Creating Intranets
- Going over the basics - a run through of the key skills necessary for all participants to take full advantage of the programme. Creating a digital portfolio.

- 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

- Lesson Design/Mini workshops. Designing a lesson using and incorporating technology – preparing activities to engage computer literate students
- Google Products/Mini Workshop. Using Google products and services effectively in the classroom to create engaging content and classes.
- Trinity College. Introduction to third level education in Ireland. Contribution of Trinity alumni to Irish and international academic affairs. Book of Kells and influence of early Irish missionaries in Europe. Collecting authentic materials. Developing speaking through short presentations on universities of participants.

Day Three

- Using audio and video podcasts to engage students with real world content. Creating audio and video files
- Creating Quizzes, Gap Fills
- National Gallery. Collecting authentic texts.

Day Four

- Creating Slideshows, Animations and Cartoons using online tools
- The Flipped Classroom– adapting existing material to create a flipped lesson.
- Afternoon supervised Workshop: designing lessons using and incorporating technology. Becoming familiar with/trying out applications introduced during the course -participants have the opportunity to get further practice on any of the resources viewed during the week under the supervision of one of the course tutors

Day Five

- Recording material and activities from your computer screen. Finalising digital portfolio
- Feedback and Review session
- Cathedrals. History and influence of the main denominations in Ireland. Jonathan Swift

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Course Dates:

27th August 2018 (or by arrangement for closed groups)

Course Fees:

€450 - (Includes tuition, materials, excursions and activities as outlined in the programme, End-of-Course certificate, completion of Erasmus+ documentation)

Host Family Accommodation, standard, single room, half board

€195 for 1 week (July and August 2018) (+€60 supplement for private bathroom, if required)

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

Cost to be confirmed (November 2017), July and August - single bedroom, private bathroom, shared kitchen/living room.

Airport Transfers (optional)

arrival €70; departure €70

Sample Course Timetable

Using Technology in the Classroom					
Wk 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:50	Induction, orientation and Information dissemination.	Lesson Design using and incorporating technology	Using audio and video podcasts: creating audio and video files	Creating Slideshows, Animations and Cartoons using online tools	Recording material and activities from your computer screen
<i>Coffee Break</i>					
11:10-13:00	Creating Intranets. Basic skills Creating a Digital Portfolio	Mini Workshop Google Products	Creating Quizzes, gap fills	The Flipped Classroom– adapting existing material to create a flipped lesson	Digital storytelling – free online tools Finalising digital portfolio Feedback and review.
<i>Lunch Break</i>					
p.m.	Orientation tour of Dublin	Visit to Trinity College	Visit to National Gallery	Supervised workshop - revision	Visit to the Cathedrals

Saturday and Sunday: Informal Learning. Self-guided research and cultural activities along guidelines from Alpha College

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 is a full member of EAQUALS (European Association of Quality Language Services) and IALC (International Association of Language Schools) and has been providing in-service training courses for teachers from overseas for the last 16 years.

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