ERASMUS+

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PROJECT BASED LEARNING - OTC08

Course Ref:

OTC08

Entry Levels
CEFR English B1+

Daily Teaching Sessions

Monday to Friday

Total course contact hours 24
One week course: 20 morning hours + two x 2-hour afternoon workshops

Maximum class size 14

Course Provider:

Twin English Centre Dublin (formerly Alpha College of English)

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PIC 909 168 391

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in association with:

Shadows Professional Development Ltd

OID E10070815
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This course is of significant benefit to non-native teachers and trainers who:
- need to increase their awareness of current thinking on PBL developments
- wish to share ideas on best practice methodologies with colleagues from across Europe thereby improving the overall approach to teaching in their schools

Objectives
- to familiarise participants with key concepts and issues in Project Based Learning
- to help develop participants' skills in implementing PBL in the classroom
- to increase participants' skill and confidence in the use of tech tools used in PBL
- to cover a variety of school projects for subjects such as English, geography and history with a focus on the tools and resources needed to make PBL accessible to learners through English
- to provide opportunities for improved methodology and creativity to help participants increase their student engagement and retention on their return to their own schools
- to provide an opportunity to develop and consolidate participants own language skills
- to establish contacts between teachers from a variety of European backgrounds and facilitate future networking among these professionals
- to promote awareness of contemporary Ireland

Preparation
Pre-course Preparative Modalities:
- Needs Analysis
- Pre-course information on free on-line resources
- Pre-course cultural information
- Pre-Course general arrival information

Practical Arrangements
Intra-Course Modalities offered by the Course Provider
- Course Tutor
- Learning Materials
- Individual formative assessment
- Setting of learning objectives
- Feedback on progress and areas needing special attention
- Guidance and advice on homework exercises
- 24 hour emergency contact number
- Accommodation service
- Optional cultural visits

Follow up provided
Post-Course Modalities
- A Certificate of Attendance and Achievement
- Europass Mobility
- Post-Course Forum

Course Topics

Key Concepts and Definitions of PBL

Creating a Digital Portfolio

Stages in planning and implementing a project

Developing projects in the classroom.

Cross curricula projects

Integrating Technology into project development

Using Web tools to design projects

Using the 4 skills and PBL in the language classroom

Assessment through projects

Presentation of project work developed during the programme

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Course Content

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 lesson planning, workshops and presentations. Participants will build up a portfolio of project ideas and develop a project of their own.

Format

This **1-week** course on Project Based Learning consists of 20 morning contact hours as well as 2 afternoon workshops and an extensive cultural and social programme directly linked to the morning sessions

Sample Programme

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 -10:50	Induction, orientation and Information dissemination.	Stages involved in planning and implementing a project	Integrating Technology into project development	Utilising the four skills and PBL in the language classroom	Presentation of participants' projects
Coffee Break					
11:10-13:00	Creating a Digital Portfolio Key concepts and definitions of PBL	Developing projects in classroom. Cross curricula projects	Workshop – using web tools to design projects	Assessment through projects	Course review and evaluation. Establishing guidelines for future contact and networking
Lunch					
p.m. Visits	Orientation tour of Dublin	Workshop: Developing PBL projects	Visit to the National Gallery	Supervised Workshop	Self guided excursion in city centre

Saturday	Informal Learning. Self-guided research and cultural activities along guidelines from Twin English Centre, Dublin

Outcomes

- Increased confidence in developing and implementing PBL in the classroom
- Greater understanding of students' needs and improved learner outcomes for their students
- Increased awareness of the range of uses for successful implementation of PBL in the school
- Digital portfolio of PBL material as a reference for implementing new techniques in participants own classrooms and to facilitate dissemination of the project to colleagues
- Participation in a real world project focusing on the core stages of PBL
- Increased awareness of the possibilities of exploiting easily available texts as a language teaching resource
- Enhancement of personal English Language skills
- 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