

ERASMUS+ French & NLA (NeuroLinguistic Approach)

Effective strategies for successful learning and for teaching a foreign language

Course Ref: EPFR 14.2

Entry Level:

Minimum Level French CEFR B2

Language of tuition:

French

Language of material:

French

60 Teaching Sessions

Total course contact hours:

2 weeks: 50 hours

Maximum class size 15

Educational context:

primary, secondary, university, training, association

For: teachers of French as a foreign and second language, foreign language teachers teaching sessions, researchers in language didactics, students and trainees in teaching French as a foreign language

Course Provider:

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ERASMUS+

This two week course is of significant benefit to teachers and other professionals who:

- Need to upskill their French language teaching techniques of students aged 6 and upwards
- Need to upskill their French language teaching techniques for NLA
- Wish to familiarise themselves with international best practice in FLE
- Need to enrich their own knowledge of the French language

It should be noted that the course is also relevant for teachers of other foreign languages as the skills can and techniques taught are transferable to other languages and subjects taught in that language.

The objectives of the training are as follows

- To develop and consolidate participants' language skills by enhancing competency in French language usage in a multi-national environment
- To develop participants' language skills to help them teach and communicate in French more efficiently and successfully
- To understand the 5 principal NLA teaching theories, pedagogical practices and concepts using lecture materials
- To examine/distinguish grammatical concepts, verbal interactions, literacy, phrase construction and concentration on the sense
- To appreciate the importance of forming a project
- To gain a grasp of the teaching strategies for each different phase: the oral phase, reading phase and the writing phase. To be able to apply this knowledge in a workshop setting with our own students

Preparation

- Needs Analysis and educative background profile
- Online resources for pre-course, arrival and cultural information
- Online language level assessment

Practical Arrangements

- Course tutor
- Pedagogic learning materials
- Setting of learning objectives
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation including feedback on progress
- Guidance and advice on homework exercises
- Accommodation service and pastoral care: 24hr emergency contact
- Optional additional language workshop every day
- City orientation tour and welcome activity
- Access to school study and media centre

Follow up provided

- A Certificate of Attendance and Achievement
- Europass Mobility if required
- End of course programme evaluation
- Post-course forum
- Pedagogic teaching materials

Week One: Intensive French Language

Reading Skills...

A variety of reading activities is used to encourage students to develop the various reading skills that are needed to read effectively.

Writing Skills...

Writing will be utilised to develop accuracy. Writing activities may also be set for homework.

Listening Skills...

Listening skills will be practised extensively, using a variety of activities and tasks, to enable students to be able to process the information and become more confident in this skill.

Speaking Skills...

Speaking will be an integral part of lessons. Students are given the opportunity to express their ideas in a relaxed classroom atmosphere, by use of a range of activities to encourage communication.

Grammar Awareness...

Grammar for effective communication will be presented and practised at all levels.

Vocabulary...

Vocabulary is a key element in learning a foreign language. Various activities to encourage the acquisition of vocabulary are an integral part of the course.

Extra fluency practice...

Every afternoon 1 extra lesson in small groups. These thematic workshops focus on communication skills and phonetics.

Culture...

Our teaching materials draw on aspects of French life and culture from the very beginning. You will learn about France and the French way of life as you progress in your knowledge of the language.

Language and Cultural Workshops...

...may be replaced by Delf and Dalf Preparation

Course Format

One week 30 lessons Intensive French Language which precedes...

...One week NLA 30 lessons (sample timetable below)

Week Two: The NeuroLinguistic Approach

NLA Sample Programme

Below is a sample of a schedule that can be adapted to suit the participants' needs.

First day in school includes welcome, orientation and briefing before class begins.

Day	Hours	Initial training in the NeuroLinguistic Approach (NLA) for teaching foreign languages
1 st day		<p>Theoretical settings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are put in a foreign language learning situation with NLA Analysis and discussion of the learning processes used Presentation and discussion of the first theoretical foundations and principles of NLA : distinction between implicit competence and explicit knowledge, the importance of oral production and use of social interactions <p>Teaching strategies : oral (1st part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypothesis concepts and teaching steps Demonstration, analysis of teaching strategies and feedback Reflect on the other foundations and principles of NLA : cognitive engagement, literacy pedagogy and authenticity
2 nd day	09:30 to 11:00 11:30 to 13:00	<p>Teaching strategies : oral (2nd part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deepening/reminding of the foundations and principles of the NLA Practice preparation, practice and feedback <p>Teaching strategies : reading - listening (1st part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the sequence order, the links between speaking, reading/listening and writing, reading strategies and linguistic contextualization Demonstration (contextualization, predictions, first exploitation) Analysis of teaching strategies : preparation for the reading lesson demonstrated by the tutor and feedback
3 rd day	14:00 to 16:00	<p>Teaching strategies : reading – listening (2nd part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder of the stages of the reading phase Preparation and practice (contextualization, predictions and 1st exploitation) Feedback, discussion <p>Teaching strategies - reading – listening (3rd part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing explicit knowledge: grapheme/phoneme, prosody and rules of writing (grammatical contextualization) Demonstrations (2nd and 3rd exploitation) and analysis Practice preparation, practice and feedback
4 th day		<p>Teaching strategies - reading – aural (4th part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice preparation, practice and feedback <p>Teaching strategies - writing production (1st part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theoretical aspects: Influence of speaking on writing Demonstration, analysis of teaching strategies and feedback Practice preparation, practice and feedback
5 th day		<p>Teaching strategies of writing production (2nd part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice preparation, practice and feedback <p>Assessment and overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project-based pedagogy integrated in the teaching programme Feedback on the theoretical concepts and practices Design of an NLA lesson plan

The NeuroLinguistic Approach

Topics

The NeuroLinguistic approach for teaching French as a foreign language was created in Canada in 1998 by two renowned teachers and didacticians, Joan Netten and Claude Germain.

The approach is used for pre-adolescents and teenagers, refugees and secondary school students in Asia and in Europe. It has recently been tested through experimental research in France for French and English as foreign languages. The positive results will soon be published.

During this training, we will see:

- the importance of two grammars. Through this distinction, the predominance of implicit competence and thus the use of oral skills also in reading and writing

- how to make the learner express him/herself in complete sentences in authentic communicative situations to build this skill.

- the concept of literacy pedagogy: how to make learners express their personal messages by focusing on their interest and meaning

- how to develop fluency and accuracy through correction. We will see how to develop the learner's communicative skills in speaking, reading and writing, using mainly speaking and looking at the order and links between all these phases.

- how to deal with external grammar: the sound-graphic phenomena of the language among others and specific rules for writing.

- putting at stake the cognitive engagement of the learner in an interactive and authentic development of oral skills and the expressed message as well as in the progressive use of cognitive processes in project-based pedagogy.

- how to integrate activities such as games, simulations, skits etc. into an NLA sequence.

This course integrates theory with and from practical sessions, where tutors have demonstrated classroom techniques in real courses and in workshops participants apply strategies that can then be reused in their own teaching.

Understanding how the theoretical foundations, pedagogical principles, phases and activities are intimately linked.

Learning how a pedagogical approach provides both a framework and flexibility for developing effective and creative lessons.

NLA Course Content and Strategies

You will approach NLA in an active and concrete way:

You will experience the approach by being put into a foreign language learning situation:

- By looking closely at the strategies and theoretical underpinnings in the trainers' teaching demonstrations with real learners.
- Then by experiencing the foundations of NLA in authentic teaching situations with real learners in the school.

NLA Materials used

- A lecture room, video – projector and a white board with felt tip pens
- PPT presentation
- Video episodes of the class
- Documentation: contents of the course
- ANL research articles
- 2 NLA teaching units
- Teaching strategies for the verbal stages, the reading of a personal text, and the writing, Bloom's Taxonomy, the assessment form, and the overall, judgement of the session form.

Two Week Course Outcomes

- Enhanced French language skills: reading, writing, listening, speaking, fluency and accuracy.
- Improved confidence in using a foreign language
- Exposure to different classroom methodological practices
- Greater understanding of French as Foreign Language's teaching with respect to its close links to NeuroLinguistic Approach
- Acquisition of new teaching/learning strategies and their links to the theory and the key-principles of the NLA
- Application of the principles of the NLA and the pedagogical strategies which flow from them, to contribute to the development of fluent, accurate communication skills and to motivate learners
- Improved class management
- A grasp of the concept that the approach to teaching/learning proposed by the NLA fosters cognitive development in the learner
- Acquisition of the basic notions in developing a pedagogical sequence according to the principles of the NLA