LEAP

Language Education & Partnerships Ltd

Training Course in:

Teaching Literacy through Visual Narrative

UK

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About the course

In response to the increased importance being placed on an understanding of visual literacy as part or a comprehensive communication education (at all levels), this intensive week-long course is designed to equip teaching and non-teaching staff with a range of digital skills, key principles and relevant methodologies.

The course is structured to develop applicable and teachable skills built on sound principles of visual communication. The principles of visual communication are taught through hands-on visual exercises in the early stages, leading to brief-driven production tasks. Throughout the course participants will be engaged in the conception and development of visual media, with frequent evaluation of the processes and outcomes within a variety of language and literacy teaching contexts.

Course specific educational aims

Through structured sessions on, participants will develop knowledge and understanding of:

- Key concepts and principles of Visual Communication tailored to best suit the needs of Visual Narrative
- An innovative method of visual recording
- Planning and development processes relevant to different forms of Visual Narrative
- Essential camera use for photography and video
- Comic book / graphic novel production software
- Video editing principles & Video editing software
- A range of ready-to-use teaching methods (within the context of the course content)
- Formal idea and resource generation methods for exploiting Visual Narrative within a language and/or literacy teaching context(s)

By the end of the course each participant will be proficient in the creation of visual narrative in at least two formats, the use of at least two popular software tools and the ability to teach basic visual communication principles and key production software.

In addition, participants will be provided with an opportunity to share good practice and evaluate own teaching practice within a collaborative context.

Course dates (refer to website)

Who the course is for

Courses are aimed at staff leading, teaching and supporting the delivery of literacy and/or languages in schools. Each course is designed to meet the needs of the target group and delivered according to the methodology that best suits the age group.

In particular, the following staff may apply:

- professionals working in the field of education
- teachers and staff in education dealing with the teaching of literacy and languages to learners
- trainers and advisors of such staff
- professionals in education dealing with curriculum design for literacy classes
- non-teaching staff who have a role in supporting teaching staff in the planning and delivery of the curriculum.

Course methodology and approach

The course encourages the use of a creative teaching approach and includes specific sessions on integrating ICT in language teaching. It also includes sessions to develop partnership work with teachers from within Europe, as well as other activities available under the Erasmus+ Programme.

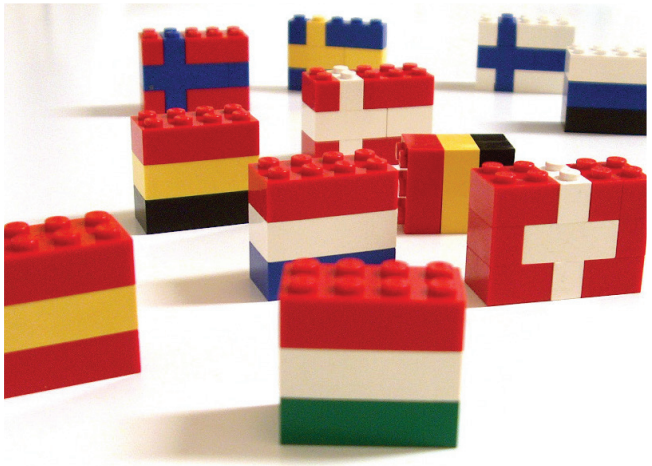
During the week attendees will be encouraged to reflect on and develop their planning skills and will be tasked with working together to develop their own teaching resources. These will be shared within the group and uploaded to a public website so that teachers within the wider educational community can use them. This work forms an integral part of the dissemination activities attendees will undertake on their return home.

Throughout the week and consistent with a full-immersion approach, a variety of teaching and learning sessions will be delivered with specific teaching and learning aims.

These include:

- Visual Narrative specific sessions
- cultural sessions and cultural visits with examples of activities to use with learners
- a visit to an educational establishment for observation of practice and an opportunity to make links for future partnership work.

Attendees will evaluate their experience at the end of each day and the course will culminate in an end of week evaluation session and exhibition of their work.



Pre-course and follow-up activities

A website, with a blog, will be set up prior to the course in order to encourage communication between participants. The site will be used to disseminate pre-course work and to encourage delegates to initiate a dialogue between themselves and course trainers.

Delegates will be sent resources and reading books as part of the pre-course preparation. They will be asked to prepare a teaching resource to share with other delegates on the course.

Once back in their own country, teachers will be encouraged to continue networking with other participants and course trainers. All resources developed during the week will be uploaded on the website and additional web links will be shared to continue learning beyond the end of the course. Delegates will be encouraged to continue sharing good practice and, through the website, disseminate additional resources developed post course.

Course evaluation

Attendees will be supported in evaluating their learning throughout the week, within both formal and informal contexts, such as cultural visits and organised social excursions. They will carry out a formal evaluation at the end of each day and this will feed into the summative evaluation at the end of the week. The summative evaluation will take the form of a questionnaire and a focus group report, together with an exhibition and formal presentation of the group-work developed.

Course certification

A course-specific certificate will be provided at the end of the training week, together with the Europass Mobility Certificate.

Organisation of the course

(including training, cultural events, accommodation and subsistence)

All aspects of the course are taken care of by the LEAP Ltd trainers and advisors:

- accommodation in shared rooms (see page 8 for details of accommodation)
- all teaching and training sessions are included and delivered either at a partner training centre or at a training/conference centre.
- the cost includes all meals throughout the week, local travel and specific cultural visits and excursions as specified in the detailed programme.
- travel to and from the airport in the target country is included in the grant, provided that local public transport is used.

Costs of any other arrangements outside the detailed programme will not be met by the organisers.

Course cost and funding opportunities

The cost of the course, including course fee, pre-course assignments and support, accommodation, meals and travel to and from the venue, can be funded through the Erasmus+ Programme under the Key Action 1 (Learning Mobility of Individuals). The application for funding is made by the employer of the participant(s).

To apply for the grant, organisation must reside in one of the eligible countries within the Erasmus+ Programme (for UK applicants, visit http://www.erasmusplus.org.uk/how-to-apply, or contact our team who will provide further help and guidance). For all other countries, please visit http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/

Total cost of course is €1610 which includes:

6 nights accommodation in shared room and all meals
Course fee of €490

Accommodation details

All participants will be accommodated in shared rooms in a hotel near the centre of Walsall. The hotel chosen offers a range of facilities and comfortable surroundings.

Travel to and from the UK

Walsall is located around 30 minutes from Birmingham International Airport via a regular rail connection. Many airlines provide frequent flights to Birmingham.

The team will liaise directly with individual participants to arrange the travel that best suits them.

Location of the course

Walsall is a large industrial town in the West Midlands region of England. It is located 8 miles northwest of the City of Birmingham.

The name Walsall is thought to have derived from the words "Walh halh", meaning "valley of the Welsh speakers" (referring to the Britons). Walsall is first referenced as 'Walesho' in a document dated 1002.

By the first part of the 13th century, Walsall was a small market town, with the weekly market being introduced in 1220 and held on Tuesdays

Walsall underwent modernisation in the 1970s with a new town centre being built at the expense of some medieval properties. Walsall is currently undergoing a new era of urban regeneration with many brownfield sites being replaced with modern houses, flats and offices.

Interesting sights:

- Walsall Art Gallery
- Walsall Leather Museum
- Walsall Arboretum

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walsall

Daily programme of activities

Sunday	
09.00-18.00	Arrival at Walsall and transfer to hotel
18.00	Official opening of the workshop and detailed presentation of the programme.
19.00	Dinner at local traditional restaurant

Monday	
7.30-9.00	Breakfast at hotel
9.15-9.30	Registration
9.30- 11.00	Workshop (part 1) Visual Narrative: Techniques
11.00-11.30	Break and networking
11.30-13.00	Workshop (part 2) Visual Narrative: Techniques
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-16.15	Workshop (part 3) Visual Narrative: Techniques
16.15-16.30	End of day evaluation and discussion
17.00	Visit to Lichfield
19.00	Dinner

Tuesday	
7.30-9.00	Breakfast at hotel
9.15-9.30	Registration and a Question and Answer session
9.30- 11-00	Workshop (part 1) Visual Narrative: Techniques
11.00-11.30	Break and networking
11.30-13.00	Workshop (part 2) Visual Narrative: Techniques
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-16.00	Workshop (part 3) Sharing Good practice in a 'Show and Tell' style
16.00-16.15	End of day evaluation and discussion
18.00	Visit to Birmingham
20.00	Dinner

Wednesday	
7.00-8.30	Breakfast at hotel
9.00-15.00	Visit to UK site of interest to explore the 4 cornerstones of literacy within an authentic setting. (Including lunch on site)
15.15-15.30	End of day evaluation and discussion
19.00	Dinner

Thursday	
7.30-8.15	Breakfast at hotel
8.30	Departure from hotel reception for visit to an educational establishment
9.30-13.00	Visit and networking with local teachers
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00	Transfer to Stratford-upon-Avon
15.00	Walking tour of Stratford-upon-Avon
19.00	Dinner

Friday	
7.30-9.00	Breakfast at hotel
9.15-9.30	Registration and Q&A session
9.30-11.00	Developing Visual Narrative inspired learning resources
11.00-11.30	Break and networking
11.30-13.00	Developing Visual Narrative inspired learning resources
13.00-14.00	Break and networking
14.00-16.00	Group work and discussion
16.00-17.00	Presentation and exhibition of work
17.00-18.00	End of course evaluation and presentation of Certificates.
19.00	Dinner

Saturday	
7.15-9.00	Breakfast at hotel
9.00-12.00	Individual Evaluation and Action Plan
12.00	Departure and official farewell from the team

How to register

The initial stage of application is to complete the registration form.

You can complete an electronic version available at www.leaponline.eu or as a Word document on request from:

info@leaponline.eu

Once the registration form has been received, we will notify the applicant with a confirmation e-mail with guidance on applying for the relevant funding.

For additional information, please visit the Language Education And Partnerships website at:

www.leaponline.eu

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