

**ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE: ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING + METHODOLOGY IN PRACTICE- OTC11**

2 weeks. English language level A2/B1

**Alpha College PIC Number: 945 895 889**

This 2 week course on English Language Training and Methodology in Practice is of significant benefit to teachers who need to improve their current General English language levels as well as refresh their language teaching skills and use of technology in their classes, share ideas on best practice methodologies with colleagues from across Europe thereby improving overall English language teaching in their schools and, as a result, the learner outcomes for their students

**Objectives**

The objectives of this English Language Training + Methodology in Practice are

- To develop and consolidate participants' language skills by enhancing overall competency in General English language usage in a multi-national environment
- To enhance communication in English between teachers and students
- To familiarise participants with key issues in English language teaching including use of technology and the use of the web as a teaching resource
- To Increase awareness of current trends in assessment for the language classroom
- To promote awareness of contemporary Ireland
- To establish contacts between teachers from a variety of European backgrounds and facilitate future networking among these professionals.
- To produce high-quality learning outcomes for participants thereby re-enforcing the capacity and international scope of their schools

**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 fluency and confidence in using English language
- Participation in language learning classes delivered by teachers trained in integrating technology in classroom practice
- Creation of a digital portfolio of tasks and web tools for language teachers to act as a reference for implementing new techniques in their schools and also as an aid to disseminating the project to colleagues
- Increased awareness of current approaches to language teaching and the possibilities of exploiting easily available texts as a language teaching resource
- Increased confidence in using technology in their classroom and awareness of the use of web as a teaching resource
- Increased awareness of current trends in assessment in the classroom and the implementation of self-assessment, peer assessment and self-reflection
- Greater understanding of students' needs
- 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 is a 2-week course consisting of 56 contact hours plus an afternoon cultural programme. The contact hours are made up of 40 hours of English language development plus 16 hours of training on a range of aspects of English language teaching.

Advice is provided on opportunities for extended Informal Learning and Personal Research related to their course on Saturday and Sunday

### **Methodology**

The overall approach in the language development classes is communicative with students encouraged and facilitated to use the language learned in the classroom. The syllabus for the morning classes covers all the language skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar activities. Class work includes individual, pair and group work, discussions, debates, project work, presentations, written tasks and listening exercises. Each week a project topic is introduced to the class and students present their project work to the class at the end of the week. Participants will also have opportunities to observe English language teachers using technology and applications in their classes.

Participants' needs are evaluated; learning objectives are set and participants receive focused feedback. Areas for improvement are addressed through revision sessions and progress tests.

The afternoon input sessions focus on current methodology in the language classroom, including the use of technology and are a blend of lecture format and practical activities.

There are also afternoon activities where the participants are encouraged to develop their language skills in a more informal environment outside of the classroom, further enhance their knowledge of Ireland and explore the possibilities of using locally sourced materials to enhance teaching.

## Course Programme

### Day one

- On arrival participants take a written and oral English language placement test. They also attend an induction session where they are given information about the school and Dublin and receive out-of-hours emergency contact telephone numbers for key Alpha personnel.
- Participants are placed in multinational English classes at their level and will follow the syllabus at that level for the remainder of the programme.
- Participants create a digital portfolio to record all their work done on the programme
- Developing the Speaking Skill

### Day two

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Using Reading and Listening texts – integrating language skills

### Day three

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Workshop focusing on using ICT to design lessons

### Day four

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Recording material and activities from the computer screen

### Day five

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- An orientation tour of Dublin to provide participants with an opportunity to practise their English in a more informal setting as well as to explore the use of local, easily sourced material to create and enhance lessons

### Day six

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Reviewing the digital portfolio
- Authentic material and apps for education

### Day seven

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- The Flipped Classroom

### Day eight

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Teaching Vocabulary. Developing the Writing Skill

### Day nine

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Embedding Assessment in the language classroom - implementing self-assessment, peer assessment and self-reflection
- Course review and evaluation. Implications for future practice. Establishment of base and guidelines for future contact and networking

### Day ten

- Continuation of development of general English language skills in multinational class at appropriate level.
- Teacher led excursion to Botanic Gardens. Exploring ideas for incorporating local environment into language classroom activities

**Course Dates:**

26th March 2018

14th May 2018

18th June 2018

22nd October 2018 (or by arrangement for closed groups)

**Course Fees:**

€900.00 (Price includes tuition, learning materials, excursions and activities as outlined in the programme, completion of Erasmus+ documentation)

**Host Family Accommodation, single room, half board**

€370 for 2 weeks (October – June 2018)

€390 for 2 weeks (July and August 2018)

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

**Cost** to be finalised (November 2017) single bedroom, private bathroom, shared kitchen/living room.

**Airport Transfers (optional)**

arrival €70; departure €70

**Sample Timetable**

English Language Training + Methodology in Practice					
Wk 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:50	Placement Test and Evaluation of Speaking Skills. Induction/ Orientation	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences.	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Review & progress test. Consolidation of language and further skills practice.
<i>Coffee Break</i>					
11:10-13:00	Introduction to class project. Building linguistic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Public presentation of project, critique and reflection Focused feedback on learner outcomes.
<i>Lunch Break</i>					
Afternoon	Creating a Digital Portfolio / Developing the Speaking Skill	Using Reading / Listening Texts in the Language Classroom- Integrating Language Skills	Workshop: ICT and Lesson Design	Recording Material and Activities from your Computer Screen	City Centre Walking Tour Places of historical interest.
Saturday and Sunday: Informal Learning. Self-guided research and cultural activities along guidelines from Alpha College					
Wk 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:50	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences.	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Review & progress test. Consolidation of language and further skills practice.
<i>Coffee Break</i>					
11:10-13:00	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Building linguistic, strategic and pragmatic competences	Public presentation of project, critique and reflection. Focused feedback on learner outcomes.
<i>Lunch Break</i>					
Afternoon	Reviewing a Digital Portfolio / Authentic Material and Apps for Education	Flipped Classroom Approach	Teaching Vocabulary / Developing the Writing Skill	Assessment in the language classroom Course Review and Self-evaluation	Teacher led excursion to Botanic Gardens.

### **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.

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