



"We make learning special"

Materials Development for ELT

Course Dates: 4 – 15 August 2008

Who is the course for?

This course can be taken either as a module in our MAPDLE programme or as a short course in its own right. It is suitable for any teacher who has to produce her own materials for classroom use or for anyone who wishes to gain a practical grasp of the principles and practice of materials development in language teaching. Though the course is primarily targeted at teachers of English, it is also open to teachers of other languages provided that they have a suitable level of English.

What are the course objectives?

To develop

- participants' critical awareness of the theories of language acquisition and language pedagogy which are potentially applicable to materials development;
- participants' ability to formulate and apply principled criteria for the evaluation and adaptation of language learning materials;
- participants' expertise in the different aspects of materials development (e.g. text selection and exploitation, the writing of instructions, the use of illustrations, the design and layout of a unit etc);
- participants' ability to work both independently and in a team to produce a variety of different types of effective language learning materials;
- participants' ability to articulate the principles, objectives and procedures of materials which they produce;

What content areas will the course address?

Course content will be drawn from the following broad topic areas which will be fine-tuned to meet participants' needs and interests:

- Second language acquisition and its implications for materials writing
- Language teaching pedagogy and its realisation in materials
- Needs analysis as a starting point for materials development
- Materials evaluation
- Materials adaptation
- Materials editing
- Materials design (including principles of task design)
- Materials writing (including working with authentic materials)

What will participants achieve during the course?

Participants will assemble a portfolio of materials collected and developed during the course for use in their own teaching contexts back home. They will be asked to present these materials to an audience of peers during the last 2/3 days of the course.