



"We make learning special"

Multimedia and the New Technology in ELT

All participants will be expected to have some computer literacy: the ability to use Windows 95/98, browse the Worldwide Web, and send and receive email is a precondition.

Objectives

The course objectives are:

- To raise participants' awareness of the possibilities and challenges offered by digital technologies, both now and in the next five years
- To introduce participants to a wide range of software, both on CD-ROM and the Internet
- To provide training in the practical use of key software in the learning environment (classroom and self-access)

Content

The following key areas will be covered:

Applications software for language teachers: Power point and more advanced uses of Word. The creation and use of multimedia materials using commercial software from Wida and/or Camsoft. Using CD ROMs for reference, language practice and as a source of authentic material. The use of concordancers and text analysis software for both language analysis and classroom use.

Core skills for the internet such as searching, creating, and evaluating web pages; communication using discussion lists, conferencing etc... and integrating these into the classroom; the impact of the technology on methodology and the long terms and short term implications for teachers and learners.

In the second week, participants will work on an agreed project, including (but not limited to) the preparation of one or more lesson plans; a set of electronic learning materials; and a small website.

Methodology

NILE courses are taught in a range of ways but the underlying principle is that all courses should be taught using methodology that course participants can adapt and emulate for themselves on returning to their classrooms. Sessions are built into each course to allow course participants to reflect on the way that they have been taught and review the suitability of the strategies and techniques for their own circumstances.

Preparation and follow-up

All course participants are issued with a pre-course questionnaire to be returned prior to the course. This is to ensure that the areas of most significance to participants within the general course area are covered. In addition, participants are sent an indicative reading list covering some of the topics to be dealt with on the course. Participants are also asked to bring along to the course information and materials relating to any project they are involved in or have recently completed. These can then be subjected to supportive critical comment during the course.

Towards the end of the course there is a "where next" session with the group as a whole, or with individuals. This session is used to review the concepts and practices dealt with on the course and to see how they will apply to the participants' work place on their return. Open-ended follow-up consultation is available to all course participants after the course, via email/internet access

Mode of delivery

Sessions will normally consist of a short talk or demonstration, followed by practical "hands on", followed by a brief discussion. A few sessions will be either purely discussion or a formal talk or presentation. Sessions will take place in a computer facility or seminar room, as appropriate.

Timetable

Each day will include sessions led by the course tutors from 09.15 – 15.30 with the opportunity for continued individual work outside these hours.

Guest Speakers

In addition to the main course team, courses often have one or more visiting guest speakers. These are usually well-known figures from the world of EFL/ESL who have published and lectured widely. Occasionally they are people who are well versed in the changing face of Britain and the role of English in the world wide community.

Since NILE's courses are for serving teachers or teachers in training, these sessions with visiting speakers, along with the social programme, represent an ideal opportunity for course participants to mix socially and professionally with teachers from a wide variety of different countries and contexts.

All of NILE's courses for teachers include a significant English language improvement element dealing with a variety of aspects of the English language.