



Overview and Outcomes

This is a highly practical course designed to explore how technology, and more recently artificial intelligence, impacts language learning. The content is structured around mastering essential technologies that influence critical areas such as assessment, student feedback, collaboration, interaction, speaking skill development, vocabulary acquisition and learner autonomy. The course distinguishes itself through an innovative, experiential methodology. Rather than merely observing new technologies, participants will actively engage with a diverse array of tools. This approach allows educators to experience a deeply integrated online learning environment exactly as their students would. This practical journey involves utilizing an e-portfolio for assessment, ensuring that every theoretical concept is immediately grounded in real-world application.

Trainers

NILE's highly experienced trainers are experts, not only in their fields, but also in working online with teachers for continuing professional development. Read more about NILE's trainers, their experience and interests at [The NILE Team](#) on the [NILE website](#).

Teaching approaches

- We make courses practical and 'hands-on', with reference to relevant theory
- Our courses are participant-centred and collaborative, designed to build knowledge and confidence.
- We use activities and tasks to help you apply the course content to your setting
- Courses are broken down into individual units and activities, forming a clear structure.
- Tasks are interactive, involving live online sessions, forums and other collaborative tools, and utilise a range of multimedia including images, audio files and videos.

Certification

- Your end-of-course NILE certificate details the areas covered on your course. It comes with recommendations for sharing what you have learnt and implementing your action plan at your institution.

Who should apply?

- Teachers who may have some ideas about teaching online but need to connect it all together by building up their understanding of the core principles behind the use of technology.
- Teachers who use technology but not necessarily in any systematic or organised way.
- Participants should have a minimum language level corresponding to B2 on the Common European Framework.

Content

Technologies & Techniques for Online and Blended Language Education covers the following areas:

- Establishing a comprehensive understanding of the foundational principles underpinning technology integration in teaching and learning
- Acquiring the expertise to confidently utilize established technologies that demonstrably enhance pedagogical practices.
- Investigating the AI technologies directly influencing language learning to construct more engaging, connected and student-centric courses
- Exploring how to use AI technologies to optimise teacher efficiency in generating materials such as podcasts, instructional videos and infographics
- Discovering alternative and highly effective methods for evaluating students both formatively and summatively.
- Systematically addressing practical obstacles educators face when implementing technology both in and beyond the classroom.
- Examining the critical role that independent learning occupies within online and blended contexts.
- Exploring how to use AI and other technologies that foster autonomous learning to maximize independent study time and increase student agency

Each course has a maximum of 18 participants and consists of 6 modules each introduced and completed over a week, followed by 10 additional days to complete an e-portfolio.

The NILE Online platform was developed specifically for teacher development courses, and upholds the NILE tradition of excellence in tutoring, materials, support and engagement.

Schedule

This course consists of 6 units. Each unit requires approximately 5-7 hours work per week, including joining the live sessions, participating in collaborative activities and completing the weekly unit task. Live sessions are normally held on a Sunday, and recorded for those who cannot attend.

Technologies & Techniques for Online and Blended Language Education		
Week and module topic	Focus and activities	Tools covered
Week 1 Introduction to E-Portfolios	Starting your e-Portfolio by constructing a profile page, a reflections page, and a comprehensive homepage.	Google Sites
Week 2 Blended Course Design and Component Integration	Exploring blended and flipped models, connecting synchronous and asynchronous environments, and fostering student collaboration.	Padlet, Google Documents, Google Slides
Week 3 Formative and Summative Assessment Methodologies	Investigating AI tools for innovative formative assessments and alternative approaches to summative assessment via e-portfolios.	Google Sites, Edcafe, Google Gemini, Google Forms
Week 4 The Role of Screen Capture Technology in Digital Learning	Exploring diverse applications of screen capture for instructional delivery by educators and active utilisation by students.	ScreenPal, Google NanoBanana
Week 5 Fostering Autonomous Learning	Emphasizing emerging external learning opportunities and strategies to cultivate learner autonomy and maximize independent study.	Google Translate, YouTube, Google Storybooks, Quizlet, Wordwall, Google Gemini Guided Learning
Week 6 Automated Material Generation	Optimizing teacher efficiency in producing resources (podcasts, videos, infographics) and supporting ongoing professional development.	NotebookLM, podcasting applications, Google Gemini Deep Learning

Requirements and Resources

- Participants need a computer, a headset (with microphone), an internet connection and a Gmail account. Please note that a tablet or smartphone will not be enough to do the course.
- A minimum language level corresponding to B2/C1 is required.
- All participants have access to NILE's extensive ELT e-Library and the NILE digital learning platform during the course and for a further six months, to access materials and keep in touch with your new colleagues. We also encourage you to sign up to the NILE Membership platform, which provides a great range of free resources for ELT professionals and is updated monthly.

At NILE we are committed to offering the best in language teacher training. As such, NILE Online courses were developed specifically to recreate the classroom experience and thus, we provide two-way tutorial contact in our online courses. Online participants will benefit from tutor interaction, support and feedback in each unit they take.

NILE Online is the first online course provider aligned to the Cambridge English Teaching Framework. NILE Online courses are also formally aligned to the Equals Framework for Language Teacher Training and Development, and the effort we take to make the NILE Online experience both positive and productive has been recognised by inspections from AQUEDUTO, The Association for Quality Education and Training Online.