NILE ONLINE

Teaching Young Learners

PART OF THE INTO GROUP

Overview and Outcomes

In this course you will examine some principles and practice of Teaching English to Young Learners. You will evaluate and create materials suitable for young learners ages 6 to 12. The practical nature of this course will rely heavily on designing communicative materials to teach language skills, developing effective classroom management skills, and exploring art, drama, music, children´s books and other authentic materials.

You will also investigate some CLIL components suitable for the developmental stages of young learners, as well as digital resources that can be used in high-tech, low-tech and no-tech learning environments. Additionally, you will focus on ways to introduce critical thinking and creative activities to teach different language aspects such as vocabulary, structures and functions.

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 community walls, 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.
- The course can be extended to include The Trinity Certificate for Practising Teachers (CertPT) - awarded upon completing an 8-week assignment after the course, fulfilling the skills and knowledge descriptors as set out by Trinity College London.

Who should apply?

- This course is aimed at teachers as well as academic managers in the young learner field (the term 'young learners' should be taken to cover the 6-12 age range).
- Participants should have a minimum language level corresponding to B1 on the Common European Framework.

Content

Teaching Young Learners covers some or all of the following areas:

- The principles and practice of teaching English to young learners
- A range of approaches for teaching English to young learners and how such approaches can be used in the classroom
- Developing critical thinking and cooperative skills in primary learners
- Evaluation, design and creation of materials for teaching English to young learners
- Story-telling and children's literature in the primary classroom
- Using resources and activities such as songs, nursery rhymes, art, crafts and drama activities to immerse young learners in language
- Curricular subjects taught through the medium of English
- Resources for low-tech, no-tech and high-tech learning environments
- Classroom language for primary teaching

Each course has a maximum of 18 participants and consists of 8 units, each introduced and completed over a week, Thursday to Wednesday, with an optional 4-week NILE Online assignment or 8-week Trinity College London assignment at the end.

Time will be built into the course for reflection, to consider how to adapt the content to your own professional context. We then support you in creating a strategy for putting your ideas into practice in your institution.

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

Accredited Member AQUEDUTO

Requirements and Resources

- Participants need a computer, a headset (with microphone) and an Internet connection. You can do much of the course on a tablet or mobile device, but will need a computer for certain activities.
- 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.

Schedule

This course consists of 8 units. Each unit requires approximately 5-7 hours work per week. Live sessions will be held at a time agreed with participants, and recorded for those who cannot attend.

Teaching Young Learners	
Unit 1: **Orientation and Introductions**	**Unit 2:** **It's child's play**
This unit will introduce you to the course structure, platform and dates. You will also find out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you. You will learn to use the learning platform, introduce yourselves and share some of your views on teaching young learners and your goals and expectations for the course.	In this unit you will explore a variety of communicative games for language development. We will discuss ways of adapting them for different age groups and levels of proficiency. You will use the sample games to create your own game for a class of your choice.
Unit 3: **We are all ears**	**Unit 4:** **Once upon a time**
In this unit we will discuss the principles of listening skills and the importance of incorporating varied listening activities in the regular classroom. We will analyse different listening activities to be used in young learner classrooms with no access to technology resources (no-tech), classrooms with CD players (low-tech) and classrooms with projectors or interactive whiteboards and Internet access (high-tech). Finally, we will discuss ways to adapt these activities for different age groups and levels of proficiency.	This unit will focus on the use of story-telling, children's literature, environmental print and other authentic printed materials. We will examine different kinds of books for children and their potential for practising oral skills for L2 learners. We will look into ways to exploit great books for children and the text that appears in everyday life to design activities for young language learners. Additionally, we will examine techniques to make books and signs that can become rich resources for speaking, reading and writing.
Unit 5: **Lights, camera, action!**	**Unit 6:** **Beyond the classroom**
In this unit we will focus on songs, nursery rhymes, art, crafts, cartoons, creative movement and drama activities to immerse young learners in language. We will explore activities that can serve both as good language models and opportunities for young learners to use language in interaction with other children and adults.	In this unit we will take a look at the potential of less traditional learning settings such as school trips, nature walks or virtual classrooms.
Unit 7: **Click for CLIL**	**Unit 8:** **Course Review and Assignment Preview**
This unit will present an introduction to the principles of Content and Language Integrated Learning and some sample activities for different age groups and proficiency levels in different subjects.	In this final unit we will review the whole course and look at what you need to do for your assignment. Finally, we'll have a virtual goodbye party!
Assignment	
Option A	**Option B**
Design a short thematic unit that can be taught in 60 to 90 minutes to a specific group of young learners. It should contain 4 to 6 activities based on new ideas you have learnt in this course or inspired by the activities in this course.	Plan a teacher training session of 60 to 90 minutes for colleagues based on something you have learnt or become more aware of by doing this course. If possible, do the session with your colleagues.

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 Eaquals 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.