

Testing, Evaluation and Assessment



Overview and Outcomes

In this course you will engage with the key principles of testing and assessment and explore the range of options available to design robust and reliable assessment tools. You will consolidate and extend your understanding of assessment frameworks, of approaches to measuring the four skills and grammar and vocabulary, and gain an insight into research and validation tools and procedures.



Content

Testing, Evaluation and Assessment includes content drawn from some or all of the following areas:

- Key issues in test design, construction and validation
- Test purpose and test specifications
- Putting principles into practice
- Making testing and assessment coherent with teaching
- Testing and assessing the full range of communicative skills
- Testing and assessment of grammar and vocabulary
- Basic statistical issues in testing: item analysis and test evaluation
- Qualitative research methods in practice
- A critical review of exams
- Testing and assessing young learners
- 'Authentic' modes of assessment: self-, peer- and portfolio assessment
- Testing and digital technology
- Keeping up with language change: making decisions about what to teach

Specific course content comes from feedback you and other participants give us through pre-course questionnaires, identifying your needs and priorities.

We build time 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 on returning to your institution.

All NILE courses involve a significant element of English language improvement and/or the development of language awareness.

Trainers

NILE's highly experienced trainers are experts, not only in their fields, but also in working 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 classes 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

Who is the course suitable for?

- ELT professionals who are interested in:
 - understanding the key principles underlying good practice in TEA
 - developing the ability to write and evaluate test items
 - evaluating, designing and producing a variety of assessment instruments
- Participants with a minimum language level corresponding to B2 on the Common European Framework.

Timetable

This course consists of 50 hours of tuition, delivered between 09:15 and 16:00, Monday - Friday. You will also take part in cross-curricular workshops on a variety of topics, and each course includes a free evening and weekend programme of social and cultural activities and trips.

Testing, Evaluation and Assessment Sample Timetable (actual timetable may vary in its detail)					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09.15 - 10.45	Welcome and orientation	Testing grammar and vocabulary 1	Testing and assessing speaking skills 1	Testing and assessing writing skills 1	TEA and the CEFR 1
11.15 - 12.45	Key issues in TEA 1	Testing grammar and vocabulary 2	Testing and assessing speaking skills 2	Testing and assessing writing skills 2	TEA and the CEFR 2
14.00 - 16.00	Key issues in TEA 2	Can we test language communicatively?	Cross-curricular workshop	Testing and assessing reading skills	Testing and assessing listening skills
Week 2					
09.15 - 10.45	Placement testing and procedures 1	Quantative issues: test and item analysis 1	Guided test production workshop 1	Item-writing: principles and practice 1	Integrating technology and web-based delivery 1
11.15 - 12.45	Placement testing and procedures 2	Quantative issues: test and item analysis 2	Guided test production workshop 1	Item-writing: principles and practice 2	Integrating technology and web-based delivery 2
14.00 - 16.00	Evaluating commercial tests and public exams	Quantative issues: test and item analysis 3	Cross-curricular workshop	Item-writing: principles and practice 3	Course review and action planning

Facilities and resources

Each NILE course has a digital learning platform. This gives you access to the materials and the opportunity to share ideas with others while on the course and after you leave.

While at NILE you will also have the use of NILE’s extensive ELT library, an online resource centre, a variety of computing devices, and wi-fi throughout the teaching buildings.

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.



NILE offers homestay accommodation with carefully selected hosts and residential accommodation at the University of East Anglia. NILE’s dedicated student welfare team can be reached 24 hours a day.

A carefully curated and fully accompanied social and cultural programme of trips and visits is provided for all participants free of charge.

Europass can be validated.

The effort we take to make the experience of being on a NILE course both positive and productive has been recognised by inspections from Eaquls and the British Council. We are proud to be acknowledged as the top-ranking teacher training specialist in the UK.

