Trainer Development: a Course for Teacher Educators

Course Overview

Becoming a teacher trainer is one of the most rewarding and empowering steps in a teacher's career, but often teachers are thrown in at the deep end without really understanding the specific skills and knowledge that teacher training demands.

This 50-hour course will help you develop your skills and knowledge as a trainer with confidence. You will acquire an understanding of the many factors involved in teacher education, developing skills in the design and delivery of effective teacher training sessions and courses in a variety of contexts. You will look at the theory and practice of teacher development and teacher training, consider various ways to design effective teacher training sessions, and learn how to integrate observation and action research into your teacher training programme. You will also consider factors involved in online supervision, training materials design and training course evaluation.

Who is the course suitable for?
- Trainers and ELT professionals who are interested in:
  - planning and/or delivering in-service teacher education and professional development programmes for teachers
  - designing and/or delivering pre-service teacher education programmes
- Participants with a minimum language level corresponding to C1 on the Common European Framework.

What will the course include?

As a course participant, you will receive a pre-course questionnaire, which should be returned prior to the course. This is to ensure that the areas of most relevance to you are integrated into the course content.

The course will include content drawn from some or all of the following areas, depending on your contextual and personal needs and priorities:

- Key issues and recent developments in training methodology
- Programme and course and design in pre-service and in-service contexts
- Approaches to teacher training and education with particular reference to the role of reflective practice
- Facilitation and its role in professional learning
- Development versus training
- Classroom research and its place in professional development
- The pros and cons of distance courses
- Principles and practice in materials design for teacher training
- Classroom observation and supervision; supervisory styles
- A review of recent literature and other resources in teacher education

Time will be built into the course for reflection and for you to consider how to adapt ideas from the course to the classroom in your own professional context.

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

What will the course consist of?
The 50-hour course provision includes intensive tuition by trainers who are experts in the fields of trainer training and teacher education, as well as opportunities for reading and research and a guest lecture from a well-known figure in the field of ELT.

Classes are held from Monday to Friday and take place as detailed in the course-specific timetable but always within the hours 0915 – 1715.

What approach is used?
- Classes will be practical and 'hands-on', but with reference to relevant theory
- Courses are participant-centred and entail involvement in tasks and activities which boost confidence and provide memorable learning contexts
- Tasks will be used to illustrate the key course objectives through procedure as well as content

Facilities and resources
The NILE course venue includes an extensive ELT library and computer suite with Wi-Fi throughout the buildings. Each course has an accompanying online platform which enables you to access course materials and share ideas and materials with other course participants as well as a comprehensive online library. This is available for six months after the course so you can keep in touch with your colleagues and continue to access course materials once you have returned home.