

ERASMUS PROJECT + 2019-1-ES01-KA104-061738

From May 30 to June 3 I attended a course entitled “Spice Up your Teaching Ideas” on Advanced English and Methodology, within the EOI Castelló Erasmus+ Project 2019-1-ES01-KA104-061738 “European Integration through Cultural and Linguistic Mediation”.

From my point of view, the most interesting part was not the methodological aspect but rather the one referring to Maltese culture, in particular the archeological remains. It is worth pointing out that Malta is home to the oldest megalithic temples in the world, which were built before the Egyptian pyramids and Stonehenge, as well as the Hypogeum, the only subterranean temple currently preserved, which is about 5000 years old.

The different linguistic and cultural activities carried out throughout the course, both online and in-class, had the following objectives:

- To improve our lexical and grammatical competence
- To offer samples of tasks to be done in our classes
- To deepen in the knowledge of Maltese culture

With regards to the linguistic activities done in the classroom we analyzed the relevance that dictation has when dealing with listening skills (homophones, homonyms, etc.), to improve spelling and punctuation.

I would also like to highlight the importance of teamwork, as a booster of students' creativity. We focused on the creation of stories to review grammatical patterns, to acquire vocabulary and activate lexical fields.

The other activities done in the course are already included in our teaching methodology, within the communicative approach used in the Official School of Languages, and do not offer any novelties worth mentioning.

Another very interesting part of the experience has to do with exchanging ideas about teaching methodologies with colleagues from other countries – Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic, which is always very enriching.

To sum up, the course contributed to fulfilling the following objectives of our school Erasmus+ Project:

- Linguistic, didactic and methodological updating of teaching staff
- Improvement of the intercultural competence of our students
- Improvement in diversity outreach through the implementation of new tasks

