

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

European integration through cultural and linguistic mediation in EOI Castelló

Erasmus+ course **The Best Social Media and Web Solutions for your Classroom** attended by Teacher Luisa Samper Planelles (EOI Castelló) from December 5 to 9, 2022 at the **Europass Dublin academy.**

In this 5-day course we saw a selection of innovative methodologies from a practical point of view and worked on their application in the classroom, digital skills, gamification (both with digital and traditional tools), methods of assessment, cooperative learning, etc.

The course had a mixed timetable, consisting of three evenings (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) and two mornings (Tuesday and Friday). Our reference teacher was an Irish woman, Jackie, but depending on the subject we had different teachers.

On the first day, Monday evening, there was a session with the attendees of this week's courses, about 14 people from 6 European countries: 8 Spanish, 2 Polish, 1 Romanian, 1 Hungarian, 1 Finnish and 1 German-Italian. We presented ourselves with a typical product from our country and a small presentation where we also talked about our schools. Next, we worked in multicultural groups talking about the technologies that everyone uses in their classroom / school, and shared it. In addition to the fact that this activity helped us get to know each other, the teacher projected questions about methodologies we use/would like to use, goals and expectations regarding the course, etc. Through the game "Think / Peer / Share" ("Think / Share and negotiate with your colleagues / Share with the group") we saw that wanting everyone in the classroom to be the same, homogeneous, is a mistake and that what should come first is attention to diversity and the importance of critical thinking, collaboration and communication.

On Tuesday morning we devoted our time to working on social networks and how we could use them in the classroom to motivate our students and promote learning. We split into groups of 4, and each group chose one or two social networks. From there, we created a presentation with a digital tool of our choice where we analyzed a social network in depth: its main functions, what use the network makes of our personal data, the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation), government controls, complaint procedures, and the use of online advertisements. Taking all this information into account, Jackie proposed games to develop the 4 Cs of learning (critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication), which we could then use with our students.

On Tuesday evening, the academy proposed that we participate in a voluntary activity to get to know the Irish culture better: a guided tour of the city of Dublin. Our guide, Michael, proved to be a great communicator, and in addition to showing us the most iconic landmarks in the city, he told us curiosities about Irish culture and history.

We spent Wednesday working with social video platforms. We used platforms such as edpuzzle, biteable, flip.com, nearpod and others that allow incorporating videos into teaching. We did activities in pairs which we tried later. Finally, we ended the session by reflecting on the activities created, how they could be improved, and other practical ways to use these platforms in the classroom.

On Thursday we worked on blogs and, in addition, we put into practice the routine "See - Think - Wonder" (What do you see? What do you think? What do you wonder?). After introducing the routine, which emphasizes the importance of based thinking in the research through close observations after a three-step process, we implemented it in a practical way. We visited the immigration museum (EPIC Museum), where we chose from among the items on display the ones that caught our attention, and then implemented the "See - Think - Wonder" routine.

On Friday we devoted our time to different tasks: eGoogle tools and gamification. One of the teachers at the academy, Luke, brought us virtual reality glasses and we tried them out. We also discussed how to conduct an e-Safe classroom and encourage students to be digitally literate as well as safe and responsible social users. Finally, we evaluated the course: summary of acquired skills, feedback and discussion.

Finally, on Saturday 10 December, the students who wanted, took part in a guided cultural tour of a castle and a Christmas market (Rathfarnham Castle and Christmas Market) and a museum located in an old hospital (Royal Hospital Kilmainham Gallery).

The moment of farewell was sad. I have learned many things and met many people without whom the experience would not have been the same. In addition, being able to participate in the Erasmus+ project in the city of Dublin and having language immersion has contributed enormously to revising my English and refreshing my knowledge. To conclude, the experience has been very positive and beneficial, and I hope to share it with both my colleagues and my students, who will surely benefit from it.

