

WEBSITE THAT TELLS A STORY: A PROJECT WEBSITE SETUP - COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction

This course is aimed at teachers and school staff from pre-school level to primary, secondary, vocational, adult and special needs education, staff of non-government organizations, government and policy makers and company staff as well as students and all those who want to improve their digital competences and learn how they can create a simple and functional free website for school projects or portfolio. The course will focus on technical and functional aspects of setting up a free website with drag and drop technology and on theoretical aspects of the contents and properties an educational project website should encompass such as blog, calendar, resources, media and contacts. Participants are expected to have at least B1 level of English proficiency and should be able to use internet search engines, email, word and power point. There is no need to have any knowledge of coding or website design because these will not be addressed in this course at all.

Methodology

Methodology is based on theoretical input, presentations of examples of good practice as well as demonstrations and experience comparisons and in the most part practical work on website setup. Participants will have the opportunity to set up a free website and interlink several pages of a website which will include calendar, blog content, resources (such as photos, videos, presentations), feedback and contact forms, and maps. This will enable them to set up functional and free websites for their educational school projects. Another focus will be on engagement on visitors with the website and we will present examples and do practical work on setting up a website which will engage the visitor by telling a story.

Objectives

- Improving the participants' digital competences, in particular the ability to set up a free website, create online forms, create, publish and share content.
- Understanding of storytelling and narrative building as part of web design.
- Developing communication, collaboration, presentation, problem solving, negotiation, critical and creative thinking skills.
- Improving digital skills in work with text, photography and video.
- Boosting participants' confidence in use of technology.
- Enhancing professional skills through mastering tools for virtual communication and collaboration.
- Providing and exercising creative ideas and practical resources for successful educational project website setup.
- Improving English fluency (official language of the course).
- Promoting intercultural awareness.
- Sharing experiences of school project work and use of ICT in education from different organizations in order to help each of us to be more effective in our work.
- Developing the online collaboration platform for preparation, dissemination and networking in order to develop future partnerships and projects.
- Strengthening the European collaboration among people using ICT in education in different contexts.
- Providing insights into different education systems.

Preparation

After registration participants will receive pre-course questionnaire which will be used by the trainer to learn about participants' teaching backgrounds and to assess their exact needs. Before the beginning of the course a basic reading list will be suggested to participants to prepare for the training. Participants will also be asked to publish a presentation about themselves, their professional context and their culture. The presentation will be available on the virtual collaboration platform. It will be used during the first meeting, but it will also be available online to the other participants so that they can have a preliminary knowledge of the group they are going to be part of. Participants will receive information about the country they are going to visit in order to prepare them for their cultural experience.

Follow up

After the course participants will be asked to share what they have learned with the rest of the staff in their schools. Since they will all join the virtual collaboration platform they will be able to further discuss and deepen the understanding of the themes of this course and therefore keep on learning. Moreover, they will be encouraged to share materials showing how they are using what they have learned in their everyday work in terms of ideas, photos, videos, lesson plans, assessment and self-assessment forms, etc. creating an open educational resource available to everyone else from the group. Thanks to the virtual collaboration platform they will all be networked which will provide greater opportunities to develop future partnerships and projects. Further books and articles to deepen the topic and contacts with some other practitioners all over Europe and in the world will be suggested by the trainer. The methods shared and explored and the bibliography given will allow the participants to complete and improve their educational path.

Certificate

Each participant will get a course attendance certificate and the Europass Mobility Document.

Draft Programme

Introduction of participants. Outline of the programme. Warm ups and ice-breakers

Day 2

Introduction to website setup and presentation of examples of good practice; creating an account.

Cultural evening

Day 3

Setting up the pages of the website (blog, contacts, resources, calendar)

Day 4

Teambuilding and networking activities with a cultural trip

Day 5

Adding and adjusting content (photos, presentations, videos)

Day 6

Online tools for collaboration in educational and ICT based projects, eTwinning, School Education Gateway

Individual support

Day 7

Presentation of outcomes. Panel discussion. Evaluation. Closing session

Day 1