

Free Online Primary FL Teacher Education – Starts 5th October 2020!

Teaching and Learning Languages in Primary Schools: Putting Research into Practice

Link to register for MOOC on Futurelearn

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/teaching-languages-in-primary-schools-putting-research-into-practice>

The screenshot shows the course page on Futurelearn. At the top, it lists the participating institutions: University of Southampton and University of Essex. The course title is 'Teaching Languages in Primary Schools: Putting Research into Practice'. It has a 4.9 star rating from 42 reviews. A description states: 'Discover engaging, age-appropriate teaching methods and ideas to enhance your foreign languages teaching skills for children.' Below this, it says '5,016 enrolled on this course'. At the bottom, there are icons for 'Duration 3 weeks', 'Weekly study 3 hours', 'Learn Free', and 'Extra Benefits From £42 Find out more'. The central image features a row of stick figures holding hands, with speech bubbles above them containing the words: Hello, Bonjour, Merhaba, Namaste, Aloha, Hej.

A team of researchers at the Universities of Southampton, Essex and Reading have developed a free online course, open to anyone, to encourage research-informed practice in primary foreign language classrooms.

It has already attracted over 4,500 participants in 167 countries and has received really positive reviews!

The course lasts three weeks and will focus on key themes such as motivation and engagement, language development and literacy. Each week, participants will be guided through some of the answers research has provided to these issues and draw out the pedagogical implications of these findings; for example, what motivates children in that age group, what pedagogical tools are appropriate, and why do they work?

The screenshot shows three reviews from Futurelearn. The first review is from 'prue b. Verified learner' dated 10/09/20, with a 5-star rating. The review text is: 'Teaching foreign languages in primary schools I really enjoyed the course. The content was great and very useful. The course was so easy to navigate and pick up again.' The second review is from 'Ilana G. Verified learner' dated 05/09/20, with a 5-star rating. The review text is: 'Teaching languages Such a brilliant course with lots of valuable ideas how to motivate , engage and enhance children's experience with the FL learning. Many thanks to the whole team!' The third review is from 'Habibullah H. Verified learner' dated 30/08/20, with a 5-star rating. The review text is: 'All contents are very effective. All contents are very effective. Thanks a lot to course organizers.'

There are three staged pathways (evaluator, reflector, innovator) which will encourage learners to explore and trial the pedagogical principles.

Participants will have many opportunities to reflect on the practical implications of our research and to listen to “stories” from other teachers about their own, innovative primary FL practice.

See you online!

Alison Porter, Florence Myles and Suzanne Graham