



TIMA-Balt

Leonardo da Vinci programme project

TRANSFER OF INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY FOR ASSESSMENT OF VET TEACHERS' PRIOR LEARNING

LLP-LdV-TOI-2007-LT-0004

Description of APL Assessors Training

Study module for assessors of VET teachers' prior learning

(as piloted in TIMA-Balt project)

General Overview

The training course for APL assessors is one of the results of the Leonardo da Vinci project "Transfer of Innovative Methodology for Assessment of VET Teachers' Prior Learning" (TIMA-Balt), No. LLP-LdV-TOI-LT-0004. The training module has been developed by Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences (Finland) in partnership with Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania), Riga Technical University (Latvia) and Tallinn University (Estonia).

The training consists of two workshops and home assignments which will be carried out between the contact training sessions. The three-day-long workshops have been carried out in Riga (Latvia) (9.-11.6.2008) and Tallinn (Estonia) (16.-18.9.2008)

Selection Criteria

The candidates to participate in a APL assessors training course had to be:

- Familiar with VET topicalities
- Experienced in working in VET teacher education programme
- Fluent in English

The candidates provided their CV as well as a short Motivational letter in English. Vytautas Magnus University, Riga Technical University and Tallinn University will carry out the selection of course participants in their own country. The list of selected participants and the following documents (CVs and Motivational letters (where the participants indicate their experience, expectations as well as possibilities to implement and disseminate the acquired knowledge)) must be submitted for the Centre for Quality of Studies (Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania).



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Learning Outcomes

The graduates of the evaluators training are be able to:

- Formulate and identify learning needs
- Prepare and develop portfolio
- Consult APL candidates
- Choose necessary assessment methods
- Develop and deliver study module for APL

Information about the Study Process

The aim of the study process is to provide evaluators knowledge, skills and competence to become evaluators in the APL process. The evaluators understand APL as a process and they are able to apply methodological tools in that process and to adapt them to individual situations. The aim is also to encourage evaluators to reflect on APL process related to their work, national standards, national educational frameworks and target groups.

1st training workshop in Riga (9th-11th June, 2008)

Outcomes:

After completing the training course, participants will be able to:

- explain the basic concepts of APL and the need of APL
- explain the nature and the prerequisites of the competency-based curriculum
- list the main prerequisites for competency-based curriculum
- explain the structure and content of competence portfolio
- develop study module for APL as a part VET teacher training programme

Content:

- building a network for developing APL practices in partner institutions
- introduction of APL: what is it and what are it's aims



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- defining the basic concepts around APL (formal, informal, non-formal learning, competence, identifying, assessment and recognition of competences),
- APL as a process,
- competence-based curriculum in VET teacher training programme,
- building the study module for APL in in VET teacher training programme.

Methods of studies:

Seminars, group works, distant learning, consultations

Home assignment for course participants:

- evaluation of the national strategic goals for applying APL in VET teacher education
- evaluation of the teacher programme in order to adapt APL in the programme
- mapping and developing preliminary ideas for APL methods in teacher education programmes

2nd training workshop in Tallinn (16th-18th September, 2008)

Outcomes:

After completing the training course, participants will be able to:

- explain the principles of competence assessment in general and in APL process
- choose necessary assessment methods in APL process
- explain the importance of tutoring and guidance of APL candidates in APL process
- carry out consultations for APL candidates (in preparation of personal study plan)
- design and deliver study module for APL

Content:

- assessment of competencies in VET teacher training programme,
- the role of evaluator in APL process,
- tutoring and guidance in APL process,

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- identification and assessment methods and tools in APL process,
- recognition of competences: system of recognizing and quality assurance.
- building the study module for APL in in VET teacher training programme and preparing for piloting

Methods of studies:

Seminars, group works, distant learning, consultations

Home assignment for course participants:

- developing the adapted versions of APL modules in VET teacher training programme
- building the study module for APL in VET teacher training programme and preparing for piloting

Training Commitments

The training process will be followed by the significant outcome - Introductory study module for APL, to be included into existing VET teacher education programmes. Course participants will be actively involved in developing the module, as well as in piloting it in own countries and giving feed-back information on its improvement. The selected participants to the course will sign the agreement with the organizers of the course (Vytautas Magnus University), undertaking the execution of the course assignments.

Financing

The subsistence costs (including travel, accommodation costs as well as daily allowance) will be covered by Project costs. The participants should note that the full reimbursement will be possible in the case of buying economic class tickets and hotels as indicated in the rules of Administrative and Financial Handbook

Awards

The graduates of the APL Evaluators studies will receive the certification from Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences, identifying the competencies, acquired during the study process.