



*"We make learning special"*

## **Testing, Evaluation and Assessment**

### **Who is the course suitable for?**

- teachers and other ELT professionals who wish to extend their knowledge and expertise in the field of language testing and assessment
- participants with a minimum language level corresponding to B2 on the Common European Framework

n.b. This course may also be taken as a module on our MA programme in Professional Development for Language Education

### **What are the aims of the course?**

- to enhance understanding of key principles in the field of testing, assessment and evaluation
- to enable those with special interests in the key focus areas to extend their knowledge and develop their skills as test designers and evaluators
- to enable participants to critically evaluate the full range of test types, assessment procedures and examinations;
- to enable participants to offer well-informed leadership to their colleagues and institutions in the fields of testing, evaluation and assessment
- to familiarise participants with basic computer applications in testing and assessment

### **What will the course include?**

All course participants receive a pre-course questionnaire, which should be returned prior to the course. This is to ensure that the areas of most relevance to participants are covered. However, topics are likely to be drawn from the following main areas:

- Evaluation in ELT: key principles, different models for different objectives
- Formative and summative purposes in testing and assessment
- Key issues in test design, construction and validation
- Producing good tests and making them work;
- Making testing and assessment coherent with teaching;
- Testing and assessing the full range of language skills; profiling
- Basic statistical issues in testing: item analysis and test evaluation
- Critical review of EFL exams
- Making use of the Common European Framework of Reference
- Testing and assessing young learners
- 'Authentic' modes of assessment: self-, peer- and portfolio assessment
- Using new technology in testing and assessment
- Assessment in 'special' areas: literature, intercultural awareness

Time will be built into the course for reflection and for participants to consider how to adapt ideas from the course to classrooms in their own context.

**How long is the course and what approach is used?**

The 50-hour course provision includes intensive tuition by trainers who are experts in the field of Testing, Evaluation and Assessment, as well as opportunities for reading and research and guest lectures from well-known figures in the field of education and ELT. Classes will be practical and 'hands-on' but with reference to relevant theory. Classes are held from Monday to Friday and take place as detailed in the course-specific timetable but always within the hours 0915 – 1715. NILE course participants have free access to an extensive library and a modern suite of computers with a broadband Internet link. The NILE course venues have a wireless (Wi-Fi) environment.