

# Mobile Learning in Education

## ERASMUS+PROGRAMME



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### How did the Mobile Learning project get started?

Metis videregående skole<sup>1</sup> is a private upper secondary school in Bergen, Norway. Teachers are given great freedom and responsibility to take part in any research project concerning teaching and learning development. The Erasmus+project came about by Anbjørg Igland visiting the University of York<sup>2</sup> in 2013, where she met with Dr. Amanda Naylor, who specialises in English poetry and teacher training. The following year, Anbjørg brought her students of English to York, where they collaborated with Amanda's teacher trainees on Shakespeare Sonnets<sup>3</sup>. Monica Amundsen, who teaches chemistry at Metis, accompanied Anbjørg and her students to York, and next we were both invited to participate in an Erasmus+project led by the University of Hull,<sup>4</sup> where Amanda also used to teach. It is an international project where schools, university colleges and universities participate. Since Anbjørg also has taught English at Bergen University College<sup>5</sup>, it was only natural to invite the English department from there to the project.

### What is the project about?

The Erasmus+project *Mobilising and Transforming Teacher Education Pedagogies (MTTEP)*<sup>6</sup> is a transnational cooperation across schools/ university colleges/ universities from England, Germany, the

Netherlands, Australia and Norway. The project started in 2014 and ends June 2017 with a final conference in England at the University of Hull. The result of the project will be a set of tools for teacher educators as well as for experienced teachers in schools. The continuing development of new technology in education creates a need for teacher trainees and teachers to be updated on how to make use of it. For example, learn how to use different applications and mobile devices, such as mobile phones, i-Pads, etc. These devices also allow teaching and learning to take place anywhere outside the classroom – thereby the name Mobile Learning.

### Our role in the project

Each partner has different roles in the development of the Mobile Learning tool-kit. At Metis we use an English class and a chemistry class as our case studies. However, the tools can be applicable to any subject. We take our students to

England for a week every year, where they work together with teacher trainees, specialising in English and science at the University of Hull. The first year we arranged a cross-subject project, more specifically marine biology and chemistry, in which English was the communication language. Together with the teacher trainees our students visited The Deep,<sup>7</sup> a big popular marine centre in Hull with a lot of different species. The students and teacher trainees used their iPads to collect data to be used to create e-books. The English students were responsible for the texts in the e-books.

After the visits to England we assess our students' work. We use the so-called iPAC model as our theoretical framework, which consist of three parts: Personalisation – Authenticity – Collaboration (see model on the next page). We measure the degree of these elements in the different tasks carried out by our students. See more about the iPAC framework on the MTTEP web site.



English students from Metis in collaboration with Amanda Naylor's teacher trainees at the University of Hull. Anbjørg Igland is observing. This collaboration on Shakespeare Sonnets spring 2013 led to Metis becoming a partner in the Erasmus+ project.

1 [www.metis.no/vgs/bergen](http://www.metis.no/vgs/bergen)

2 [www.york.ac.uk](http://www.york.ac.uk)

3 [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shakespeare's\\_sonnets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shakespeare's_sonnets)

4 [beta.www.hull.ac.uk/ThisIsMyTime.aspx](http://beta.www.hull.ac.uk/ThisIsMyTime.aspx)

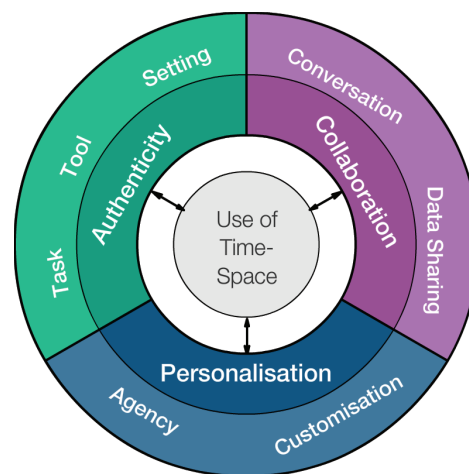
5 [www.hib.no/en/](http://www.hib.no/en/)

6 [www.mttep.eu](http://www.mttep.eu)

7 [www.thedeep.co.uk](http://www.thedeep.co.uk)



*Anbjørg Igland and her English students at Manchester airport, on their way home after a week in York and Hull (Erasmus+ workshop at the University of Hull spring 2016)*



*The iPAC model was used as a theoretical framework.*

As mentioned, the first year we created a cross-subject project, English and chemistry. Our students learned to use different apps and they created e-books, as one of many different ways to present their work. The second year we wanted separate projects with emphasis on each subject's curriculum. Like the year before our students worked with the teacher trainees at the University of Hull. The English students worked on E-poetry<sup>8</sup>, inspired by Dr. Leonardo Flores, and the chemistry students worked with the teacher trainees at the laboratory. Our final trip to England and the University of Hull is in March 2017. Like last year we will focus on separate projects. The English students will work on the novel *The Great Gatsby* in collaboration with the teacher trainees, before attending a workshop on the same topic at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds<sup>9</sup>. The result of this experience should end up as e-books. The chemistry students will work on different laboratory experiments together with the teacher trainees at the University of Hull and use different applications to make reports.

### Benefit gained from this project

There are many advantages participating in such an extensive international project. The experience of transnational cooperation, concerning teaching and learning is beneficial in many ways. The benefit for our students is first and foremost the experience to work with teacher trainees at university level in an English speaking country, where the communication tool is only English. The opportunity to work with such a big international project is motivation for both students and teachers, especially the opportunity to get away from traditional classroom teaching.

This project would not have been possible without our school's management giving us the freedom, both when it comes to teaching methods and time for travels. Besides our student trips, we travel to our partners in different countries for project

meetings twice a year. Each year we also arrange a Multiplier Event Conference, where people from all over the world meet, experts within the field of new technology in education and any person who is interested in using new technology in teaching and learning. Last year this event took place in Bergen (21st-22nd September 2016), and the final event will take place in Hull in June 2017.

**See more about the Multiplier event on the MTTEP-web site.**



*Monica Amundsen's chemistry students in collaboration with the British teacher trainees at the laboratory, University of Hull spring 2016.*

<sup>8</sup> [iloveepoetry.com/?p=11968](http://iloveepoetry.com/?p=11968)

<sup>9</sup> [www.wyp.org.uk](http://www.wyp.org.uk)