
Your First Day of Class: Start Your Course Right

Annotation

The first lesson of a course is of particular importance in defining the success of the course itself, in shaping students' behaviour and thus facilitating their learning. It represents a great opportunity to stimulate excitement about the course, give students a sense of classroom dynamics, and establish course expectations. In this online workshop we will work on practices, traditions on how to manage this particular lesson, put ourselves in students' shoes and, finally, re-design our first lesson.

At the end of this workshop, you will be able to:

- Reflect on student/teacher expectations;
- Structure your learning contract;
- Define how to 'survey' your students;
- Reflect on how to self-assess your first day.

The workshop will be organised in two online meetings. The first meeting is scheduled to last 1.5 hours, while the second meeting will be 1 hour long. In the initial meeting, we will focus on group activities to delve into the specifics of the given topic. In between meetings, the participants will be asked to engage in individual activities, where they will work on their first lesson designs and provide feedback to their peers. The final meeting will focus on discussing and reviewing the outcomes of these individual activities, allowing for further critical analysis and collaborative learning.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- group work: analysis of expectations and contexts
- individual reflection on if and how to design your first lesson
- collaborative takeaways

The course is designed for those with English language proficiency at B2 level or above.

Manuela Milani is an academic developer with more than 20 years of experience in different Universities in Europe. In the last years she has designed and delivered many training and professional development activities for faculty members. Her publications include several papers on the use of cultural differences in teaching and learning, on teaching observations practices and faculty training design and quality of teaching perception.

Interest in the programme can be expressed [here](#) .

Participation in the program is free of charge.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at cczv@ruk.cuni.cz

