



Socrates



CMC

Language learning for university students

CMC (Communicating in multilingual contexts) is designed to help university students improve their language skills with a view to taking up opportunities to study abroad. It uses innovative teaching materials produced by a partnership of six universities located in Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and the United Kingdom. Language skills are becoming increasingly important in higher education and are vital for students who want to move around Europe. EU exchange programmes recognise the need to foster intercultural communication and promote cultural diversity and it is important that students meet the linguistic standards required by their host universities. Moreover, good language skills will help students make the most of the time they spend abroad. Potential exchange students can access a website containing multimedia language-learning materials in six languages based on the Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) approach. The skills levels are linked to the Common European Framework of Reference as follows: A1/A2 (Dutch, Portuguese, Slovak); B1/B2 (Italian); B2 (English, Spanish). The courses are designed to provide students with the right tools to cope with the academic, linguistic and cultural environments of the countries where they intend to study. Through a series of challenging tasks and activities students are introduced to six real-life situations on campus (the Socrates office, the language centre, the bank, the cafeteria, the students' association and the travel agency) as well as places of cultural interest in and around the university town or region). CMC was awarded the European Label in 2006 in recognition of the project's success in promoting language learning and teaching.

PROJECT

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TARGET LANGUAGES: Dutch, English, Portuguese, Slovak, Spanish

AGE GROUP: 19–25

WEBSITE: <http://www.cmcproject.it>

PROJECT DURATION: Start: 2004

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FACTS