

Briefing for the second Study Day

Welcome again to the Study Days for the PCE programme!

We hope that you will find this Study Day as useful and enjoyable as your evaluations indicate you found your first one this year.

Your information pack includes the schedule for the day and the Interest Group listings. You should stay in the group you were with for the first day.

Your pack also includes some coloured sheets which are for use during the plenary.

Interest Group Session a.m.—Developing Learning Resources

You will remember that this was an activity you started at the first Study Day, and the major task of the Interest Groups this morning is to review the learning resources you have developed, to share your experiences of using them, and to think of how they might be developed further.

The Interest Groups vary in size, but you all have 105 mins (10.15—12.00 pm) so your first task must be to allocate the time equitably. As before, appoint one of your number to act as chair and time-keeper.

- From the point of view of personal preparation, reckon on 5-10 minutes to introduce your resource and describe how you used it, with particular reference to;
 - Not merely how well the students took to it, but evidence of what they **learned** through using it.
 - Potential for further development.
 - Other people's experiences of using it, if possible.

Tutors will visit groups periodically, and can be called upon when required; they will be based in the Hub. In particular they will be looking for interesting examples they can report on at the start of the afternoon plenary session.

Just to remind you of some of the guidance from the first day:

- Your resource should be a learner-centred activity or exercise, not for example a powerpoint presentation or a handout. It is about promoting *active* learning.
- It should be subject- or setting-specific. Not so specific that other people in the group will not be able to use or adapt it, but specific enough to focus on challenges which are distinctive to your discipline.
- Particularly where several members of your Interest Group are working to a shared syllabus, you should identify what requirements or outcomes are addressed, and how the resource fits alongside other elements of the curriculum. In fact, "an exercise to address how we teach..." is probably the best way to define what you are going to work on, rather than jumping straight to the form of the exercise/ activity/ etc.
- Between the first meeting and this one your task was to develop and try out your resource, so that you can show and tell about it, with an evaluation of its effectiveness, sharing how it might be further improved.

- Don't just try it out yourself; share it with two other members of the group so they can try it out too and report back. So everybody gets at least three practical learning resources for the investment of developing just one; a brilliant deal!
- Remember that these ideas and resulting resources can feed into your submissions for modules 2 and 4 this year, and 6 and/or 8 next year.

Notes about Practical Resources

- There are limited copying facilities in the library, but they need to be paid for. If you need to use handouts within the groups, **bring multiple copies with you.** For reports of what you have done, post them on BREO for members to print out for themselves later.
- Bring your own lap-top if you need one, but remember that the university accepts no responsibility for loss or damage, and rooms will not be locked in breaks.
- Most rooms have data projectors, but not built-in computers, so you can't rely on data sticks. Some rooms have Smart-type boards, but don't rely on them because there are several versions and the technology might not be compatible with your software. So keep it simple!
- Groups can be supplied with standard basic equipment such as marker pens, flip charts and blu-tac (to be returned at the end of the day, please).
- You can use the timer on your mobile to keep track of how much time each person is taking.
- Oh, and keep it simple.

At the Plenary

If practicable, please sit in a block (e.g. a group of nine might occupy three seats on each of three adjoining rows).

Please note that the plenary will be videoed; if you want to be sure you do not appear on the video, you should sit towards the back on the far side (stage left) of the theatre.

At the plenary you will receive briefing notes for the task during the break in the afternoon.

(This briefing is being expanded with notes to accompany the plenary – please re-visit soon.)