

ACSI Europe eLearning

Course Title: International Collaborative Projects for Christian Schools

Course Format: online course (site: <http://moodle.acsieurope.org>)

Course Language: Instruction will be in English, project implementation may be in another language

Participants: K-12 teachers

Length of Course: 6-8 weeks (4 weeks project development + 2-4 weeks project implementation)

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is presented in an online format. The course is designed to provide international collaboration opportunities at teacher and student levels. During the first phase of the course (four weeks) participants (teachers)–working in collaboration with each other–develop meaningful projects for their students with strong biblical integration elements. In the second phase of the course (two to four weeks), participants will be implementing their projects with their students using collaborative digital platforms. Understanding the 21st century learner, project based learning, effective biblical integration, and a variety of digital platforms for collaboration will be key as participants build and deliver innovative projects to enhance their students' 21st century learning skills.

II. COURSE PURPOSE

To enable Christian educators at the K-12 levels to be able to provide international collaborative learning experiences that are aligned with best practice and biblical principles and will meet the needs and understandings of 21st century students.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES and ASSESSMENTS ...

<i>The student will be able to ...</i>	<i>As evidenced by ...</i>
Define the most important elements of project based learning (PBL).	Creating a list of the most important PBL elements, and explaining how they meet the needs of the 21 st Century Learner.
Identify and define ways that biblical principles can be integrated into specific school subjects, and units of instruction.	Compiling a list of ideas how biblical principles can be integrated in specific school subjects, and units of instruction.
Develop PBL instructional program with international collaboration using biblical integration ideas. Better understand, and apply in an integrated way some of the 21 st Century Learning strategies, such as collaborative learning, critical and creative thinking, effective communication, Bloom's higher order thinking skills, project based learning, and formative assessment.	Developing and implementing an international collaborative project–based on the PBL principles–that incorporates collaborative learning activities using digital platforms, with a strong focus on developing the 4 C's, and character formation through meaningful biblical integration.

IV. REQUIRED / RECOMMENDED TEXTS & MATERIALS

REQUIRED:

- a. Essential Project Design Elements by Buck Institute for Education
- b. Project DESIGN OVERVIEW sample by Buck Institute for Education
- c. Project DESIGN OVERVIEW by Buck Institute for Education
- d. Essential Project Design Elements Checklist by Buck Institute for Education
- e. PROJECT DESIGN RUBRIC by Buck Institute for Education
- f. Biblical Integration Brainstorming Worksheet by Biblicalintegration.com
- g. What Biblical Integration Is and Isn't by Biblicalintegration.com
- h. Biblical Integration Lesson Plan Worksheet by Biblicalintegration.com

RECOMMENDED:

Partnership for 21st Century Skills accessed at www.p21.org

Under the title of the site is a blue toolbar that has a heading "Our work". Click on that and open FRAMEWORK FOR 21ST CENTURY LEARNING. From within this document you will find links to the following documents:

- a. Framework for 21st Century Learning,
- b. P21 Framework Definitions
- c. An Educator's Guide to the "Four Cs"

V. EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

Students will need

- Computer with internet access and a basic understanding of computer use

VI. PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF PARTICIPANTS

- Participants have some prior knowledge about PBL
- Participants have some knowledge of the Bible, and are able to search for biblical references
- Participants understand the basics of biblical worldview integration

VII. ASSIGNMENTS

- **FORUM Activities:** Participants will study the elements of PBL and biblical integration during the first four weeks, and make forum posts (at least 200 words) each week by 11.00 pm on Wednesdays, and will respond to at least two postings of their colleagues (at least 150 words) by 11.00 pm on Saturdays.
- **APPLICATION Assignments:** Participants will work collaboratively with their project partners, and post their application assignments by 11.00 pm on Saturdays during the first four weeks of the course.
- **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:** Participants and their students will work collaboratively with their project partners implementing the PBL Unit during weeks 5-8, and share their progress with other participants.
- **PROJECT EVALUATION:** During the last week, participants will evaluate their projects, and make recommendations for further improvement.

VIII. TIME COMMITMENT

- Weeks 1-4: three-four hours per week
- Weeks 5-8: one hour per week besides the time participants would spend with their students implementing their project.

IX. RUBRIC FOR PEER ASSESSMENT

Use the following rubric for assessing project presentations. Everyone fill out one rubric for each group, and use the average of all grades as project grades.

Presentation Topic:					
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Collaborative Project	All project contents addressed in sufficient detail with no errors	Some project contents not addressed in sufficient detail/ some errors	Several project contents not addressed in sufficient detail/ many errors	Project contents mixed up/confused presentation of detail/ many errors	Project Total:
PBL elements are addressed and applied appropriately	30	28	25	22	_____ / 30 pts
The 4 C's of 21st Century Learning addressed and applied in the unit appropriately	30	28	25	22	_____ / 30 pts
Biblical principles integrated in the unit	20	17	14	11	_____ / 20 pts
Presentation of the Unit	20	17	14	11	_____ / 20 pts
TOTAL	100				_____ / 100 pts.