



Programme ALTE Introductory Course in Language Testing

Leuven 11th – 15th September 2017

[Pedagogisch Instituut \(PI\), Andreas Vesaliusstraat 2, 3000 Leuven](#)

Room: PI 00.32

Course presenters:

Professor Anthony Green, University of Bedfordshire

Jane Lloyd, ALTE Validation Unit

Participants will learn:

- Essential principles that inform the decisions that organisations responsible for language testing systems have to make about the design, content and implementation of tests
- Ways of thinking about the skills that language learners need for communicative success
- Ways to link tasks involved in real world language use to tasks found on tests
- How to use frameworks for test development, including the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

The course will provide extensive opportunities for hands-on practice including in test design, item writing, scoring and quality assurance processes.

Day 1 (Monday 11th September)		Presenter
8.30-9.00	Arrival and registration	
9:00	<i>The assessment cycle</i> Steps in designing and development of an assessment system	Prof. Green
10:30	Coffee	
11:00	<i>Quality control and the assessment cycle</i> Quality frameworks and processes: ALTE as an example	Ms. Lloyd
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	<i>The Common European Framework of Reference</i> An overview and its role in assessment systems	Prof. Green
15:00	Coffee	
15:30	<i>Task design and the CEFR</i> Judging and confirming the level of assessment tasks	Ms. Lloyd
17:00	Finish	

Day 2 (Tuesday 12th September)		Presenter
9:00	<i>Receptive and productive skills</i> Similarities and differences and implications for assessment Compare and contrast testing styles Integration of skills vs. discrete point testing	Ms. Lloyd
10:30	Coffee	
11:00	<i>Assessing Reading</i> Why, what and how?	Prof. Green
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	<i>Assessing reading: designing tasks</i> Sourcing material, targeting reading skills, writing questions	Ms. Lloyd
15:00	Coffee	
15:30	<i>Assessing reading:</i> Standardising test material, specifications, quality control, scoring	Prof. Green
17:00	Finish	
Day 3 (Wednesday 13th September)		Presenter
9:00	<i>Writing and speaking</i> Why, what and how?	Prof. Green
10:30	Coffee	
11:00	<i>Scoring writing and speaking skills</i> Options for scoring productive skills Automated scoring and feedback	Ms. Lloyd
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	<i>Task design for productive skills</i> Matching needs and purposes Controlling task difficulty	Prof. Green
15:00	Coffee	
15:30	<i>Scoring productive skills</i> Rating scales and quality control in scoring	Ms. Lloyd
17:00	Finish	
Day 4 (Thursday 14th September)		Presenter
9:00	<i>Assessing Listening</i> Why, what and how?	Ms. Lloyd
10:30	Coffee	
11:00	<i>Listening: task design</i> Finding and adapting recordings, producing questions	Prof. Green
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	<i>Basic statistics for language assessment</i> Classical item analysis	Prof. Green
15:00	Coffee	
15:30	<i>Further statistics for language assessment</i> What can we explore through numbers? Rater reliability	Ms. Lloyd
17:00	Finish	

Day 5 (Friday 15th September)

		Presenter
9:00	<i>Assessing Language Knowledge</i> Grammar and vocabulary Why test formal knowledge implicitly or explicitly? Issues of task design.	Ms. Lloyd
10:30	Coffee	
11:00	<i>Reporting results</i> Test scores, descriptors, diagnosis and feedback Impact of test use	Prof. Green
12:45	Finish and depart	