Guidelines for Integrating the Cross the Bridge Online Course into School's Work



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## Introduction

The Cross the Bridge Online Course is a learning and self-evaluation tool for teachers and trainers involved in integrating and managing students with a foreign background. It explores the relevant topics and challenges both in terms of theory and good academic practices, as well as real experiences of teachers who have been faced with such problems on the ground.

The Cross the Bridge Online Course can be found at <u>http://crossthebridge.eu</u>.

The MOOC is comprised of seven units, each focusing on a specific topic. The course follows the structure of communicating knowledge and then immediately testing the participants' absorption of that knowledge. This is achieved via learning videos in English that are subtitled in German, Italian, Greek, Icelandic and Estonian. The videos are followed by tests, comprised of multiple choice and open questions. Each unit and the course overall also prompts the participants to reflect on themselves regarding the challenges of integration. Following the successful completion of the course, each participant is awarded a certificate of completion.

## Guidelines

The Cross the Bridge Team proposes a set of guidelines for integrating the MOOC into school's work:

- All teachers, support and managerial staff faced with the task of integrating students with a foreign background should enroll in the course.
- It is advised to complete the course as early as possible in order to ensure the maximum absorption of knowledge and experiences before interacting with students with a foreign background.
- When possible, participants from one given school should enroll at the same time, so that they can exchange ideas and facilitate a discussion around the topics covered in the course.
- The good practices taught in the course should be communicated to all relevant staff to make sure that everyone is on the same page and the collective can work towards the same goal, with similar attitudes and means.
- The MOOC should be complimented by the Cross the Bridge Training Manual, which covers some additional topics and goes more in-depth with the ones covered in the online course. It also proposes more practical solutions for teaching and self-reflection.