

Where Learning Meets Leisure *with Keith Harding*

Friday 16th March, 219 St John Street, London EC1V 4LY

Introduction

Students coming to the UK to learn English often look for more than a modified version of the courses and classes they can get in their own country. They are drawn by the multi-lingual environment, the cultural and social opportunities, as well as by the attractions of the classroom. How well do we meet this need in the UK? Do we tap into the rich cultural and social context and integrate it into the student experience? Or do we treat it as tangential and ancillary, something that happens by chance? This workshop explores ways in which we can bridge the divide between learning and leisure.

Session outline

- Why do students come to learn English in the UK? What are their needs and hopes, in the widest sense? How well do we meet these needs?
- What opportunities are there beyond the classroom? How can we access them and make them available to our students?
- What do leisure programmes do? Compare and share existing practice
- Cultural and social opportunities and how to turn them into integral parts of the learning process – at the level of lesson, course, and curriculum
- Case studies of successful learning/leisure events, in the class and out of the class (and out of the school)
- Planning and presentation of integrated learning/leisure events, lessons, and programmes
- What are the limits on linking learning and leisure?
- How can we measure and evaluate the effectiveness of learning/leisure programmes?

Timetable

Registration	10.00
Start Time	10.30
Approximate End Time	16.30/17.00
<i>Lunch and refreshments provided</i>	

Session outcomes

Participants will

- understand the range of reasons for students coming to the UK
- share existing practice on leisure activities and programmes
- become aware of the ways in which cultural and social experiences can be part of the learning experience
- be able to plan an integrated learning/leisure event or lesson
- be able to produce an integrated and balanced learning/leisure programme
- have ideas to put into immediate practice in their own schools
- be equipped with strategies to enhance the quality of the student experience, both inside and outside of the classroom

English UK Training Events 2009/2010

Trainer Profile



Keith Harding is a freelance ELT writer, trainer, and consultant. He has worked as a teacher, teacher trainer, Director of Studies, and Principal in the UK and the USA. His training interests include: English for Specific Purposes, Continuing Professional Development, and all aspects of academic management. He has run training sessions in Italy, Iran, Ukraine, Slovenia, and Algeria, and has written several books for Oxford University Press, including *International Express*, various English for Tourism titles, and the *Oxford Resource Book for Teachers* on ESP. Keith is also an inspector for Accreditation UK, and a registered London Blue Badge tourist guide.

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