

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	Hispanic studies: developing autonomous language – learning strategy for Spanish WebCT		Project ID No	CLAD – HIST050
Strategy area/theme	Humanities			
Start date	December 2004	Completion date	March 2007	
Project type	Learner enhancement project			
Level		Programme of study	Hispanic studies	
Aims	<p>This project aimed to develop a complete on-line resource for <i>Ab Initio</i> students in Hispanic Studies in order to prepare them to join the post A-level group in the second year. Furthermore, it also aimed to assist students from other programmes with important gaps in their knowledge of Spanish.</p> <p>These materials serve two main educational purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reinforcing classroom material with activities oriented towards lexical and grammatical practice as well as reading and listening comprehension. This set of materials provides the students with tools and techniques for revising the content presented in the classroom, for deepening their understanding of particular key concepts and for analysing their own process of learning. b) Developing learning strategies to enhance autonomy and responsibility, as the students are encouraged to reflect on their learning in order to improve the outcome. This helps them to examine their own contribution to their learning as well as to monitor their own progress. This constitutes a useful guidance for independent study time and practical guidance on how to learn. 			
Objectives	<p>Some of the specific objectives of this project, such as the creation of a range of self-check grammar practice exercises or to provide extra reading material and specific activities to enhance vocabulary and L2 literacy - will improve accuracy and discourse competence and will facilitate the integration of the beginners group into a larger group of post-a level learners in the second year. Higher proficiency will boost individual motivation and self-confidence as the learners will realise that they are capable of managing their own learning and that they can rely on themselves, not only on the tutor.</p> <p>Other specific objectives of this strategies-based instruction, such as learning how to learn, will enhance responsibility and autonomy as it will provide tools for active and self-directed involvement as well as a framework for the students to adopt a new style of learning.</p>			
Further Information	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham</p> <p>cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk quoting CLAD projects HIST050</p>			