

CIRCE – ICT on Classics Teaching

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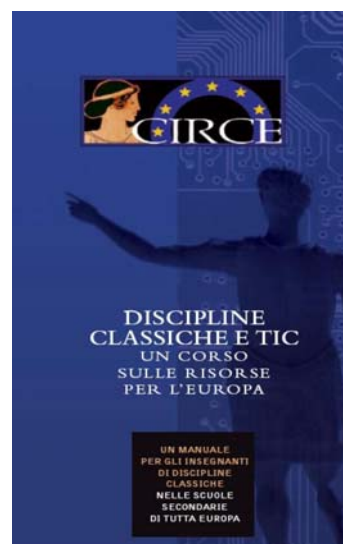
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CIRCE is an European Project (Comenius2.1, www.circe.be.) and two words can easily define what's CIRCE: Classics & ICT. Its name is the acronym for Classics and ICT Resource Course for Europe: European Classics teachers indeed will find new ways to teach Latin, ancient Greek and/or classic civilizations, specific subjects in secondary European high schools or universities, with the *integration* and the *support* of ICT (Information and Communication Technology), the most important instrument to change and/or innovate educational system and to reach young people with a technological approach that actually is the nearest to students.

It has been planned and realized through 3 years' work (2003 – 2006) by 6 EU countries team: Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy and United Kingdom. Persons involved (the most of whom classics teachers) have been enclosed by the same particular passion for classics languages & cultures and on developing project they shared skills and ideas, approaches and methodologies, practices and experiences on ICT and Classics field, selecting different materials in educational systems all over Europe, testing and assembling all European ICT resources for Classics world. Their first aim has been to demonstrate the importance to apply ICT to classrooms daily work, on teaching - learning about Latin, Ancient Greek & Classic Civilizations.

The results of CIRCE are 2 important products: the CIRCE Manual, 1st European Manual for Classics & ICT, translated and printed since last April 2006 (120 pp – 24 cm, *Het Gemeenschapsonderwijs*, Bruxelles) in different European languages: Dutch, French, Greek, Italian, Deutch, English.

The CIRCE Website: it's a multilingual website at url www.circe.be, in which users can select the language section they prefer in Dutch, French, Greek, Italian, Deutch, English, to know different ICT resources as softwares for classics, various tools for ancient Greek writing, lessons plans, specific images gallery etc. Soon from the site also CIRCE Manual will be downloadable in pdf format.



Keywords: CIRCE (Classics and ICT Resource Course for Europe); CIRCE Manual

CIRCE is the acronym of Classics and ICT Resource Course for Europe, Comenius 2.1 project for Europeans teachers/ teachers trainers on Classics by a common idea of 6 European countries partners: Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy and United Kingdom, with 3 years' work, from 2003 to 2006. European Classics teachers indeed will find new ways to teach Latin, ancient Greek and/or classic civilizations, specific subjects in secondary European high schools or universities, with the *integration* and the

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support of ICT (Information and Communication Technology), the most important instrument to change and/or innovate educational system and to reach young people with a technological approach that actually is the nearest to students.

Why did CIRCE rise? ICT innovated year by year very quickly the methodologies and approaches in educational systems all over Europe, so CIRCE team's first aim has been to show that ICT can be inserted in Classics teaching too by all European Classics Teachers. The most important issues noted by teachers in all ICT discussions are contemplated by CIRCE: when and how can be the integration of ICT, why and how teachers can use innovative methodologies, what are the best practices and especially what the new profile of teacher in this technical - pedagogical context.

All details of the project can be read in CIRCE Website and Manual (4 Chapters, 120 pages - on line downloadable at url www.circe.be). The CIRCE Project, after intensive works during the project time, had the following results:

a. the CIRCE Multilingual Website (www.circe.be), it's a multilingual website and does work in 6 languages: English, Italian, Nederlands, French, Greek, Deutsch.

b. the CIRCE Manual, printed in Bruxelles by Het Gemeenschapsonderwijs and translated in different European languages - on line too. Its aims are to diffuse ICT use between all Europeans Classics Teachers and to give help and/or suggestions to European teachers who want insert ICT in their classroom work.

The CIRCE website is a dynamic site in constant updating and its contents are: the CIRCE Manual (4 chapters on line, also downloadable as .pdf), Lessons plans (with internal search criteria), Fonts tutorial (latin & ancient greek), Classics Teaching in European countries, Classics softwares and websites (EU resources), Images Gallery (it needs Registration).

The main training activity is represented by the Courses: Transnational COURSES (Comenius 2.2) and National Courses. The Transnationals are in presence (5 days- 1 per year), as *in service* training for Classics European teachers. The language is English. The first had been in Oxford (UK - 31st July / 6th August 2006) and the second will be in Nyborg (DK - 30th July /5th August 2007). Its Ref. Number is: BE-2007-062-001. The Nationals too are in presence (generally 3 days), as *in service* training for Classics teachers in each project partners country. They are in national languages and had been in Italy, Denmark, UK (& USA), France. Upcoming Courses are still now to define.

CIRCE represents a further testimony of ICT important benefits in teaching/learning of Classics Cultures & Languages.

The CIRCE resources as the CIRCE Manual for Classics teachers in Europe seek to enhance teaching/learning work by Information and Communications Technology (ICT). The CIRCE Manual had been written as a useful work both for beginners and for those with experience. At no point anyway is the manual intended to be exhaustive: it is a starting point, or a source of reference...

Further informations

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CIRCE PROJECT - www.circe.be - (CIRCE Project – IT Coordin. Prof.ssa Annarella Perra) - email: annperr@tin.it

Het Gemeenschapsonderwijs – Internationalisering - Bruxelles (General Coordin. CIRCE Project) - email: veerle.de.troyer@rago.be

Comenius 2.2 Catalogue: http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/socrates/nat-est_en.html

NEWS CIRCE: www.circe.be

References

- [1] *Het Gemeenschapsonderwijs* (CIRCE Team 2006), *CIRCE Manual*, Bruxelles - url: www.circe.be