Online Courses of Portuguese as a Second Language: Closing the gap with blended learning in mainstream education

Directorate-General for Education (DGE), Ministry of Education and Science of Portugal
Ciberescola da Língua Portuguesa Association

Goal
Access to Education to all students – migrant students
Educational policies aim – migrant students integration and their educational success
Access to specialized PL2 classes in primary and secondary schools

Identifying the gap
Newly arrived migrant students, non-native speakers of Portuguese - insufficient proficiency in Portuguese
Schools sometimes have difficulties in offering teaching activities on PL2
Shortage of online Portuguese learning resources, systematically displayed with a core-structure
Institutional partnership

This pilot project is ongoing since 2012/2013 and currently involves a close collaboration of:

Directorate-General for Education (DGE) – www.dge.mec.pt

Ciberescola da Língua Portuguesa Association – www.ciberescola.com

Agrupamentos de Escolas (AE)*:

- Agrupamento de Escolas Alexandre Herculano, Porto
- Agrupamento de Escolas Agualva Mira-Sintra
- Agrupamento de Escolas Nuno Álvares, Seixal
- Agrupamento de Escolas João de Deus, Faro
- Agrupamento de Escolas João da Rosa, Olhão
- Agrupamento de Escolas de Marrazes, Leiria

*(AE) School clusters.
Teaching Portuguese as a 2nd language

Organizational process:
Adaptation of the Ciberescola learning platform to mainstream education- organizing videoconferencing courses
Organization of CEFR\(^1\) levelled classes (5-7 students from the 2\(^{nd}\) to the 12\(^{th}\) grade)
Continuous production of new interactive exercises

Learning process:
Post-graduated in PL2 language teachers and researchers
Task-based pedagogy
Interpreters to support absolute beginners
Autonomous learning

Regulation
DGE and Ciberescola
Monitoring the implementation of the project: organization of the courses and the effectiveness of the pedagogical model

Other institutions
External assessment of the project

\(^1\) Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.
Results

Positive impact of the project

School year 2012/2013

Higher motivation towards language learning

Digital literacy awareness
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CSEDU 2015
Hotel Marriott, Lisbon
23rd - 25th May

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