Current Trends:
Theory & Practice in ELT

International House London

Course length and times	This is a 30-hour course, three hours a day for two weeks. It runs from 09.00 – 12.00 in January and 13.15 – 16.15 in July and August.
	You will have access to the library and study centre during your course. You can watch DVDs of lessons, take out journals and books, or study English in our computer room.

Who is the course for?	This course is primarily intended for experienced and/or practising teachers of English in an ELT context who are seeking to explore the underlying principles of current ELT methodologies and approaches. Practical demonstrations and teaching materials are used to illustrate the methods and to give a deeper understanding of how and why a method would work in the langauge classroom. Participants should have an English level of C1 (Advanced) on the Common European Framework to follow this course.

Course objectives	By the end of the course participants will:
	❱ have developed an awareness and understanding of current ELT principles and practice.
	❱ have developed an ability to critically examine and evaluate current ELT principles and practice
	❱ have developed an ability to evaluate current trends in relation to their own teaching and to their learners needs
	❱ have had opportunities to raise and explore teaching issues relevant to their own context.
	❱ have acquired a range of practical teaching ideas and materials.

Examples of syllabus content	❱ The Lexical Approach
	❱ Task-based learning
	❱ Learner autonomy
	❱ Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)
	❱ Assessment and correction
	❱ Motivation theories and motivating learners in the classroom
	❱ Teaching large groups
	❱ Teaching mixed ability groups
	❱ Exploiting authentic and non-authentic listening and reading texts
	❱ Emerging methodologies e.g. the Flipped Classroom
	Other areas can be included according to the needs of a particular group of course participants.

Recommended pre-course reading	Willis D & Willis J (1986) **Challenge and Change in Language Teaching** Heinemann
	This book will provide you with a useful introduction to some of the topics that could be covered on the course. Do not worry if you do not have time to read this book before the course begins.

Pre-course task	Before the course begins, please consider and make brief notes on these questions:
	1 How would you describe your everyday teaching methodology?
	2 What approaches in language teaching are you aware of or have tried?
	3 Are there any specific areas of challenge you face in your teaching that you would like to discuss?
	4 What are of teaching would you most like to develop in the future?

Sample Timetable
Current Trends – Theory and Practice in English Language Teaching – Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
• Getting to know each other	• Overview of methodologies and approaches	• Introduction to the Lexical Approach	• Counting Dictation and Decoding	• Introduction to Dogme
• Course expectations and your teaching context	• Introduction to Task-based Learning	• Lexical Approach techniques	• Dictogloss and Differentiation activities	• A Dogme lesson demonstration
• Course administration and library tour	• Comparing TBL with PPP		• Review of Grammaticisation and differentiation techniques	• Looking at the theory behind Principled Eclecticism
• Beliefs and practices discussion				

Current Trends – Theory and Practice in English Language Teaching – Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
• Review of key principles and techniques	• Using technology in the classroom	• Giving feedback: different ways of giving feedback for speaking and writing	• Testing: different methods of assessment	• 'Current' current trends
• Live listening: a demonstration	• M-learning: advantages and disadvantages of BYOD	• Error correction and reformulation	• Teaching large classes: challenges and ideas	• End of course review and certificates
• Live listening: looking at procedures	• Using iPads: games and activities			
• Integrated skills work	• Webquests: technology treasure hunt for classroom resources			