Department of History TQEF E-Learning Project

Main Aims of the Project

- Enhance the utilisation of e-resources in teaching from first year undergraduate to masters level.

- Develop e-learning and teaching techniques supporting teaching from first year undergraduate to masters level.

- Provide staff training for all levels of staff from postgraduate teachers and probationary lecturers to advanced teachers wishing to enhance their modules using e-learning strategies.

- Provide a web-portal linking e-learning and e-research in the department as a resource and to demonstrate the Department's excellence in both e-research and e-learning.

- Provide a showcase for other Departments with re-usable templates and techniques.

Outcomes/Deliverables

- Evaluation of staff skills and training requirements

- Online staff induction website

- Resources/short videos/templates for staff development purposes (examples include designing a sitebuilder web page, embedding images, new module proposal templates)

- Embedding e-learning techniques into all Departmental core courses (examples include: update of Latin American Themes website with extensive online primary and secondary sources; podcasts for Historiography and PG Theory, Skills and Methods modules; European World is using a combination of blogs/forums technology to support the use of online resources in seminars and to provide an online archive; online skills training for first year students to form part of the skills provision in Making of the Modern World; MPhil-PhD upgrade site with digital videos and other electronic resources) NB: the modules listed here are first, second, third year and Masters level core courses in the Department of History and School of Comparative American Studies. Thus every student in the Department is reached in some way.

- Re-design of the Departmental website

- All website pages 'tagged' with keywords to provide a fully searchable resource. This enables all pages on our website to be searched and located using some basic keywords. This aspect is being extended as the History subject librarian is applying similar technology to allow searching of external sources by keyword such as JSTOR, EEBO etc.

Dissemination

The project's outcomes have been disseminated at faculty committees (including the IT committee and Graduate Studies committee); faculty e-lunches; the e-learning Showcase. There has already been interest from other Departments and Services in using some of these resources.