SKILLS

A few words on UPSKILLS

Upskilling linguistics and languages HE students
with the aid of educational games

4th UPSKILLS Multiplier event

Valletta, 30 May 2023

UPSKILLS Consortium:

L-Università ta' Malta

UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM FORLÌ

CLARIN

UNI GRAZ

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with financial support from movetia

University of Zurich

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

Kindly keep your mic muted and do not interrupt other speakers!

SKILLS

L-Università ta' Malta

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
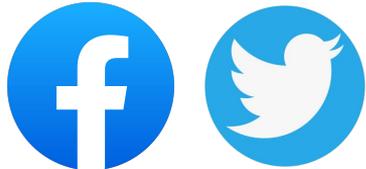
#upskillsme4

Upskilling Linguistics and Languages HE Students with the Aid of Educational Games

30th May 2023

PROGRAMME

All times are CEST (UTC+2)

09:00 – 09:20   **Opening by Hon. Chris Bonett, Parliamentary Secretary for European Funds (followed by a brief introduction to UPSKILLS by the project leader, Stavros Assimakopoulos)**

09:20 – 09:40   **"Linking higher education with the industry" – Keynote by Prof. Lonneke van der Plas (IDIAP / University of Malta)**

09:40 – 10:00   **UPSKILLS IO1: "Language data and project specialist – from an UPSKILLS profile to classrooms across Europe" (Silvia Bernardini & Adriano Ferraresi, University of Bologna)**

10:00 – 10:30   **Coffee break**

10:30 – 10:50	"Active-based learning in higher education" – Keynote by Prof. Sandro Caruana (Faculty of Education, University of Malta)
10:50 – 11:10	UPSKILLS IO2: "Integrating research and research infrastructures into teaching" (Marko Simonović, University of Graz & Iulianna van der Lek, CLARIN ERIC)
11:10 – 11:30	UPSKILLS IO3: "Adapting and developing learning materials" (Jelena Gledić, University of Belgrade)
11:30 – 11.50	UPSKILLS IO4: "UPSKILLS and educational games" (Stavros Assimakopoulos, University of Malta)
11.50 – 12.15	Q&A with the audience
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch break

13.15 – 14.15	Guidelines and best practices for game-based learning (Vanessa Camilleri, University of Malta)
14:15 – 14:45	"Guess the language" – Using a game for theory-based learning (Margherita Pallottino & Genoveva Puskas, University of Geneva)
14:45 – 15.15	Coffee break
15:15 – 15.45	"TopLang" – Integrating learning and assessment in a gamified work simulation experience (Stavros Assimakopoulos, University of Malta)
15.45 – 16.15	"UPSKILLS and I" – An open discussion with the audience.

What is UPSKILLS?

Funded as an Erasmus+ Strategic partnership
Consortium of 8 partners:

University of Malta (coordinator)	University of Rijeka
University of Belgrade	
University of Bologna	and with funding from Movetia:
CLARIN ERIC	University of Geneva
University of Graz	University of Zurich

Main aim

Tackle skills gaps and mismatches in students of language-related disciplines to create a better workforce.

Rationale:

Graduates of linguistics and language-related degrees are needed in research and industry jobs. Yet, as our needs analysis has confirmed, they sometimes lack:

- critical thinking and problem solving skills outside their "comfort zone"

- knowledge of research design and data analysis outside their "comfort zone"

- project management skills

- digital skills

Main aim

Tackle skills gaps and mismatches in students of language-related disciplines to create a better workforce.

How:

- Modular and blended learning

- Innovative pedagogies such as online educational games

- Real-world applications (task/research-based learning)

- Integrating existing research and research infrastructures into teaching

Outputs and activities

- Intellectual outputs:
  - Needs analysis
  - Guidelines on research-based teaching ☐
  - Consolidation and creation of learning content
  - Educational games for active learning   **Today's focus!**

- Multiplier events planned for each intellectual output:
Bologna ✓, Graz ✓, Utrecht ✓, 2 dedicated Swiss events ✓ and now MALTA

  → Summer School in Serbia - July 2023

Main expected results

- Better prepare students for the reality of the job market

- Sensitise academics with respect to what skills employers are looking for

- Raise awareness among employers about the skills and aptitude of graduates of linguistics and language-related degrees

- Create engaging modular learning content that will be freely accessible to everyone

- Promote active - task- and research-based - learning

Thank you for joining!!!

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