Project name: Litteratur på nett

Summary:

Presentation of Spanish and Latin American literature

Projekt hemsida: http://litteraturpaanett.prosjekt.uia.no/

Argument för nominering:

We think that the Project “Litteratur på nett” should be nominated for the Boldic Award because we have had good results working with this material with our students. We have Norwegian students at the University of Agder in Norway that are studying Spanish. We have developed this web page for the students who are studying literature (novels, short stories, poetry, films, theatre and theoretical essays on literature). The material might be very difficult to understand for the students because they have to read Spanish on a high level, according to the guiding lines for the study at the university. We have developed the web page to help the students enter into the material, to guide them through the texts and to give them models for how they can start the reading of the texts.

We have developed different components in our web page, and the components are:

- Dialogues (all in Spanish, we don’t speak any Norwegian)
- Lists of words in the texts we know could be difficult for the students
• Key word (words that are essential for the students when they are going to talk about or write about the texts)

• Animationes (for some of the texts) that illustrate the key words

• Exercises related to the texts

• Videos with “questions of reflexion” (essential questions)

• Links to relevant information and web pages

These components are presented for every text that the students have to study. We have experimented that the students find it very helpful, and even though we can not document it, we really feel that these resources on the internet give better results on the final exam.

In addition to the good results achieved working with the students with this material, we have also reflected on other interesting aspects related to the use of the material. We have discovered that the use of this material, could have an effect on how we plan our classes. It may have an effect on how we act and what we do in the classroom with the students. We think that we have discovered that when we really use the resources developed, it has an influence on our teaching and our way of being teachers. We were not able to see this second effect before developing the material. We have understood this after using the material. We do feel that there is rising a very interesting dialogue between: the material – the classroom activities – the teacher / the teaching. The fact that the students can prepare in a different way than earlier, makes us realize that we have to change our teaching. Our teaching in class can have other focuses than earlier and we feel that we can concentrate more – work deeper – with the texts. The results have been very interesting for us as a teacher and we feel that there is a great benefit of this way of working; a greater benefit than what we had planned to find.

We have discovered that the most “simple” technological material – the video clip – has been the most successful component of all the components. The students listen over and over again, and the express that it is very useful to them and that is “saves” them in their work; it gives them the key that is necessary to feel motivation and not “give up” in the meeting with a text that for the majority of the students is quite difficult. Working with the material on “Litteratur på nett” gives nice effects both for the students – and the teachers – involved, and it gives new ideas for further reflection on this interesting field.

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