Putting the global citizen into academic studies   InForm Conference July 2012

Alison Leslie, The Language Centre, University of Leeds, a.s.leslie@leeds.ac.uk

University role with respect to global citizenship

- Preparing students to have confidence, creativity & skills to go out into the world & make a difference
- Guiding students towards responsible awareness of & respect for other perspectives & sensitivities & implications for individual behaviour
- Engaging students with knowledge not restricted to traditional boundaries (University of Leeds Strategy)

Principles of global citizenship education

- Equipping young people with knowledge, skills & values to participate as active citizens
- Acknowledging complexity of global issues & making connections
- Exploring viewpoints & values
- Commitment to sustainable development & social justice
- Ability to argue effectively
- Developing critical thinking skills   (Oxfam, 2006 Education for Global Citizenship: A Guide for Schools)

Approaches to applying global citizenship in foundation & pathway programmes

Applying a global perspective eg. exploring global issues; exploring impacts of design or technology on world; exploring how diversity is represented in art or influence of different cultures on maths & science

Making connections eg. relating historical examples to contemporary events; illustrating mathematical concepts & processes through global issues

Addressing sustainability & ethical issues eg. evaluating product design; exploring cooperative approach to enterprise; exploring different uses of science or contribution of science to sustainable development

Developing critical & media literacy eg. critically analysing internet sources or use of data; exploring why history is interpreted in different ways; exploring historical production of maths & science or their social impacts

Teaching Resources

Al Jazeera   www.aljazeera.com [accessed 10/07/12]

The main broadcaster for the Arabic region has an English language version with news articles and videos, plus some interesting documentaries from around the world such as the Living the Language series.

British Museum Hajj exhibition   www.britishmuseum.org/hajj [accessed 10/07/12]

Collection of short videos and texts interviewing Muslims about their personal experiences of going on pilgrimage to Mecca and showing pictures of related objects.

Chinese News TV (CNTV)   http://english.cntv.cn/01/index.shtml [accessed 10/07/12]

China's main broadcaster has an English language version, with news articles, videos and documentaries on a range of topics including history, architecture, arts, science and technology and the environment.

Co-operative Education Trust Scotland (CETS)   www.abdn.ac.uk/cets [accessed 10/07/12]

Promotes study of co-operatives in business schools and universities as challenge to orthodox school of thought based on neoclassical economics. Website contains study resources for students and academics.

Gapminder   www.gapminder.org [accessed 10/07/12]

This site contains lots of interesting visual data on world trends.

IDEO   http://www.ideo.com/work/human-centered-design-toolkit/ [accessed 10/07/12]

This design consultancy specialises in human-centred design: the site includes a downloadable toolkit and examples of design projects.

Iran: Voice of Justice IRIB World Service (2012) http://english.irib.ir/voj/ [accessed 10/07/12]

Iranian media site containing world news and features on different topic areas such as science and technology in text and on radio.

Learning to Read the World Through Other Eyes (TOE) www.throughothereyes.org.uk [accessed 10/07/12]

Based on poststructuralist theories, this project focuses on indigenous knowledge systems as opposed to Western mainstream cultures. The site explains the methodology in more detail and offers a free online programme of study and resources.

Oxfam (2006) Education for Global Citizenship: A Guide for Schools
www.oxfam.org.uk/education/gc/files/education_for_global_citizenship_a_guide_for_schools.pdf

Oxfam's curriculum for global citizenship is the standard used in schools and colleges around the UK. This document explains the principles in more detail and gives sample activities, which can be adapted to suit older students.

Open Spaces for Dialogue & Enquiry (OSDE)   www.osdemethodology.org.uk [accessed 10/07/12]

This site explains the OSDE methodology, includes research and sample activities on structuring safe spaces for dialogue and enquiry about global issues and perspectives focusing on interdependence.

Positive News   www.positivenews.org.uk [accessed 10/07/12]

Newspaper available in print and online containing inspirational news stories about change, particularly around sustainable development.

Press TV   www.presstv.ir/doc/default.html [accessed 10/07/12]

Another Iranian media site containing video documentaries on global issues.

Scientists for Global Responsibility   www.sgr.org.uk [accessed 17/07/12]

Independent organisation promoting ethical design and research in science.

World Newspapers   www.world-newspapers.com [accessed 10/07/12]

A database which contains links to news and magazine sites in English from around the world.

Further Reading

Benesch. S. (2001) "What is and What Might Be: Instructional Implications for EAP, Content and Critical Teachers" Ch. 9 in *Critical English for Academic Purposes* GB: Routledge Ltd. Pp130-135

Cooper, A. (2002) *Teaching Media Literacy in the ESL Classroom* Center for Media Literacy
http://www.medialit.org/reading-room/teaching-media-literacy-esl-classroom [accessed 19/06/12]