Centre for Quality Support and Development



Teaching and Learning Enhancement Projects (TLEP) Application Form

Reference Number (18/2020):

Please refer to the <u>Teaching and Learning Strategy</u> and <u>TLEP scheme criteria and guidance</u> when completing your application.

Please save as a PDF file and submit your application to Martin Wise: m.wise@reading.ac.uk

App	licant	's c	letai	ls
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Name:	Liz Wilding The project team also includes: Svetlana Mazhurnaya, Anna Ziomek, Fiona Orel, Daguo Li, John Slaght
Role:	TNE Programme Director
Directorate:	
School / Service:	ISLI
Department / Unit:	
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Project Title:	Production of a TEEP Learner Familiarisation Package
Project Start Date:	September 1 2020
Project End Date:	June 30 2021

Project Outline and Rationale (Maximum 500 words)

The main aim of the project is to create a package of student familiarisation and practice materials for the Test of English for Educational Purposes (TEEP). This package will be disseminated to staff and students at the NUIST Reading Academy, UoR, UoRM, and future TNE partnerships.

TEEP (developed at the International Study and Language Institute at UoR) is an established test used to assess students' language skills for university study. It is widely accepted by other UK HEIs as well as at Reading, where it used as the formal progression test for entry on to our degree courses. Our project seeks to address an identified need for new materials resulting from two main factors:

- 1. The recent development of a UG-facing version of the TEEP means some current practice/familiarisation materials are less relevant.
- 2. The UG TEEP was only implemented at NUIST in 2019. Staff and students have not yet fully engaged with the benefits of and rationale for TEEP as opposed to the better-known IELTS (which has a few important differences). A recent ISLI project highlighted this issue.

We will achieve our aims by working closely with students to produce the package of materials. We will first undertake a student questionnaire and focus groups to identify student questions, concerns and needs in relation to TEEP preparation and understanding. Secondly, we will create bespoke digital materials that unpack the rationale for TEEP and the assessment criteria, and that provide students with engaging ways to prepare for the test. These will include

- Screencasts (featuring staff and students) providing general information about TEEP
- Practice materials for each section: eg. bespoke listening test recordings; sample speaking tests; interactive practice tasks using Xerte software.

The impact will be to enhance our students' engagement with the TEEP as assessment for learning and to improve student achievement (and thus progression onto UG degrees). The project will reach 300+ students at NUIST and 140+ at Reading each year.

Outcomes will be monitored via a follow-up student survey and through analysis of year-on-year TEEP results. We will disseminate outcomes at the School T&L Forum, via the UoR T&L blog and at a professional T&L conference (BALEAP - the Global Forum for EAP professionals). The materials will be publicly available on the ISLI website.

The project directly addresses the **strategic T&L priority** to support the University's diverse student body. TNE students engaged in UK HE study while based in another country face multiple challenges adapting to UK academic practices and expectations. These assessment preparation materials will assist in their adjustment journey. We thus also support ISLI's NUIST development plan by using our expertise in language teaching and assessment to enable NUIST students to succeed in the wider University.

The project will be highly sustainable as the materials will remain in use and continue to be available online.

Funding will be used for

- focus group refreshments
- students' involvement in videos
- fee for external expert to develop materials
- Teaching buyout to enable current staff to develop materials

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Full Budget Details (breakdown of total proposed expenditure)

Activity/item (Including activity start and end dates)	Costs
1. Refreshments for focus groups	1. £180.00
 Student involvement in video recordings: 12 hours @ £9.10 Temporary Worker rate + on-costs. Staff costs totalling 40 hours @ 50. These costs will be used for external payments: Buy-out of current staff time to enable a member of the assessment team to work on materials development. In this case a sessional teacher will be hired to deliver teaching in place of the team member (£50 includes on-costs) Fee for external consultant to enable John Slaght (Emeritus Professor and creator of TEEP) to provide input on the redevelopment. (also £50 per hour) 	2. £145.94 3. £2000.00
Total expected expenditure	£2325.94

Previous Funding

Have you previously received TLDF project funding? If Yes, please provide details including year of award:	no
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Head of School / Service (Please answer <u>all</u> questions and delete as applicable)

Is your Head of School/Service aware of this application?	Yes
Is your Head of School/Service supportive of this application?	Yes

I have read the <u>TLEP guidance and scheme criteria</u>. I understand and accept the terms and conditions of **funding.** (Please tick box) \boxtimes

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TLEP Form