

InThinking Psychology Workshop

For Experienced IBDP Teachers

Berlin, Germany

Friday 5th - Sunday 7th March 2010

Workshop Leader: John Crane

Overview

The primary aim of the workshop for experienced IB Psychology teachers is to think creatively about how to teach the new course curriculum. In addition, we hope to:

- Reaffirm what we are doing well in the classroom and seek strategies to improve our teaching.
- Clarify any ambiguities in the new curriculum.
- Provide resources for a smooth implementation of the new curriculum.
- Examine the increasing number of ways that technology can support the curriculum.
- Discuss how to implement authentic assessment in our courses as preparation for their exams.
- To strengthen the community of IB Psychology teachers in order to provide a network of resources and support for the transition to the new curriculum.

Agenda

Session 1: Where are we?

Starting right in with how we have started with the new curriculum. Small group work to get ideas and express concerns. This will also be an information gathering session to see which issues are of the greatest importance for the group.

Session 2: Levels of analysis

Clarifications of the curriculum and sharing ideas about how to deliver the content. This will be a time for sharing “best practice” and for gathering resources to assist in the teaching of the three levels of analysis.

Session 3: Writing for psychology

A look at technology-based strategies for improving student writing – with the goal of authentic assessment practice. A look at samples of student writing for IB style questions.

Session 4: Teaching research

Ways to teach about research methods with a hands-on approach. A look at alternative assessments for teaching research.

Session 5: The internal assessment

Discussion as to how to make the process less stressful for teachers and students. Clarifications in the new guide, and how to improve our students' overall performance.

Session 6: The Extended Essay

How to choose a topic for the extended essay. An inventory of skills that students need to develop before the begin the Extended Essay in psychology – and strategies for advisors.

Session 7: Teaching ideas for the options

Clarifications of the curriculum and sharing ideas about how to deliver the content. This will be a time for sharing “best practice” and for gathering resources to assist in the teaching of the options.

Session 8: Paper III – a new beast

A look at how to approach the questions on Paper III. Strategies for developing resources and helping students to decode an “unseen passage.”

Session 9: Theory of Knowledge – our best friend

A look at the goals of Theory of Knowledge and how they compliment/support our curriculum. Suggestions as to how to make links to TOK. In addition, we will explore the use of the Socratic seminar as an assessment.

Session 10: Wrap up

In any workshop there are things that we wish we had more time to discuss. Session 10 is our “parking lot” for those ideas.