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A newbie's attempt to develop subject specific materials using core texts and assignments

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Outline of the talk:

- Background
- Planning and developing the course
- Examples of materials
- Feedback
- Remaining problems
- Reflection and some recommendations



Background

- Own background
- ELTC
- DLS programme
- Geography MA taught courses



Challenges

- Never taught on this course before
- Expectations
- Knowledge of subject
- Students' disciplines
- Differences in abilities
- Materials



How do you plan courses and materials?

- Turn to your partner and spend 2 minutes discussing this question...



Planning the course

- Cooperation with department
- Dates
- Course handbooks
- Reading lists
- Examples of previous students' work
- Cooperation with students
- Needs analysis
- Dates
- Previous material
- Developing a scheme of work



Developing materials

- Scheme of work
- Reading list
- Description from the Geography department
- Student needs
- Previous students' work
- Layout of weekly booklets



Try a task...

- You have 2 minutes to try one of the five tasks from your handout.



Adapting to constraints

- Changing the scheme of work
- Dates (and clashes)
- Use of materials



Remaining problems

- Abilities of the students
- Attendance
- Students on different modules in second half
- Meeting needs?



Feedback

- Student feedback
 - I found them quite helpful especially for my writing skills
 - My weakest point in the english language is academic writing, and the sessions really helped me improve my ability to analyse and discuss within an academic context.
 - Sir Nicholas is so nice and great lecturer! My English writing improve
- Other feedback



Recommendations (& reflection)

- More information about students' modules
- Need for real questions/assignment titles
- Use of Geography's marking criteria
- More use of previous assignments
- Peer feedback
- 1-to-1 tutorials
- Closer collaboration with department



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Questions?





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To
Discover
And
Understand.