



The ALTE Introductory Course in Assessing Speaking

The course will be taught by Dr Lynda Taylor, consultant for University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations.

Participants are expected to have a professional interest in testing speaking.

Dates: November 9-10, 2009

Location: National University of Ireland, Maynooth

Cost: The cost of the course (tuition only) is €350 (€300 for Members and Affiliates)

The syllabus will focus on the practical application of testing theory and will also address the main logistical and administrative issues which are typically associated with speaking tests. The course will cover:

1. A model of speaking ability for assessment purposes
2. Test design and production - choice of format and task types
3. Test management and processing - the rating process and the rater cadre
4. The validation of speaking tests and the development of a research agenda

Some prior reading will be issued to participants before the course.