Glossary of Teaching Terms

**Action plan**
Specific proposal developed by a learner, teacher or institution to address problems or difficulties or meet a desired goal.

**Active learning methods**
Learning methods that focus on ensure learners play and active role in the process of learning instead of passively receiving information.

**Aesthetic Response**
An affective or emotional response a person has to material, which is based on the individual's background knowledge, attitudes, and experiences.

**Bibliography**
A listing of works used and/or considered by an author in the preparation of a work.

**Blended learning**
An educational formation that integrates learning techniques including online delivery of materials through web pages, discussion boards and/or email with traditional teaching methods including lectures, in-person discussions, seminars, or tutorials.

**Bloom's taxonomy**
A heirarchical framework of learning based on three domains - the cognitive, affective and psychomotor; in the cognitive domain there are six levels of knowledge: knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. In the affective domain there are five levels: receiving phenomenon, responding to phenomenon, valuing, organizing values, and internalizing values. In the psychomotor domain there are seven levels: perception, readiness to act, guided response, mechanism, complex overt action, adaptation, and origination (the psychomotor levels where not originally completed by Bloom).

**Collaborative learning**
An instructional method that emphasizes students working together in small groups to complete a task or reach a common goal; in some cases students may be responsible for each other's learning.

**Competencies**
An individual's abilities as they relate to knowledge, understanding, and skills; see also minimal competence.

**Constructivism**
A theory learning that claims people learn by constructing knowledge through social interactions with others.

**Cooperative learning**
Learning format the requires the cooperation of a small number of students who work towards the completion of a given task; each student is responsible for a part of the task, and the entire task cannot be completed without all the learners finishing their portion of the task.

**Curriculum**
Broadly understood as the subjects and materials to be taught by an educational institution;
typically it is listed as a set of subjects, but also may include the learning experiences, skills, and abilities students are expected to learn.

**Curriculum mapping**
A process for organizing data reflecting the primary knowledge, skills, and assessments related to a subject area and used to facilitate communication and instruction.

**Early Childhood Education and Care**
refers to care for children in day care (Kindertagespflege), nurseries (Kinderkrippe), kindergartens (Kindergarten), day care centres (Kindertagesstätte) and after-school care centres (Hort), aged 0 - about 12 years

**Employability skills**
Skills that are essential and transferable to a variety of situations and are necessary for an individual to function in the 21st century workplace.

**Evaluation**
Process of assessing work completed by an individual, group, or institution with the aim of determining whether the individual, group, or institution has meet predetermined standards.

**Evidence**
Information offered to support a conclusion or judgment.

**Exercise**
Problem, task or other activity aimed at developing or improving a person's skill or knowledge.

**Experiential learning**
Learning based on experience.

**Facilitator**
Individual who assists others in a learning process but does not act as a the primary source of knowledge; the facilitator acts as a guide in during individual or group learning activities.

**Feedback**
Responses provided to an individual while completing a task that are intended to guide the individual to s desired end.

**Group formation**
Process of organizing learners into groups.

**Group work**
Learning activities requiring several students to work together.

**Individual differences**
Unique characteristics of individuals that have an impact on how they learn.

**Initiation phase/Introductory phase**
In a lesson, this is the opening stage where the instructor begins the lesson.
**Inquiry-based learning**
Learning methodology where students are presented a problem to solve using knowledge and skills they have acquired or need to develop.

**Interactive methods**
In education, these are methods that have learners communicate with others or interact with some form of technology to receive feedback upon completing a task.

**Internet**
The name of the global network of computers accessed worldwide by individuals, businesses, education institutions, and government agencies.

**Journal Writing**
Practice of writing daily in a book or other source intended to record one's ideas and experiences, create stories, or keep written records of events.

**Key skills**
Vital skills necessary for a task or to gain employment including literacy, mathematics, and basic computer skills

**Kolb’s learning cycle**
Learning model, presented by David Kolb, that identifies 4 stages in the learning cycle: concrete experience, observations and reflections, formation of abstract concepts and generalizations, and testing implications of concepts in new situations.

**Laboratory based education**
Educational format in which learners complete experiments in a laboratory in order to learn experimental methods or test hypotheses they are studying.

**Learning environment**
The place and setting where learning occurs; it is not limited to a physical classroom and includes the characteristics of the setting.

**Media**
1) Mass communication enterprises including print (newspapers, magazines) or broadcast (radio, television)
2) Individuals employed in the communications industry.

**Mission statement**
Statement articulation the primary aims of a group or institution.

**Module**
A separate unit or selection of material that forms a coherent whole, but may be combined with other units.

**Motivational context**
The attempt to provide a setting where students are motivated to learn; can be achieved in various ways such as encouraging students to take responsibility for their own learning, being involved in selecting the topics for learning, or planning a lesson.
Objectives
Goals or aims of learning activity or lesson. Objectives specify what learners will be able to do, or perform, to be considered competent. As such, they provide clear reasons for training. Another way to view objectives is that they are goals redrafted to state performances in terms that are clearly tangible to the reader. When writing objectives be sure to describe the intended result of instruction rather than the process of instruction itself.

Qualitative assessment
Assessment based on personal views, experience or opinion of the reviewer.

Quality assurance
Internal and external processes for ensuring the quality of an object or institution maintains a desired level.

Quality control
Procedures used to ensure the desired level of quality and standards are met.

Records of achievement
Written records, either qualitative or quantitative, of a learner's achievement during a period of learning.

Reflection
Activity of a person to consider a past experience or event and the impact it has had.

Reflective practice
Practice of engaging in reflection to identify important elements of past events.

Resource
Material, either object, person, or location, that can be used to provide information.

Sachunterricht/General subjects/General knowledge
Subject taught at primary school familiarising pupils with scientific and technical phenomena and with social, economic and historical aspects of their own area.

Scaffolded Instruction
Teaching methodology where teachers assist and guide students so that they can complete learning activities they could not do without support.

Strategic learning
Learning methodology in which learners adapt their learning style to fit the needs of the assigned task.

Study groups
Groups assembled to work together to facilitate learning.

Taxonomy
A classification or ordering into groups

Teamwork
Process where individuals engage in a cooperative effort to achieve a common objective.
**Transferable skills**
Skills possessed by an individual that can be used in a variety of settings.

**Validity**
The degree to which an investigation accurately assesses the specific idea a researcher is investigating.

**Web page**
Hypertext document that includes text, images, and hyperlinks.

**Website**
A collection of web pages organized around one theme or managed by a single organization.