

AT E-learning resources: www.enableirelanat.com:

Siobhán Long, Enable Ireland

Background

The National Assistive Technology Training Service at Enable Ireland (www.enableireland.ie/at) specialises in electronic assistive technology. This is a national service which provides advice and training on AT products to Enable Ireland service users, their families/carers and staff. We offer a wide range of e-learning resources.

Activity Report

Our Foundations in AT Course is a delivered using a combination of e-learning and face-to-face training. Other courses include:-

- Technology for Independent Living
- Mounting Assistive Technology
- Studysmart – Apps for Reading, Writing and Organisation

Foundations in Assistive Technology 2015 - Certificate

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Course Overview

Welcome to Enable Ireland's Certified Foundations in AT Course 2015. This e-Learning resource contains modules of the course that are to be completed at your convenience within the duration of the course.

This course is accredited by Dublin Institute of Technology, through their Faculty of Engineering.

This course will be delivered using a combination of 3 days of face to face training on site in Microsoft, with the remainder of the course delivered on line. In total, the time commitment required is 100 hours: 21 hours face to face, and 79 hours of self-directed learning. This includes completion of your course project, (due for submission 6 weeks after the final face to face training date) which we estimate should take approximately 50 hours to complete.

Once the course starts, you will be required to participate in the AT Forum, which is an online class discussion group. You will be invited to start your own discussion threads, as well as contribute to others'. Your contribution to this AT forum will form part of the assessment for this course.

Our goal is to support your learning throughout the process. Past participants have highlighted the benefit of in-class discussion, hands on opportunities with a range of Assistive Technologies, and engagement with expert AT users. We will offer all of these resources to you as part of this course, and we welcome your feedback as you advance through the course. Please feel free to contact us directly if you have any particular queries or concerns about your participation or about navigation through the course itself.

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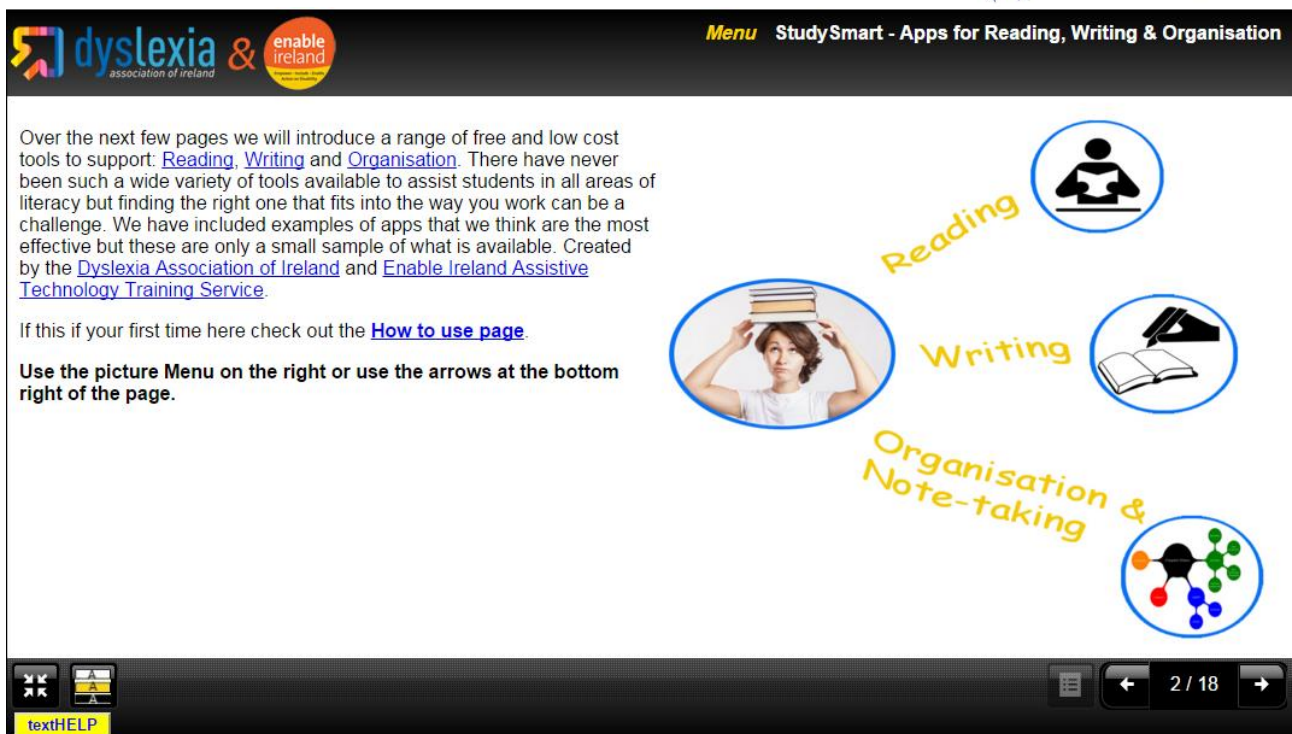
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Activity since Tuesday, 10 November
2015, 7:05 PM

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Figure 1: Screen shot of the main course page of the Foundations in AT Certificate delivered using Moodle VLE



The screenshot shows the 'StudySmart - Apps for Reading, Writing & Organisation' module. At the top left are logos for 'dyslexia association of Ireland' and 'enable Ireland'. The main content area contains text about free and low-cost tools for reading, writing, and organisation, with links to 'How to use page'. On the right is a 'Menu' with three items: 'Reading' (with a person reading icon), 'Writing' (with a person writing icon), and 'Organisation & Note-taking' (with a molecular structure icon). A 'textHELP' toolbar is visible at the bottom left, and a navigation bar at the bottom right shows '2 / 18'.

Figure 2: The StudySmart Module was created with Dyslexia Ireland using the accessible and open source Xerte authoring software with additional TextHelp toolbar.

Conclusions

E-learning has many benefits including a flexible approach, can be done at a time and location to suit the student and can be accessed from any location with internet access.

In addition, training courses are also open to members of the public and specialised programmes can be developed for businesses to advise them on the wider everyday role AT plays in the workplace. As our e learning content grows, we aim to extend our reach beyond Ireland.

Contact details

If you are interested in learning more about how our e learning programmes might be adapted to your needs, please feel free to contact us: slong@enableireland.ie