# 5. USING E-MODERATED COURSES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## What is it?

An e-moderated course is an online learning programme which has a fixed start and end date. In most e-moderated courses you will be able to interact with instructors and your peers virtually (online).

e-moderated courses are similar to Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) but have three key differences:

1. They have a smaller number of learners.
2. They are usually paid (although many MOOCs are too).
3. The tutor is more involved in a moderated course.

## Tips for learning on e-moderated courses:

Don't try to do everything at once. It's best to make a timetable and schedule course tasks and activities throughout the week.

Keep a journal for making notes and reflecting on your learning. You can also use a digital journal tool such as Penzu or Evernote on your laptop or phone.

Take advantage of opportunities to ask the moderator questions. Remember to prepare your questions beforehand!

Participate in discussions and learn from others.

Bookmark or save any resources shared by moderators or peers. OneNote is a great tool for doing this.

Complete your assignments! Most e-moderated courses offer personalised feedback which can be valuable for your professional development.

Make an action plan and try out what you learn. Share your learning with colleagues.

# Using e-moderated courses for professional development
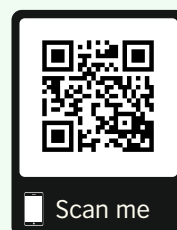
## Finding e-moderated courses

### Free courses

Electronic Village Online (EVO) is a series of free courses moderated by teachers from around the world that takes place between January and February of each year. Scan this QR code to go to the EVO website.

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### Paid courses

- The International Teacher Development Institute run month-long courses on different topics moderated by experienced English Language Teaching professionals.
- Norwich Institute of Language Education (NILE) offer three and eight-week courses moderated by a tutor.
- The British Council offer a range of high quality courses on specific themes facilitated by an experienced, international moderator. Scan this QR code to know more.

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This guide is linked to the British Council CPD Framework for Teachers.

It develops the professional practice:

*Integrating ICT:*
- Promoting collaborative and participatory learning by exploiting online communities, tools and platforms.
- Promoting autonomous learning by exploiting digital content and technologies inside and outside of the formal learning environment.

**Stage: Understanding**