





## Linking virtual mobility to physical mobility:

A successful story of a multilingual and multicultural online exchange

Lisa Griggio and Edit Rozsavolgyi



## eTandem

### Who is Lisa

### Current position and location

Didactic tutor at CLA UNIPD for 15 years

### Key areas of expertise

E-learning: Web master Master in tutoring on line School of specialization on Web 2.0 tools School of specialization on teaching Italian L2 Teacher trainer Expert in digital competence (savoir faire e savoir être online)



collaborator

eTandem since 2011



Young Lisa at work- January 2006

## Who is Edit

### Academic position

Lector of Hungarian for 30 years University of Padua PhD in Applied Linguistics

### Key areas of expertise and interest

Foreign Language Didactics Learning in Virtual Spaces eTandem







## Agenda

## eTandem intercultural project:

- what
- why
- when
- who
- How

## Students` participation and reaction

Why it won the ELL prize







What is eTandem?



informality fun autonomy reciprocity real language friends 50%

community





## Why?

- boosting integration International students with host country students
- deepening linguistic and cultural knowledge in a real context
- deepening digital competence
- Preparing phychologically and culturally for the physical exchange
- promoting internationalization of the university of Padua





## When does it take place?

Lasts 8/10 weeks, prior international students arrival

### Timeline:





## eTandem

Presented our data to international office:

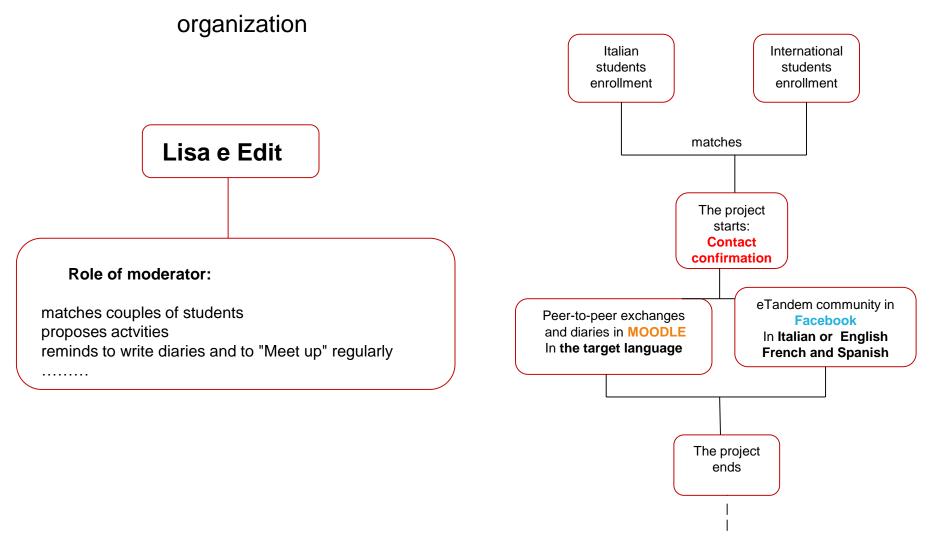
asked to advertise the project to abroad universities

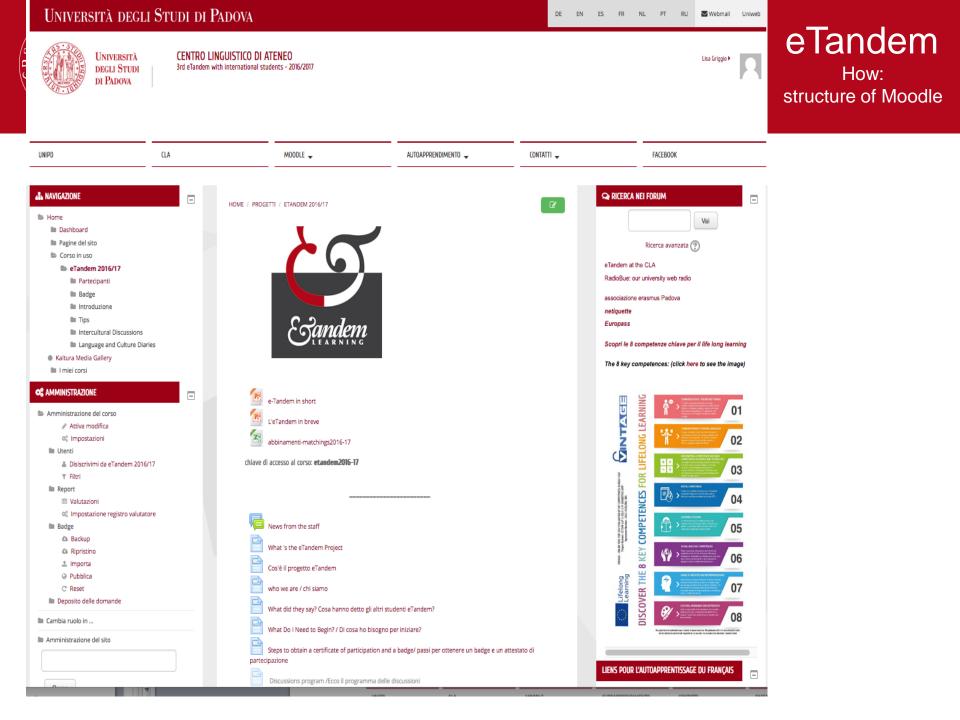
to filter motivated Italian and international students













UNIVERSITÀ **DEGLI STUDI** DI PADOVA



Aggiungi alcune parole chiave descrittive.

Jana Hubálková

mai condividere contenuti con amici, familiari e colleghi.

amici nel gruppo

**RICHIESTE (1)** 

CREA NUOVI GRUPPI Con i gruppi è più semplice che Visualizza tutte

Crea gruppo

V X



## Pin post Track reading Likes Continue to belong e-community

Ss need account

Easy to reach ss

- •Cannot be split into areas
- Lack visibility links and resources

CONS -

Facebook group

PROS +

Adds





## What did we talk about?

Conversation Questions: http://iteslj.org/questions/

## Community Facebook

#### English/Italian/French/Spanish as lingua franca

Cultural understanding: step by step

«everyone has a culture everyone is different»

1° week: social and technological familiarization

students' life

#### $2^{\circ}$ .... $10^{\circ}$ weeks:

#### traditions

stereotypes and superstitions differences between cultures: body language, gestures and tips how would you behave if...

polarizing themes: techonology and education, street art and graffiti etc. culture shock and cultural intelligence...

### **One-to-One**

Target language



Each other's families

Hobbies and interests

Personal info

Festivities: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter...

Education systems, graduation parties

News

### Maintain 50% reciprocity



"...learning language is learning culture" Byram



## eTandem aims

### Aims of the project

4 aspects: technological, linguistic, social and cultural

#### **Technological:**

- learn how to use Moodle/Facebook
- learn how to search for info
- responsible use of the net / web reputation= digital tattoing

#### Social:

- learn how to comment, share and interact
- boost integration of International students in the university and city of Padua

#### Linguistic:

- oral and written production in the target language
- oral and written production in English/Italian/French and Spanish

#### **Cultural:**

- knowledge of other's culture and deepening of our own culture
- cultivate curiosity towards the diverse and develop an active listening





## The project isn't officially assessed -----> peer correction

## but...

Curriculum Vitae (online: Linkedin, Google+, Twitter, Facebook etc.) with certificate of participation and badge if :

1 write at least 4 diaries of language and culture;

- 2 contribute to at least 4 discussions either
- in Italian/ English/French and Spanish as lingua franca;
- 3 write a small essay about an intercultural topic;
- 4 fill in our feedback questionnaire

## What's a badge\*:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDmfE0noOJ8

\* It is a validation of accomplishment, skill, quality or interest that can be earned in various learning environments





ROUND	ltalian ss	Inter. ss	Total ss	Dyads	Tools	Lingua franca	Diaries	Cert. and badge
1st 03/2016	41	77*	118	68	Faceboo k and Moodle	ltalian English	54	12
2nd 10/2016	39	46**	85	48	Moodle	Italian English French Spanish	30	5
3rd 03/2017	66	56**	112	69	Faceboo k and Moodle	ltalian English French Spanish	53	7

\*EU countries

\*\* EU countries and Non-EU countries





### **EU** Countries

German Spanish French Slovak English Czech Hungarian Croatian Polish Finnish Slovenian, Bulgarian, Neerlandese, Portoguese

Matching criteria: Area of study Language chosen Gender Chronological order NON EU Countries:

Marocco Brasile **USA** Libia Russia Egitto Canada Colombia India Togo Algeria Bhutan Cina Vietnam Perù Haiti

## eTandem has been awarded the important prize <u>ELL</u>

"The European Language Label (ELL) is an award encouraging new initiatives in the field of teaching and learning languages, the rewarding of new techniques in language teaching, and spreading the knowledge of languages' existence, thereby promoting good practice."



## eTandem

What made our project successful?

## **European criteria**

- originality
- innovation
- possibility of integration
- added value compared to existing projects
- learners motivation
- methodological creativity
- European dimension
- dissemination potential
- possibility to transfer the outcomes to other languages and/or countries.



## eTandem What made our project successful?

**European and national priorities** 

## **European and national priorities**

## The European priorities for the 2016-2017 Label Campaigns are:

1 Multilingual Schools and Classrooms: Embracing Diversity in Schools

2 Language-friendly society – informal language learning.

## **National priorities:**

- 1 languages for inclusion and integration;
- 2 languages for virtual mobility and physical mobility.

topic	likes	language used	total students	Italians	Intern.
Graffiti &art	4	8 English 3 Italian	18	13	5
Stereotypes	6	5 English 13 Italian	18	17	1
Travelling	5	14 English 4 Italian	18	14	4
Reading	4	16 English 2 Italian	18	15	3
Animal experiments	1	6 English 5 Italian	11	9	2
Soft drugs liberalization	2	6 English 0 Italian	6	6	0
Music	1	5 English 1Italian	6	6	0

### COMMENTS





Alberto Thanks a lot for the really useful link. It has been an amazing argument. I think that the sentence with which ends also into the wild is really representative of the beauty of a travel. You could travel on your own but it is important to share your experiences with semeone also. Also in another

beautiful movie( cast away) the protagonist create a new friend:Wilson (a volleyball ball). This is why I have to say thank you to etandem. Because they give us the opportunities to share our experiences and learn a lot from each other.

Non mi piace più · Hispondi · 1 · 4 min



## DIARIES

During this e-tandem I have spent a lot of time texting e-mail and reading some articles, **brushing up**(rispolverare) my english. All of these stuffs were amazing. We **veered off** (virare) the traditional learning methods. Probably our High school teacher will **yelled at** us if she knows this. I've **perused** (guardare con attenzione)my partner e-mails and I've corrected some of her **blemishes** (imperfezioni) and in this way I

ripen (maturare) my skills. I am strugg off my italian accent, and puzzling ove information about my partner. We had never had a skype call. But at t other. We **saw to** a meeting when she

I am writing my second diary nearly after a month because my partner has been very busy during this period. Anyway, I do not want to blame him. In January, we talked three times, texting each other. We discussed about our projects for the future and our ideas. It's hard to imagine our job in 5 years, because now we are totally "devoted" to university. Moreover, we have planned some meetings in Padua, maybe in March when he will be arrived in Italy.

During our discussions, I have learnt the word "term" (period of the school year), the word "hitch-hiking" and some proverbs about traveling.

I really liked the topics proposed on Facebook, especially the one about travel! It was also interesting to see "Il Volo dell' Angelo" from Venice's Carnival, since we are now fully entered in this festivity! In my interventions, most of the times I spoke in English, except for one time when my native language was demanded.

then

It was funny, and it's incredible seeing how time flies, because we are almost at the end of the project! I can state that my English is improving and that the project is efficient.

This week is full of news! My second partner of the project has just arrived in Padua and yesterday we met. We spoke in English, a little bit in Italian, and in Spanish. We have many languages in common and I'm really excited because I will practice Spanish too, I didn't expect it J Talking with her I've learnt how to say "aula studio", the verb "to hike" and I improved my fluency. I get on well with her and I'm satisfied with the project, it's every day better!

The topic of this week was Street Art; I contributed in voting it because I was curious of knowing other people's opinions on it. We discussed

This project has been very interesting for me. I think is an important opportunity to better myself about the languages. My e-tandem partner is Swiss from a German's Canton but she speaks very well English. For this motive I improved two different languages. Also I knew a fantastic girl and I learnt very much from her. She was very patience with me because I had some difficulty with German. It is also important because you can discover a different style of life. The Switzerland is in Europe but I learnt that there are some differences: for example in the University, in the culture and in the way of life. I advise to do this project to everybody. **ESSAYS** 

già fatto un tandem

era come se ci fosse

abbiamo cominciato

quindi c'era anche i anche i malintesi m

addentrata di più ne

che per il mio partn

esercizio per impara

di tandem anche per l'Italia prima dell'er

certe cose attraverse

internazionali insier

propri partner di tar

I am very glad I decided to take part in the E-Tandem project, because it was really stimulating and helped me exercise English and make new friends; however I think that it can be improved in some ways: for example, I believe that the posts on our Facebook page did not work well, as mainly we Italians used to reply and try to start a discussion, whereas international students did not seem very committed to the

Il progetto etandem era una buona esperienza per me. All'inizio non sapevo come funziona e se mi aiuta a migliorare il mio italiano. Era anche per me il primo "tandem" che ho fatto quindi non posso comparare il progetto con un tandem nel mondo "reale" (posso solo confrontare le cose che ho sentito dagli altri che hanno to plan a meeting or a party for all the

nternet.

<u>Al riguardo del progetto E-learning sono davvero contenta di avere avuto questa possibilità di conoscere i miei Tandem- Partner, perché sono dei partner e persone simpaticissimi con icui mi piace scrivere o parlare in una conversazione a Skype. Sono stati dei Partner perfetti che mi hanno dato consigli, mi hanno risposte tutte le mie domande e insicurezze e che mi hanno fatto conoscere la vita a Padova, così al mio arrivo mi sentivo più al mio agio. Sono stati dei ragazzi aperti che scrivevano spesso. Anche adesso che mi trovo già a Padova siamo in contatto e ci vogliamo incontrare più volte per conoscerci personalmente.</u>

Credo che questo programma sia un primo passo per fare delle nuove conoscenze e per non sentirsi tanto soli prima di iniziare un semestre all'estero. In oltre si approfondisce la lingua che si vuole imparare o migliorare. E stato bello parlare l'italiano ma anche l'inglese, perché non lo parlo spesso e così non va dimenticato.

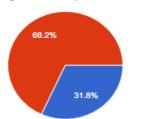
Anche gli argomenti di discussione su Facebook sono ben scelti, perché sono dei temi sui quali possono parlare e riflettere tutti. Non sono argomenti noiosi, al contrario sono degli argomenti che incontriamo ogni giorno ma ai quali non pensiamo spesso, come per esempio l'articolo sui street art e graffiti. Ogni giorno in quasi ogni città in paesi differenti vediamo dei graffiti sui muri delle case, sui treni o su altri oggetti, ma non ci fermiamo a guardarli. Vediamo che ci sono ma niente di più.

O anche il famoso tema sulla sperimentazione animale. Al giorno di oggi troviamo tanta gente che decide di cambiare il suo modo di vivere pe proteggere gli animali da una morte terribile. Diventano vegetariani e non comprano prodotti che sono stati testati sugli animali. Ma spesso senza questi test la medicina o oltre scienze non potessero salvare gli esseri umani. Grazie a questi test, vengono trovati dei modi per salvare malattie incurabili o per fare una operazione complicata.

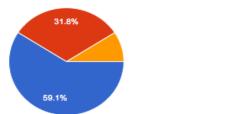
Anche il tema del viaggiare mi ha piaciuto, perché fa parte del ERASMUS. Dunque per concludere voglio dire che sono contenta di avere partecipato ad un semestre a Padova e di avere trovato grazie ad E-Learning Tandem dei partner italiani carini.

### Some students came personally to our office to say we made a very good job

Avresti preferito essere più seguito e avere attività più strutturate?



Come valuteresti questa esperienza complessivamente?



abbastanza utile 7 31.8% poco utile 2 9.1% per niente utile 0 0%

molto utile 13 59.1%

si 7 31.8% no 15 68.2%

 viago
 17
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 muisa
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 ann Valentino
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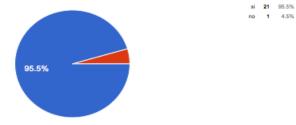
 San Valentino
 3
 2.8%

 tencholgia ed educazione
 5
 2.2%

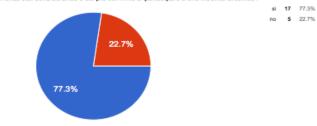
stereotipi, pregiudizi 9 40.9%

reazione a situazioni 3 13.6%

#### Hai intenzione di mantenere i contatti con il tuo partner quando arriverà/arriverai in Italia?



Dopo questa esperienza stai considerando o sei più convinto di partecipare a una mobilità Erasmus?



#### Hai suggerimenti da darci per migliorare il progetto?

Come avevo sorito nella tesina finale, il progetto è ben organizzato. Forse il periodo è un po' critico perchè tutti gli studenti sono occupati con gli esami... allo stesso tempo però, è un periodo perfetto perchè permette di accogliere in tempo gli studenti stranieri.

Dilungare i tempi, coincidevano con il periodo esami ed è stato molto difficile conciliare tutti gli impegni

Forse un' uscita di gruppo tutti insieme al termine del progetto per un aperitivo o per una pizza :)

The set up of the project does not fit to all countries. In Belgium, the second semester starts one month earlier than in italy: like explained before, I was in exam period when it started and i came to italy just after it (half of January). It would be better to start the project at least one month earlier.

less use of facebook please, I couldn't participate in the activities because of that.

Meno argomenti secondo mel

Gli argomenti delle discussioni dovrebbero essere più generali e tranquili perchè ho trovato difficile cercare di spiegare la mia idea in inglese e in poche righe per alcuni di essi

Il progetto funziona, poi entrano in gioco delle variabili soggettive, quale per esempio l'intesa con il proprio partner, difficile da calcolare a priori: bisogna provare

Sarebbe utile avere uno o più referenti esteri, in modo da guidare e coinvolgere più attivamente gli studenti erasmus.

### Students' comments and suggestions from previous etandem projects

".... è stato bellissimo, peccato sia durato poco..."

Rien à redire, c'était génial !"

"....organizzare un progetto simile, se possibile, anche per gli studenti di Padova che hanno vinto una borsa Erasmus e sono in attesa di partire".

"....This is a great project to improve English and to meet students from a different country so I'm very glad to take part of it and I can't wait to see American students in Padova to talk face to face with them".

"...I think I would like to do this project again because it's a good way to practice, meet new people and learn a lot about other cultures".

"...It was a wonderful journey and now I kind of don't want it to finish up. I learned many many interesting new things on the American culture and civilization, ...I am sure we'll become friends in the real life, ...I want to thank her and all the organizers of this project and wish all of you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2013!!!"





-	Dettagli destinatario				
<u>~0</u>	Norme	EL SA DE MARCO			
Simolon	Dettagli di chi rilascia il badge				
	Nome di chi rilassia il badge	Centro Enguistico del Oriversità di Padova			
lownoad	Dettagli badge				
	Norm	#Tandem project 2015-18			
	Descriptione	This codge was associated to muderns who contributed to our effancem project in 2015/1			
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	Criteri Scatiena baine	Git and in support Ladge is invasible direction (UTT) person and Addition 1 along out with the invasion wave any appropriate (UTT) experiments and the additional			
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	Vertilies	Thange I mon structure a web of comparisonments of Comparison and conference source comparison of CPUTE « "Comparison Language and calciume dongs" « "Comparison Language and calciume dongs"			



## Credit value to the project



## Lisa Griggio

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# **Grazie!**

## Edit Rozsavolgyi

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