

MODULE 1

1.2 – NON-FORMAL EDUCATION (PART 2)

Here are the **key-elements** of the video:

Non-formal education means studying in an organised way outside school. For example, this course has a timetable, a programme, a teacher. It is organised, but you do not study in school. This course is an example of non-formal education.

Non-formal education is based on people's **interests** and **needs**. So non-formal education is very **specific**: there are drama courses, writing courses, and much more.

Non-formal education does **NOT teach general subjects** like geography or maths. You study these things at school.

With non-formal education, you study, but you don't go to school. That is why non-formal education is **open** to people old and young, and with very different life experiences.

Non-formal education has **six characteristics**.

1. Non-formal education is **voluntary**: you are not obliged to do this course. You do it because you are interested;
2. Non-formal education is **participative and** oriented to the **learner** (= *student*): it means that non-formal education responds to the **interest of the learners** and **puts the learners at the centre of everything**. This course responds to your interest in foreign language teaching. You, as the learner, are at the centre of the course!
3. Non-formal education uses **non-formal methods**: for example, in this course we use '**learning by doing**' a lot. We do practical activities to learn. We don't read a lot of books!
4. Non-formal education encourages **collaboration** and **learning among peers** (= *people like you*): it means that in this course you will work a lot with your peers and learn from them;
5. Non-formal education does **NOT** give **certificates recognised by the school or university**;
6. The teacher is **NOT** always a **professional**.

The difference between non-formal and other types of education

We have seen the characteristics of non-formal education. But there are **two other types of education**:

1. **Formal education:** means studying at school or university. At the end, you get a recognised certificate, a document like a diploma or a degree. If you attend highschool, you do formal education. If you study medicine at university, you do formal education;
2. **Informal education:** it means learning in everyday life. If you learn to play poker, you do informal education. If your sister teaches you how to cook arancine, you do informal education.