



**Dear colleague,**

Welcome to this on-line course about WebQuests, organised as part of the “Think, Construct and Communicate Comenius 2.1 Project”

As you can imagine, and after reading this document, you must start by downloading the Agenda and the Activities 0 (“Initial Evaluation”) and 1; they are at <http://cfievalladolid2.net/thinkweb>. There you will find all the information you need to complete the course.

Nevertheless, we would like you to read these guidelines:

The course “About WebQuests” has been designed as an on-line training activity using BSCW as the environment where the scheduled tasks have to be carried out. This is the reason why the first four activities (out of the eleven that comprise the whole course) are devoted to the training in the basic skills of BSCW. These activities are needed to proceed to the actual WebQuest course. However, we think this training on BSCW will also be helpful for those of you who may need to use this tool in the future.

Nevertheless, this course is also platform-transparent, so that it can be carried out under any other collaborative-work environment. If you are using WebCT or Php-Collab, for example, you just have to begin the on-line course at Activity V, and adapt the instructions (create folders, enter discussions, etc) to those of the tool you are using.

You have been assigned a tutor who will take care of you along the 30 / 40 hours of the course’s duration. He or she will invite you to start working in his or her electronic workspace, and all the activities in the course will be carried out on this electronic platform. That is, you will contact your tutor (and vice-versa) by e-mail or inside the electronic workspaces you share with him or her.

Along the development of the course you will be asked to fulfil a number of tasks. But since you work in a BSCW environment, you must bear in mind that your tutor will be able to check what you are doing; nevertheless, you will be perfectly aware of it (there are no hidden controls).

Each activity consists of a short initial explanation, a variable number of steps you have to follow, and a task you have to do.

The step-by-step process might seem too simple (and even boring at times!), but it has been carefully planned to help you achieve the goal stated in the task. Therefore, all the steps are compulsory and your tutor will be able to check your progress in the terms we have just mentioned. There is no fixed deadline for each step, but they must be done consecutively.



The completion of each of the tasks (e-mails to your tutor / documents uploaded to your workspace / notes to discussions, etc) will serve as proof of your active involvement in the course. And your tutor will inform you about the deadlines for each of the tasks and for the general course. Refer to him or her if you have doubts about the layout of the course.

This course is being done by 150 teachers all over Europe. All of you are doing the same activities at (almost) the same time, though there are national and local peculiarities. If you have a look at the project's website from time to time, you'll be able to find out who else is doing the same activities as you. You may even want to contact them!

Everyone behind this project has worked hard on it. Nevertheless, we will love to hear your opinions! Contact us (our e-mails are in the webpage as well) whenever you want, and don't forget that you will be eventually asked to evaluate the whole course.

Thank you, and welcome aboard!

### **Acknowledgments**

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The final version of the course has been edited by Víctor R. González (BSCW Project's platform administrator) and Nacho Rodríguez (Project's coordinator), from CFIE Valladolid II, Valladolid, Spain. Javier Sánchez from CFIE Valladolid II, Valladolid, Spain, is in charge of the Project's website.

Thank you all.