

WBL-PRO Professional Peer Network: The team talks with the professionals – Jani Silva Faria from Oporto, Portugal

We are very pleased to present to you today **Jani Silva Faria** from Oporto, Portugal

“I was born in Oporto, on the 12th March, 1977. I have a degree in Communication Design, by ESAD. Since 2002, I have been working as a teacher of Graphic Communication and Photography at Escola Profissional do Infante, in Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal. Since 2011, I am also coordinator of the Technical Photography Course in the same school.”



Please find below what she has shared with the WBL-PRO team:

1. Please share with us what the main advantages with respect to work-based learning are.

The advantages are: contact with the labor market; learning of the tasks inherent to the course, in a real work context; practical application of acquired knowledge. It is intended to enable young people to fully realize the skills developed in the school context and it will be an extension of the training space, creating a dynamic relationship between the school and the business community, in order to facilitate the placement of students in the job market.

2. Please share with us what the main challenges with respect to work-based learning are.

The main challenges are: adaptation to the demands of the labor market (schedules, communication and interaction with other employees and posture); autonomy.

3. Please describe any solutions with respect to challenges and/or weaknesses related to work-based learning.

The solutions are: preparation and simulation in the classroom and in practical activities of the school community and in study visits.

4. Please share what the most important knowledge, skills and competences for the work-based learning professional are according to you. What kind of trainings are necessary to acquire them?

Professionals involved in the development and implementation of the work-based learning must have the knowledge, skills and competences that enable them to plan the training, guide and support the students throughout the process, by promoting the development of competencies, and ensuring that all the proposed objectives are achieved; sense of functional interdependence of the different areas and departments in the company; teamwork and coordination with other training professionals; sense of initiative to research and select appropriate information; responsibility for achieving the objectives of work-based learning activities; accuracy and accuracy in the preparation of documents; promote and raise awareness about the learning culture at the internship site; methodological strategies and tools to achieve success in work-based learning activities; professional qualification: concept of qualification, training in the workplace and its relationship with qualification; the learning process in the workplace: individualization and self-training; development of learning tasks based on learning objectives; dealing with motivation, conflict and communication; responsible use of facilities, equipment and materials in accordance with established economy, efficiency and safety instructions and criteria.

5. Please share information about work-based learning projects you are involved in – the name, the funding program, the main aims, the target groups, the intellectual outputs, link to website, facebook group, etc.

The work-based learning implementation is compulsory for students in the 3rd year of the course, for a total of 600 hours. The students are placed in companies of the area of the course that attend a curricular internship, for young adolescents to attend the professional courses, level 4, available at the school, which can be consulted at www.epinfante.pt, as well as all the professional exits inherent to each course.

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Please feel most welcome to like our facebook page and join the linkedin group to get acquainted with many best practices and other useful materials, tools and resources supporting the high quality performance of work-based professionals around Europe and beyond its borders!

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Project no. 2016-1-DE02-KA202-003339

This Project has been funded with support from the European Commission. The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.