Thanks to the Erasmus + Program, we were able to take part in the Methodology in Practice course for teachers of English as a foreign language. The classes were held in Richard Language College in Bournemouth, in September 2015. We participated in the lessons where we could enhance our knowledge about the most important methods of teaching English. The topics discussed in the classroom ranged from modern language, slang, the influence of technology and interactive whiteboards to teaching mixed ability groups and classroom management. The teachers were professional, helpful and willing to share their experience about various practical teaching techniques. We also had a chance to practise our language skills both at school and after classes by exploring the native speaking environment.

During our stay we were offered to take part in numerous extra-curricular activities, like language workshops or sightseeing trips. We managed to see several places famous for their history, culture and natural beauty. For example, we visited and experienced the unique atmosphere of Bath, Stratford Upon Avon and Stonehenge.

The two weeks we spent in Bournemouth were extremely useful for raising our teaching competence and cultural awareness as foreign language teachers. Back in Poland, we shared our newly acquired knowledge with the teachers who were not lucky enough to participate in the project. We introduced new teaching materials into the classroom, making our lessons more attractive to our students. In the future, we hope to take part in a similar European project as we find it one of the most effective forms of teacher training.

Ewa Białek

Monika Hutna - Szukalska