Online training programme

Chatbot developer
for higher education

User Guide

www.hybot.eu

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Who developed the training programme?

The online training programme CHATBOT DEVELOPER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION is a unique educational product that was developed by the transnational team of the Erasmus+ project Enhancing Hybrid teaching in higher education through chatbots (short, HYBOT). The HYBOT team is composed of passionate teachers and researchers, creative instructional designers and talented ICT experts coming from Estonia (Tallinn University), France (Université Côte d'Azur), Germany (Fachhochschule des Mittelstands), Lithuania (Kaunas University of Technology), and Portugal (Universidade Aberta). HYBOT's goal is to promote the use of chatbots by teachers and students at higher education institutions to support, in particular, hybrid teaching settings. HYBOT wants to enable educators to become chatbot developers!

Why do I need to employ chatbots in education?

Artificial Intelligence has become a part of our lives and education. Meanwhile, enthusiastic researchers and educators are investigating how they can use conversational chatbots for educational purposes as tools to harvest feedback, answer FAQs, or support interaction. It's wise to understand how this technology works to keep pace with the recent developments, to effectively engage students with your lessons, and to upgrade your professional career.

What will I learn in the training programme?

The programme will empower you to understand, design and develop chatbots, enabling you to leverage their potential within the framework of hybrid teaching and learning. Together with a transnational community of educators, you will explore the fascinating world of chatbots and how they can revolutionise student engagement in higher education.

How is the training programme structured?

The training programme is composed of 3 stand-alone courses. The production of each course was led by a designated HYBOT partner. The courses deal with the following topics:
- **Course 1 – Mastering Hybrid Teaching (Tallinn University):** Discover the principles and benefits of hybrid teaching and how chatbots can complement this approach in higher education settings.
- **Course 2 – Understanding Chatbots (Kaunas University of Technology):** Unravel the fundamentals of chatbots, explore their functionalities, and delve into real-world examples of successful chatbot applications in education.
- **Course 3 – Chatbot Building and Implementation (Universidade Aberta, Université Côte d'Azur, Fachhochschule des Mittelstands):** Familiarise yourself with the chatbot development tool melibo, apply your newfound knowledge by creating your first chatbot, and learn how to assess the effectiveness and quality of your chatbots.

You can choose to attend the full programme or the course(s), which best suit your preferences.

NOTE: Course 3 Chatbot Building and Implementation is the heart of the training programme. If you are interested in becoming a Chatbot Developer, we clearly recommend completing this course.

What am I expected to perform under the course Chatbot Building and Implementation?

The course is designed in a very practically-oriented manner, empowering you to design and build your own chatbot using the tool melibo. Your assessment task will be to develop a small-scale chatbot, which will be supposed to enhance a hybrid teaching scenario to be designed by you, as well.

If you are a passionate educator looking for innovative learning and teaching concepts, you will be invited to master a challenge! You will be expected to implement your chatbot-based hybrid teaching scenario with real students at your home institution.

Could you provide more information about the challenge?

The challenge is considered a demonstration of your pedagogic and digital skills. You will be invited to:
·   design a hybrid teaching scenario for a subject you teach,
·   conceptualise a chatbot, which will fit your hybrid teaching scenario,
·   develop a chatbot using melibo,
·   deliver your chatbot-based hybrid lesson to students,
·   reflect upon your experience in a case study.

Your efforts will be rewarded! We have envisaged a few incentives for teachers who will dare to take up that pedagogical experiment in real conditions. Reach out to contact persons at your home institution (see the contacts at the end of this User Guide) and receive more information about rewards!

What is the workload of the training programme/courses?

The estimated workload, or the time you will need to invest into the entire training programme, is 130 hours, or 5 ECTS. The workload under the stand-alone courses is estimated as follows:
·   Course 1: 1 ECTS
·   Course 2: 1 ECTS
·   Course 3: 3 ECTS.

How will the training programme be organised and delivered?

The training programme will be organised as an online guided self-study and be delivered via the Moodle platform of Universidade Aberta. You will be able to access all asynchronous course materials, such as short learning videos, supporting downloadable texts, additional readings, practical tasks at any time convenient to you (within the pre-defined course schedule).

In addition, the programme facilitators from HYBOT partnership will conduct several webinars. At least one synchronous session of approximately 1 hour in each course will be offered. These synchronous sessions are not mandatory but highly advisable to support understanding and interaction.

The webinar schedule will be shared with you prior to the beginning of the training programme.

Last but not least: regular supporting webinars will be offered by the chatbot builder **melibo** giving you a chance to directly receive technical support and consultations from the tool developers.

What is the language of the training course?

The asynchronous learning content as well as synchronous online sessions will be offered in **English**. Communication with local facilitators from your institutions will happen in your local language.
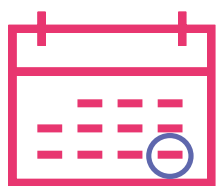
How will the training course be scheduled?

The pilot edition of the training programme will start on February 5th, 2024, and end on June 9th, 2024. Check out the suggested course schedule below:

Course	Duration
Course 1	Feb 5 – March 10 (including assessment)
Course 2	Feb 5 – March 10 (including assessment)
NOTE: Course 1 and course 2 will run simultaneously!	
Course 3	March 11 – June 9
Case studies under course 3	June 10 – June 24

You are free to define your own learning pace by considering the overall course duration.

The training will start with the transnational virtual kickoff meeting giving participants the opportunity to get acquainted with the course instructors, peers, and course features.

SAVE THE DATE OF THE KICKOFF:

When: Monday, January 22, 2024
Time: 14:00 CEWT (check your time zone when joining us!)
Virtual room: we will send the Zoom link to the registered training participants.

How will the learning achievements be assessed?

The training programme is considered a formal learning offering and envisages a summative assessment as follows:
- **Course 1:** You have to create a hybrid teaching scenario.
- **Course 2:** You have to perform a Moodle-based quiz.
- **Course 3:** You have to create a hybrid teaching scenario, develop and implement a pilot chatbot, which supports the teaching scenario, and create a case study dedicated to the reflection of the implemented chatbot.

To whom is the course directed?

The HYBOT training course targets educators of any teaching subject from the higher education sector who work in face-to-face, online/blended or distance learning environments, and wish to upgrade their qualification related to the design, development and utilisation of chatbots in different learning settings.

Furthermore, instructional designers and persons engaged with providing pedagogic support to educators are invited to benefit from the training programme.

What are the prerequisites for course participants?

- Teaching and/or facilitator experience
- Good English skills in reading and listening
- Openness to innovate one's teaching practices
- Available time and ability to learn autonomously.

What is the tuition fee?

The pilot edition of the training programme is completely free of charge.

How will the training outcomes be recognised?

Upon successful completion of the entire training programme and the existing assessment tasks, you will receive a micro-credential issued by the Universidade Aberta with 5 ECTS. This micro-credential will certify that you acquired the specific learning outcomes and received a qualification CHATBOT DEVELOPER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

Additionally, you might receive individual micro-credentials for completing each stand-alone course from the Universidade Aberta.

How to register for the training programme?

First, please fill in the short Google online form until January 8, 2024.

Go to the registration

Our team will process your registration and inform you about the selection results by January 15 at the latest.

Should you be selected, our team will send you the access data to the LMS Moodle and provide you with further technical and administrative support.

Whom can I contact to receive further information about the training programme?

- Contact in ESTONIA: Sirje Virkus - sirje.virkus@tlu.ee

- Contact in FRANCE: Jonathan Reyes - Jonathan.REYES-MARIMON@univ-cotedazur.fr

- Contact in GERMANY: Jochen Dickel – jochen.dickel@fh-mittelstand.de

- Contact in LITHUANIA: Daina Gudoniene - daina.gudoniene@ktu.lt

- Contact in PORTUGAL: Isabel Huet Isabel.huet@uab.pt

HYBOT training programme at a glance:

- 3 stand-alone courses
- Duration: February 5th – June 9th, 2024
- Blended Learning approach
- Language: English
- Free of charge
- Micro-credentials issued by Universidade Aberta

Looking forward to receiving your registrations!

Your HYBOT team