

Languages@Warwick Open Badges announcement: October 2014.

This year we are implementing Open Badging in the EWC course.

You can read more about the Open Badges project here:

<http://openbadges.org/>

The EWC course is part of a project known as **Clavier**. The course area connects about 900 students who are learning English or French and also includes teacher trainees within Languages@Warwick. The project is now in its 4th year and you can find out more about it through the [unicollaboration website](#). It merges boundaries between the formal classroom and informal learning, prioritising lifelong learning. Hashtags are used to share community interaction through informal networks (eg. #clavier #clerwar, #warcler).

This is a virtual exchange and engagement in this sort of activity will help students explore computer-mediated communication as well as intercultural exchange. This activity encourages participants to:

- reflect critically on how they present themselves to a specific audience online
- build digital resilience in order to manage online interaction with others
- acquire new digital skills and greater awareness of the affordances of digital tools
- analyse intercultural interactions and build relationships

The set of badges we are implementing in the EWC course recognise micro-skills which contribute to this transformative activity. They are designed to recognise the many challenges, both technical and personal, involved in achieving successful interaction.

Five electronic badges are available. Each carries with it digital information about the criteria for award. Once awarded, learners can display their badges within the Languages@Warwick course and they can also export their badges for display on a [personal Mozilla backpack](#). The badges have no expiry date. They can be used in Mahara pages as part of the reflective e-portfolio used for assessment in some courses as recognition of skills acquisition, virtual mobility and employability as global graduates.