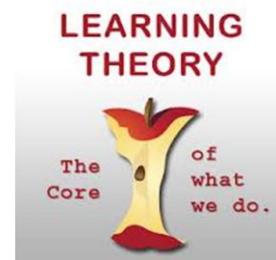## Module Title: Learning Theories (5 ECTS)

Module Code: LTTC 9132 / 5802

Aim: This module will explore learning theories in higher education, including the pedagogy of eLearning to assure the quality of learning in a local and global context. The module will apply understanding of relevant learning theory which is most compelling for the target audience of the participant. Exploration of the theories of learning, and the principles derived from them, will be from the perspective that some are more compatible than others.

What will I learn?
Upon successful completion of this module, participants should be able to:
- Identify learning theories in a higher education or industry context
- Compare and contrast the key characteristics of these learning theories
- Critically discuss and evaluate these theories in the light of participant's own professional practice
- Demonstrate how a chosen aspect of theory works in practice
- Analyse how practical examples of relevant learning theory and related strategies can be applied to a particular learning or eLearning context.

Topics include:
- Developmental theories of learning
- Behaviourist theories of learning
- Cognitive theories of learning
- Constructivist and Social Constructivist theories of learning
- Situated Learning and Communities of Practice

eLearning Context:

eLearning within the local, national and global context, the concept of 'the knowledge society' and a global economy; Gagne's Conditions of Learning Theory; Situated learning (Communities of Practice); Activity Theory.

How will I learn?
Blended learning will be used: there will be a number of scheduled face-to-face tutorial sessions along with online discussions. The online component of the module offered through Webcourses will be available anywhere, anytime, so participants will be able to study at times convenient to them. The active experience of eLearning remains a crucial part of the teaching and learning methods. Therefore, the students will develop their understanding through both direct study and their online experience.

When?
Tuesday mornings 10am-1pm e.g. September 16th to October 14th 2014

How will I be assessed?
Assignment: Individual Applied Paper or Blog based on critically discussing and evaluating relevant learning theories n the light of the participant's own professional practice (word guide: 1,500-2,000).

Are there any pre-requisites? No specific pre-requisites but an interest in exploring learning theories to support your practice.

How do I apply? Complete the application form available online from the LTTC website:
http://www.dit.ie/lttc/programmes/shortcoursescpd/