

**Institut Obert de Catalunya (IOC)**  
*Open Institute of Catalonia*



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**Demo Abstract:**

*IOC: an Experience in Changing Roles of Teachers and Students*

The *Institut Obert de Catalunya (IOC)*, the Catalan Ministry of Education's open learning institute, has over twenty thousand students registered in courses ranging from secondary studies for adult learners, baccalaureate courses, vocational training studies and English language courses.

The IOC (Open institute of Catalonia) bases its learning and teaching processes on an educational model which has, at its core, a tutoring system based on interaction and cooperative activities aimed at promoting skills and competences.

The IOC teachers have expanded their purely teaching role into that of activators and facilitators throughout the learning process of the students. The students themselves have acquired the necessary skills to allow them to take charge of their own learning process.

We firmly believe the IOC experience leads to creating a cooperative learning community and makes long life learning possible.

The vocational training course in young learner's education has a yearly intake of almost two thousand students and has become an especially relevant learning experience within the UNESCO Chair seminar context. This course aims at creating future nursery and young learners' teachers who will be responsible for the education of children under six. The programme is carried out in an environment which stimulates learning and offers the trainees both the opportunity to pose to new questions and face new challenges which will ultimately show in the autonomous development their pupils will acquire.