



SUCCESS STORY



EMANUIL GOJDU NATIONAL COLLEGE

Location:

Oradea, Romania

Program Enrollment:

200 students per year

Success Metrics:

- Foundation-level digital literacy certification
- Preparation for university and beyond
- Officially recognised by Ministry of Education



Romanian High School Verifies Student Technology Skills with IC3 Digital Literacy Certification

Students Take Exam in Grade 12 as Requirement for Graduation

CHALLENGE

Emanuil Gojdu High School was established in 1919 and is located in Northwest Romania in the town of Oradea. The school has 850 students in grades 9 through 12, with most graduates going on to university.

Like other high schools in Romania, students at Emanuil Gojdu are required to take a Digital Competence examination at the end of grade 12 as part of the National Bacalaureate. Students pass the exam at basic, intermediate or advanced levels.

In 2013 the Romania Ministry of Education recognised Certiport's IC3 Digital Literacy certification as being equivalent to passing the Digital Competence Bacalaureate exam at an advanced level. Students who earn IC3 certification are therefore exempt from taking the Bacalaureate exam.

Emanuil Gojdu is recognised as being one of the best in the region and regularly sends students to national

competitions in programming and information technology including the use of desktop applications. However, since only a few students get to compete, the school was looking for something that would provide the vast majority of students with verification of those skills. "We have good students at Emanuil Gojdu who have good IT skills but do not go to the national competitions," said School Director Liana Bako. "We wanted them to be able to demonstrate the skills they possess with some sort of external validation."

SOLUTION

Emanuil Gojdu searched for a globally recognised, foundational level digital literacy certification. "We wanted a certification that was known worldwide, but we needed a testing system that offered maximum flexibility and minimal bureaucracy," said Bako.

Information Technology and Computer Science teacher Adrian Nita became aware of the newly introduced IC3

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School Director
Emanuil Gojdu High School

certification through Certipro, Certiport’s partner in Romania. “IC3 met the school’s requirements perfectly,” said Nita. “And the fact that IC3 is officially recognised by the Ministry of Education as equivalent to the digital competence examination was a major added bonus.”

Emanuil Gojdu recognised that IC3 was wider in scope than the Baccalaureate exam, but required little additional teaching. Despite the fact that IC3 was not available in Romanian at the time, the school decided to offer it to students on a voluntary basis.

With support from Certipro, Nita established a Certiport Authorised Testing Centre at Emanuil Gojdu. “It was surprisingly easy and straightforward, the online registration process took only about half an hour,” commented Nita.

Just a few months later IC3 became available in Romanian, but a majority of students take the exams in English. Students have a retake option if they do not pass on the first attempt.

RESULTS

In just over a year, more than 200 IC3 certifications have been awarded at Emanuil Gojdu. “We are proud of our pass rate – this is a serious certification and not for the faint-hearted,” says Nita.

The school management team is impressed with how easy the IC3 program is to manage, with a minimum of bureaucracy and paperwork. Students who wish to participate simply have to create a Certiport ID, study, and sit for the exams when they feel ready. There is no log book, no registration fee and the school is not required to register

students. They also appreciate the flexibility and 24/7 availability of the exam system. Bako explains, “We can schedule exams any time of the day or night, seven days a week. In reality most of our exam sessions take place on Saturdays. As long as we have an internet connection, we can run exams.”

When students earn their IC3 certification Certiport sends them, free of charge, a hard copy certificate printed on high quality paper. “I was thrilled when an envelope from the USA arrived for me,” said Eric Dumea, a student who recently passed the final exam. “Inside was my original IC3 certificate that included a silver hologram.”

Another advantage of IC3 certification is that Emanuil Gojdu students who pass are not required to sit for the Baccalaureate Digital Competence examination. “The final months of Grade 12 are always a period of huge pressure for students as they take the Baccalaureate exams,” says Bako. “Knowing that they’ve already passed the exam at the advanced level increases the students’ confidence and allows them to focus on their other examinations.”

Emanuil Gojdu plans to increase the number of students taking IC3 in the coming academic year. “Our experience over the first six months of the program has been very positive,” said Nita.

Learn more about IC3 Certification.
Visit www.certiport.com/IC3
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