

University of Urbino
Press Release
September 20, 2007

**Applied CS students will learn English thanks to an “online reality show”
based on the spontaneous blog of a third-year student
starting an internship in the US.**

Bob, this is the student’s nickname, started his blog [<http://bob2usa.wordpress.com/>] few months ago to document the work-study experience that he was going to start at an IT company located in the city of Madison, Wisconsin, in the USA. He decided to write down his online diary in English to start practicing the language again, since his mother is Canadian but he grew up in Italy.

When Prof. Alessandro Bogliolo happened to see Bob’s blog, he saw the appeal for computer science students to be able to read about the American experiences of one of their own course colleagues and he immediately wrote to ask him to use the blog in the web-based scientific English course the CLIL-CS team was starting to prepare. English and computer science would come together quite naturally in this way.

Bob found the idea interesting and fun, accepted the proposal of allowing his blog act as a sort of ‘written reality show’ for his fellow CS students, and begun to jokingly refer to Prof. Bogliolo as ‘The Big Brother’ (*Il Grande Fratello*).

That is the story behind this fresh approach to your online English course; the members of the CLIL English team have found themselves rather inspired by the idea of designing language lessons around a blog kept by a computer science student. “We are hopeful – says Prof. Flora Sisti - that the synergy emerging from this experiment will positively influence everyone: you as English learners and the CS instructors too, as much as we CLIL members are being challenged.”

<http://e-learning.sti.uniurb.it/>
<http://e-learning.sti.uniurb.it/clil/>
<http://bob2usa.wordpress.com/>