Professional development courses

Specially aimed to school education staff: school managers, directors, teachers and administrative staff.

In collaboration with a team of experienced Italian teachers and Education professionals, CULTURA E DINTORNI is able to provide structured courses for school education staff, providing a well-balanced ratio of theoretical lessons combined with visits to education centres with the possibility of meeting and exchanging impressions and best practices with other colleagues.

Our courses have generally a duration of 1 week and always foreseen moments of socialisation, culture, as well as cultural visit of the city.

These courses can be funded by Erasmus+ programme under KA1 School Education Staff and KA1 Adults Education Staff that foreseen till 2 weeks of course providing funds for course fees, travel and accommodation.

All our courses are customizable for groups: duration, dates and topics can be agreed according to your needs.

Each course includes:

- Preparation for the course
- Tuition
- Training materials
- Administration costs
- Organizational costs
- Certification

Course fee: 350,00 € (5 days)
Minimum 6/7 participants.

If you are looking for a course that is not on the list, contact us! We will be happy to create a personalized course based on your needs.

Check our catalogue of courses below!

1. Coaching in educational contexts to reduce early school leaving

Reducing Early School Leaving is one of the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategic framework for Education and Training and of Erasmus +. An important element will be understanding the relationship between stress and physical and mental health, exploring the health issues predominant within the teaching

profession. Aggressive behaviour and bullying inside and outside the classroom will also be looked in depth. Participants will learn how to manage and reduce stress levels thereby improving not only their overall health but also their day to day interaction with students and colleagues by applying Energy Psychology Techniques in order to reduce early school leaving.

Objectives

- Solve and reduce stress levels and develop the necessary abilities to manage emotions.
- Create strategies on how to deal with and eliminate violent or aggressive behaviour.
- Understand the causes of physical and mental health issues within the teaching profession.
- Improve interpersonal relationships within the education environment.
- Identify limiting and negative beliefs and transform them into positive and supporting ones
- Analyze bullying, aggressive behaviour and violence, both physical and verbal.
- Overcome anxiety within the classroom
- Learn a variety of tools and resources to apply in the classroom to create well-being
- Reduce early school leaving

Target group
The structured course is addressed to primary and secondary school teachers, VET teachers, youth and social workers, professionals of non profit associations and foundations, managers and employees of enterprises, officers working in public bodies.

Language of course
This course can be provided in English and Italian.

Methodology
The methodology is mainly based on informal and non formal education methods and has a very participatory approach. Clarification and analysis of main concepts will be carried out through video and graphic presentations, debates and sharing of knowledge and personal experiences. Participants will be also experiencing themselves and trying out some methodologies, by working in small groups.

Programme
Day 1
Arrival
- Welcome Meeting: Registration and Hand-out of Material; Course Overview; Ice breaking
- Martina Franca tour

Day 2

The European Union on Early School Leaving (ESL)
- Early School Leaving as a European Priority
- What early school leavers are
- European Policies, Measures and School Plans to tackle early school leaving
- Practical Workshop on Early School Leaving (ESL)

Day 3

Analysis of illnesses predominant amongst teaching professionals
- Stress in Teaching: Understanding how stress and emotions affect our physical and mental health
- Physiology of stress
- Effects of reducing Stress
- Body and Mind. Teacher Well-being
- The Power of Positive Thinking: Five Magical Benefits

Day 4

Ideas for different problems
- Physical ailments and illnesses can be related to emotional causes
- Practical exercise in pairs
- Workshop on physical issues

Day 5: How can EFT be helpful in schools so as to reduce Early School Leaving
- Tapping script for students
- Let's go tapping for students
- Strategies for everyday use
- Open discussion to clarify doubts, answer queries and assist participants
- Evaluation
- Certificates

2. Introduction to Intercultural Education

Objectives

The aims of the course are:

- Analysing the complexity of our contemporary society in terms of cultural diversity, its challenges and opportunities
- Fostering mutual understanding, dialogue and respect between people from different cultural backgrounds, in educational, working and social environments.
- Providing and sharing knowledge about the different socio-political models that State adopt to manage cultural diversity, their aspects and shortcomings.
- Exploring basic concepts like cultural identity, stereotypes and prejudices.
- Promoting intercultural education as a strategy to face discrimination and xenophobia.
- Providing and sharing intercultural education theoretical basis and practical tools.
- Trying out non formal education methodologies and their implementation in intercultural education.
- Providing practical tips of designing and implementing intercultural education sessions for students, users and workers.
- Visit to local best practice. Promoting debate and sharing of ideas and experiences.

Target group

The structured course is addressed to primary and secondary school teachers, VET teachers, youth and social workers, professionals of non profit associations and foundations, managers and employees of enterprises, officers working in public bodies.

Language of course

This course can be provided in English, Italian and Spanish.

Methodology

The methodology is mainly based on informal and non formal education methods and has a very participatory approach. Clarification and analysis of main concepts will be carried out through video and graphic presentations, debates and sharing of knowledge and personal experiences. Participants will be also experiencing themselves and trying out some methodologies, by working in small groups.

Programme

Day 1
Cultural diversity in contemporary societies

- Presentation of the participants and sharing of motivations and expectations.
- Cultural diversity in contemporary societies: migration and globalization
- Overview of migrations' processes and history: Why people emigrate(ed)?
- Main socio-political models of cultural diversity management: characteristics and shortcomings

Day 2
The "Other": from fear to hate
- Why intercultural education? History, objectives and best practices
- Cultural identity: Stereotypes, prejudice and the perception of the "Other"
- From fear to hate: xenophobia and hate speech
- Study cases of exclusion and discrimination in educational and working environment

Day 3
Intercultural competences
- What are the intercultural competences?
- Intercultural communication: active listening, verbal and non verbal communication
- Developing empathy

Day 4
Try- outs of methodologies
- Promoting interculturality through non formal education
- Overview of non formal methods: role-playing, story telling, social theatre, etc.
- Tips on how to design intercultural education sessions for students and workers

Day 5
Visit to local best practice
- Visit Centre for Support to Immigration in Martina Franca and
presentation of the main programmes on intercultural education or similar organisation.
- Debate and sharing experience with local experts
- Evaluation and certification

3. Planning and Management of Erasmus Plus Project.

Objectives

The main objective of the Course is to provide participants with the core skills to plan, manage and implement Erasmus Plus projects.

Our main goal is to provide participants with specific knowledge and practical capacity in order to launch and implement new projects and become a true project manager.

We want to share all our experience with talented people willing to become project managers of their schools, associations, Universities or also freelance for different organizations.

The main objectives of the training course are:
- Explore all the Erasmus+ programme opportunities;
- Create the role of "project manager and coordinator" within each organization, who will have a complete overview of the programme and of the opportunities to promote, and going to know how to do it;
- Provide participants with an opportunity to develop and boost their career;
- Develop effective project ideas for European cooperation among schools, universities, associations but also Public Institutions;
- Deepen knowledge regarding financial and administrative aspects of EU projects;
- Build project activities and relations with the partnership and with the National Agencies;
- Develop dissemination plans and promote communication activities over EU projects;
- Monitor and evaluate the project, produce correct project reports and carry out an effective and efficient financial management of your project;
- Organize the project materials for eventual controls and/or external audits and learn the tricks of reporting the project expenses.

Target groups
The Erasmus Plus Project Course is addressed to four main target groups:
- ✓ Schools: from headmasters, administrative staff and school inspectors to school teachers, VET teachers and VET trainers;
- ✓ Universities: from staff to professor;
- ✓ Students and youth: from those attending university, including PhDs, to those looking for a job. For the most talented students we also foresee the possibility to work in one of the two associations on launching new projects;
- ✓ Associations: whatever is the action field of the Association, they can be very interested in joining Erasmus Plus projects.

All these target groups can benefit from Erasmus Plus and can plan different activities within the Erasmus Plus programme, many more than expected and generally known.

Language of the course
English

4. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and social media for teaching and learning

Objectives

The course has been created for teachers who wish to learn more about the use of information and communication technology in their classrooms.

Participants will get involved in small practical group tasks exemplifying how to incorporate technology into their lessons in order to be more effective and enjoyable. Emphasis will be placed on the most popular social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), as well as on modern platforms such as Vine, Youtube, Prezi, Google apps. Edmodo, Moodle and others. Teachers will also learn about safe use of social media, student versus teacher roles and digital classroom management.

Social media and web platforms support networking and offers Web 2.0 tools that enable users to share their work, form groups, use free up-to-date resources and apps, cooperate and interact, which enhances students (and teachers)' engagement and satisfaction in learning and teaching.

Target Group

- Teachers (primary, secondary, vocational, adult, special needs);

- Teacher trainers; Careers officers,

- Headteachers; principals; managers of schools;

Language of the course
English

5. Educative Robotics and Coding With Arduino

Objectives

- Provide teachers with practical ideas on how they can incorporate technology into their lessons;
- Promote basic training on topics such as controls, automatisms, robots and programmable machines;
- Familiarize teachers with current use of robotics and coding in nowadays education trends;
- Providing innovative ways of teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) using problem solving, object analysis, use of scales…
- Promote new digital competences among teachers;
- Developing actively and constructively students' involvement in the work at class using coding and robotics;
- Enlarge teachers technic vocabulary and familiarize them with different programming languages;
- Exchanging experiences in cooperative and collaborative learning process as long as in creativity and innovation;
- Sharing of good practice in teaching and learning, using coding and robotics, enabling teachers to become confident and competent enough to create an interactive classroom experience for their students.

Target Group

The training course is addressed to primary and secondary school teachers, school directors and IT coordinators and all teaching staff in general who wish to acquire the needed skills for applying coding and robotics with educational purposes.

Language of course

This course can be provided in English.

Methodology

The approach used is highly practical, based on the expertise of the course trainers who have different years experience. Practical simulations will be carried out for each topic.

The objective of the practical activities is the simulation of the use of robots and coding during lessons.

Programme

Day 1 – 4 hours

Introduction to Robots, automatic and control systems and programming languages

- Introduction and evolution of automatic systems
- Basic elements of control systems. Methods and examples
- Robot architecture: Main parts. Sensors and Actuators
- Flux diagrams. Introduction to coding. Practical exercises: mobile coding
- Practical use of automatic systems, sensors, controllers and actuators.
- Feedback concept
- Use of computer as element for coding and control. Control languages
- Design and construction of automatic systems and development of control programs.

Day 2 – 4 hours

Using BitBloq for coding Arduino microcontrollers I

- Introduction to coding with Bitbloq
- Use of sensors with Bitbloq: lights, infrared, ultrasound, joystick…
- Use of peripheral devices in Bitbloq: LEDs, LCD screens, buzzers…

Day 3 – 4 hours

Using BitBloq for coding Arduino microcontrollers II

- Variables and functions in Bitbloq
- Programming conditioning sentences and loops
- Programming communication for serial ports

Day 4 – 4 hours

Domotic applications and inventions. Robotics applications

- The alarm clock / the telegraph / the traffic light / presence detector /musical instrument / target shooting…
- Creating a printable robot / Robot that hide from lights / Robots that follow lines…

Day 5 – 4 hours

Professional visit

- Evaluation and certification.