

CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION (RELATING PAST TO PRESENT THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING, STUDY VISITS AND SIMULATIONS) - 10 DAYS COURSE

Introduction & Description

This comprehensive 10-day teacher training course explores cultural heritage as a dynamic, multidimensional resource for learning, identity formation and intercultural dialogue. Through a combination of theoretical inputs, experiential workshops, field trips, study visits, inquiry-based learning and participatory simulations, the course examines how tangible and intangible heritage express and transmit values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions across generations. Participants will engage with cultural sites, artefacts, narratives and living traditions to understand how heritage functions not only as the legacy of the past but also as a lens through which individuals and communities make sense of the present and envision the future.

The programme emphasises active, hands-on methodologies that support learners in constructing knowledge through observation, reflection, interpretation and creative expression. Participants will explore object-based learning, embodied and sensory approaches, digital media production, and educational simulations as strategies for connecting students with heritage in authentic and meaningful ways. Special attention is given to inquiry-based learning, promoting critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration and civic engagement in heritage-related contexts.

Throughout the course, participants will design, implement and present small-scale heritage learning projects that integrate fieldwork, storytelling and digital production. Individual support sessions and reflective activities reinforce the development of pedagogical competence and confidence. By the end of the programme, participants will be able to incorporate cultural heritage education into diverse curricula and learning environments, fostering intercultural sensitivity, historical awareness and inclusive participation in their own educational settings.

Methodology and Assessment

The course uses an experiential, inquiry-based methodology supported by structured study visits. Participants engage directly with cultural heritage through guided fieldwork, using observation grids, sensory mapping, interviews and photographic documentation to explore how values, beliefs and traditions are expressed in tangible and intangible heritage. Classroom sessions with object-based learning, short simulations and digital media production deepen interpretation and support creative, student-centred applications. Learning is collaborative and reflective throughout. Assessment is continuous and formative, based on participation in fieldwork and group activities, completion of

documentation tasks, a small heritage project presented on the final day, and brief reflective entries demonstrating learning and plans for classroom use.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

Understanding Cultural Heritage

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the concepts of cultural heritage, cultural identity, and cultural memory, and distinguish between tangible, intangible, natural and digital heritage.
- Analyse how values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions are embedded in cultural heritage and transmitted across time.

Pedagogical Application

- Apply experiential, inquiry-based and object-based learning approaches to the exploration of cultural heritage in school contexts.
- Design culturally responsive learning activities that use heritage to promote critical thinking, creativity, empathy, intercultural communication and personal growth.
- Implement simulations, role-play and other embodied learning strategies in a pedagogically sound and culturally sensitive manner.

Fieldwork & Interpretation

- Conduct structured field observations at cultural heritage sites using professional documentation and interpretation tools.
- Critically evaluate cultural sites and traditions as educational resources, considering historical, sociocultural and ethical dimensions.
- Integrate insights from field visits and study trips into coherent lesson plans, interdisciplinary modules or school-based projects.

Media & Digital Competence

- Plan and produce educational media outputs (photo stories, short videos, audio narratives, digital cultural maps) that communicate heritage significance clearly and ethically.
- Use digital tools to support documentation, analysis, storytelling and presentation of cultural heritage.

Project Development & Reflection

- Develop and present a small-scale cultural heritage learning project, grounded in inquiry-based methodology and aligned with curriculum needs.
- Engage in reflective practice to analyse personal learning, consider cultural biases, and evaluate the impact of heritage education on learners.
- Demonstrate increased confidence and autonomy in facilitating cultural heritage learning in diverse formal and non-formal educational settings.

Preparation

After registration participants will receive pre-course questionnaire which will be used by the trainer to learn about participants' teaching backgrounds and to assess their exact needs. Before the beginning of the course a basic reading list will be suggested to participants to prepare for the training. Participants will also be asked to prepare a presentation about themselves, their professional context and their culture. The presentation will be presented on the first day of the course to facilitate networking opportunities. Participants will receive information about the country they are going to visit in order to prepare them for their cultural experience.

Follow up

After the course participants will be asked to share what they have learned with the rest of the staff in their schools. Further books and articles to deepen the topic and contacts with some other practitioners all over Europe and in the world will be suggested by the trainer. The methods shared and explored and the bibliography given will allow the participants to complete and improve their educational path.

Certificate

Certificate complies with the guidelines of the Erasmus+ programme and includes the topic, number of didactic hours, dates and location of the course. We can list the record of learning outcomes on the Europass Mobility Document on request of participants. In case a participant requires a specific format

of certificate we can accommodate that if requested at least one week before the start of the course. It is necessary to attend at least 80% of the hours in order to receive the certificate.

Accommodation

We do not directly offer accommodation and subsistence and participants are responsible for organizing it by themselves.

Paperwork

We also provide all the support with paperwork you might need for your Erasmus+ project documentation such as mobility agreement and registration letter.

Fee: 800 €

Cancelation policy

We have a flexible cancellation policy in force at the moment and you can cancel your registration up to 30 days before the course and receive a full refund. In case you don't cancel the registration more than 30 days before you will not receive any refunds, but you will be able to choose to attend any other confirmed course session later (within 6 months) without any additional costs. In case you are not able to travel, your school can send someone else to take instead of you and you can change the details of the participant any time before the start of the course at no additional cost.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME (50 didactic hours - 5*45min per day) Monday to Friday	
Day 1	Welcome, Orientation Introduction to Cultural Heritage
09.00 - 09.45	Introductions & Icebreakers
09.45 - 10.30	Course Overview & Learning Agreement
10.30 - 11.15	Introduction to Cultural Heritage
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	UNESCO and EU frameworks
12.15 - 13.00	Reflective Journal Set-Up

Day 2	Understanding Heritage as Values, Beliefs & Traditions
09.00 - 09.45	Heritage as Expression of Values & Identity
09.45 - 10.30	Heritage & Social Cohesion
10.30 - 11.15	Analysing Cultural Artefacts
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Heritage in Education (links to identity, wellbeing, critical thinking and citizenship)
12.15 - 13.00	Designing a Heritage Lens
Day 3	Tangible & Intangible Heritage in Practice
09.00 - 09.45	Tangible Heritage (monuments, buildings, artefacts, sites)
09.45 - 10.30	Intangible Heritage (rituals, songs, dances, crafts, oral traditions)
10.30 - 11.15	Living Heritage (micro-interviews, mini-ethnography tasks)
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Using Heritage as a Learning Resource
12.15 - 13.00	Preparation for Field Trip
Day 4	Exploring Tangible & Intangible Heritage
09.00 - 09.45	Pre-Visit Briefing
09.45 - 10.30	Guided tour with local expert
10.30 - 11.15	Photography and sketching
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Interviews with local practitioners or custodians
12.15 - 13.00	Collaborative timeline-building activity
Day 5	Heritage as a Learning Resource for Self & World
09.00 - 09.45	Tangible & Intangible Heritage as Learning Tools
09.45 - 10.30	Cultural citizenship and empathy building
10.30 - 11.15	Designing Learning Experiences

11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Heritage Story Circles
12.15 - 13.00	Introduction to Simulations & Re-Enactments
Day 6	Deep Cultural Inquiry
09.00 - 09.45	Experiential Inquiry at Heritage Site
09.45 - 10.30	Mapping heritage layers (architectural, social, symbolic)
10.30 - 11.15	Documentation techniques (audio, photography, video)
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Interviewing local stakeholders
12.15 - 13.00	Analysing heritage challenges (tourism, preservation, meaning)
Day 7	Simulations, Re-Enactments & Embodied Learning
09.00 - 09.45	Introduction to Pedagogical Simulations
09.45 - 10.30	Designing Characters
10.30 - 11.15	Simulation Activity
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Debrief (Reflection tools: role exit, values mapping, empathy mapping)
12.15 - 13.00	Integration into School Lessons
Day 8	Inquiry-Based Projects on Cultural Heritage
09.00 - 09.45	Introduction to Inquiry-Based Learning
09.45 - 10.30	Group Inquiry Project Planning
10.30 - 11.15	Research Skills Workshop
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Developing Project Outputs
12.15 - 13.00	Peer Feedback Round
Day 9	Media Production for Cultural Heritage Education

09.00 - 09.45	Heritage & Media Literacy
09.45 - 10.30	Digital Tools for Heritage Projects
10.30 - 11.15	Producing a Heritage Media Project
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Editing & Finalising Outputs
12.15 - 13.00	Showcase Preparation
Day 10	Presentations, Reflection, Evaluation & Closing
09.00 - 09.45	Final Preparation (part 1)
09.45 - 10.30	Final Preparation (part 1)
10.30 - 11.15	Participant Presentations
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Evaluation & Reflection
12.15 - 13.00	Validation of learning outcomes and certification

*This is only a tentative timetable. The exact hours or the course might differ and will be announced for each session 2 weeks before the start. However, there will always be a total of 5 didactic hours per day and all will be in line with the Erasmus+ quality standards. The trainer might slightly modify the content in response to the needs of the group.

**Cultural and social programmes will be organized in addition to the academic programme. The exact cultural and social programme depends on the location, season, weather, etc.