

CREATIVITY IN THE CLASSROOM
1 WEEK COURSES FOR EUROPEAN TEACHERS
Dublin, Ireland 2024

This course on Creativity and Creative Thinking provides primary and secondary schools teachers with:

- an overview of how creativity enriches teaching and learning
- active participation in dynamic educational scenarios
- opportunities to develop your creative practices to support 21st Century skills development
- inspiration to refresh your motivation for teaching
- opportunities to share ideas and develop links with other European teachers
- insights into Ireland's arts and cultural influences on the world



COURSE OBJECTIVES:

You will develop practical skills, experience, knowledge and understanding of:

- the science of creativity and how creative thinking fosters effective pedagogy
- innovation and creative, critical thinking in teaching and learning materials and tasks
- how to foster and develop creativity; tools and techniques to use with learners
- creative, inclusive approaches to convergent and divergent thinking to build a supportive learning culture and improve classroom motivation and dynamics
- collaboration and creative processes in 21st century teaching and learning
- developing creativity in your planning and lesson design, nurturing flow
- how AI might help to enhance creativity by designing assignments for creativity and avoiding plagiarism
- Why you should involve colleagues and your community to create interdisciplinary learning festivals or showcase days in your classroom or online

COURSE CONTENT:

1. **Workshops on Creativity and Creative Thinking**
2. **Lecture on the Irish Education System**
3. Guided walking tour of Dublin and cultural visits to National Museum: History & Decorative Arts, National Museum: Archaeology, National Botanic Gardens & Chester Beatty (World Art Museum)

COURSE PROGRAMME:

Sunday

- Arrive Dublin

Monday

- Welcome, orientation, participant interchange and guided walking tour of Dublin
- Lecture on the Irish Education System

Tuesday **Workshops on Creativity and Creative Thinking** *0930–1300 and 1400–1700*

- Introduction with professional networking activities and interchange of teaching contexts.
- Target setting; negotiating needs; evaluating expectations and sharing experiences of creative thinking and teaching and learning practices.
- Team building via creative challenges.
- Practical insights into creative thinking and the pedagogic importance of creativity as a uniquely human attribute in a changing world of education and technological advancements such as A.I. and machine learning.
- Daily reflective journaling round up (digital or physical); focus on reflection and developing metacognitive processes of creative expression in the 21st Century classroom.

Wednesday **Workshops on Creativity and Creative Thinking** *0930–1300 and 1400–1700*

- Workshops. Group presentations and experiences of how creativity can function in effective teaching and learning experiences.
- The theory and practice of the science and role of creative participatory learning
- Practical experience of participation in activities from learner perspectives
- How to recognise areas in your syllabus that may develop learners' creative thinking and learning to learn skills.
- How interaction can improve social and emotional learning, class relationships, reduce stress and develop creative solutions in problem solving.
- Daily reflective journaling round up (digital or physical); focus on transferring learning to your teaching context.

Thursday **Workshops on Creativity and Creative Thinking** *0930–1300 and 1400–1700*

- Workshops. Group presentations and experiential learning about how to foster creative and supportive learning cultures in your classroom.
- Co-design and creation of an interdisciplinary (or CLIL) creative thinking projects and design challenges in groups.
- Trialling, evaluation of learning products using innovative learner-centred assessment for learning approach.
- Daily reflective journaling round up (digital or physical); focus on learning-oriented feedback and assessment to improve and redesign projects and challenges produced collaboratively.

Friday **Workshops on Creativity and Creative Thinking** *0930–1300 and 1400–1700*

- Workshops. Collaborative challenges and experiments in using structured creativity to increase learner agency and motivation to improve written and oral communication.
- Exploring and evaluating traditional and digital storytelling tools to develop engagement.
- Group sharing and presentation of creative tasks and strategies co-created to implement in your classroom.
- Daily reflective journaling round up (digital or physical); focus on planning for implementation of more creative approaches in your subject, how to involve colleagues in working partnerships.

Saturday

- Cultural visits in Dublin

Sunday

- Depart Dublin

METHODOLOGY:

Our approach is hands-on, with a peer-to-peer shared learning approach, where trainers and participants work together as professionals, sharing roles as experts and co-learners.

We use carousel learning, peer presentations and teaching, lightning talks and open space technology, along with discussion and reflection on multimedia input (e.g. examples, recordings from leading practitioners or real life visits), participant creations, examples and experiences and texts.

We believe every participant is capable of developing professionally throughout the teaching and learning processes. Assessment for learning is on-going, using reflective approaches and peer feedback on learning designs, tasks and products produced in challenges and workshops.

Participants are expected to make active contributions to shared input, feedback and reflections on best practice from the course.

A European perspective from colleagues working in similar contexts will allow participants to take away practical outputs and learning plans to implement skills and strategies, as well as examples of creative thinking task typed for future learning and teaching.

We encourage and support participants to create a digital portfolio of resources and learning designs to cascade training into their schools, with a daily session of resource creation.

Feedback and further individual professional development action plans will be provided according to participant preferences.

As you will be working with on-line resources and making digital materials, you will need to bring a laptop or tablet and a smartphone and headphones.

LOCATION:

DUBLIN, Ireland: Population: 1,228,000

Famous for its cultural heritage and charming hospitality, Dublin is a lively city with a rich history, situated on the east coast of Ireland. Notable historic sights include its elegant Georgian squares, Dublin Castle, Christ Church Cathedral, the Book of Kells at Trinity College, Kilmainham Gaol and National Museums. Temple Bar is a busy riverside neighbourhood with live Irish folk music venues.

Close to the city are the beautiful hills and lakes of Wicklow Mountains National Park and attractive coastal scenery.



2024 DATES:

Spring

Sunday 25 February - Sunday 3 March

Sunday 10 March - Sunday 17 March

Sunday 24 March - Sunday 31 March

Sunday 7 April - Sunday 14 April

Sunday 21 April - Sunday 28 April

Sunday 12 May - Sunday 19 May

Summer

Sunday 30 June - Sunday 7 July

Sunday 14 July - Sunday 21 July

Sunday 28 July - Sunday 4 August

Sunday 11 August - Sunday 18 August

Sunday 25 August - Sunday 1 September

Autumn

Sunday 29 September - Sunday 6 October

Sunday 13 October - Sunday 20 October

Sunday 27 October - Sunday 3 November

Sunday 10 November - Sunday 17 November 2024

TOTAL PRICE:

1 Week: €1,447

The price includes:

(a) COURSE FEE to include:

Full programme of study sessions and visits as itemised above.

NB. Participants are responsible for paying their own daily transport costs, including visits to schools.

Any optional visits are not included in the price.

(b) HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION to include:

Full board Accommodation with a local family (inclusive of registration fee): 7 nights

(Teachers may request to be the only guest of their mother tongue or to stay in the same family as a colleague).

Host families are carefully selected and offer a friendly welcome and opportunities to chat and learn more about life in Ireland today. Participants often find that the experience of staying with a host family is one of the most memorable aspects of the course. Accommodation is in single rooms (unless participants request to share). Breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal are provided by the host family. (Food allergies, likes and dislikes are taken into account.)

Please note that many suitable residential areas are not within walking distance of the city centre and most host families are a bus ride from the city centre/tuition centre. A travel pass for all Dublin public transport costs €32 per week and can also be used to visit nearby coastal villages, beaches and cliffs.

Accommodation can be provided for family members (but not unaccompanied children) subject to availability. (Rates on request).

Alternatively on summer courses between 16 June to 18 August:

Self-catering accommodation in a university residence in a central location - single bedroom with ensuite shower/ wc; no meals provided (inclusive of registration fee):

Total fee: 1 week course + 7 nights self-catering accommodation: €1,479

Participants wishing to arrange their own (hotel or self-catering) accommodation may pay a fee for the course only.

TRAVEL:

Participants are responsible for arranging their travel to and from Ireland.

Express buses run from Dublin Airport to the city.

PAYMENT:

Full payment will be due 2 months before the course begins, or for teachers awaiting funding: as soon as the grant is received.

No refund for cancellations within 5 weeks of arrival. Applicants are strongly advised to take out cancellation insurance.

Postponement due to Covid-19 will be possible if necessary.

PREPARATION:

Participants are asked to complete a questionnaire before the course starts in order to ascertain their level of experience and training, the age groups and types of learners they teach and their expectations from the course. This helps trainers to respond to participants' individual needs and ensure that the most relevant areas are carefully integrated. Suggestions for optional pre-course reading are given.

EVALUATION:

At the end of the course teachers participate in a detailed evaluation of the course.

FOLLOW UP:

At the end of the course teachers are asked to consider which aspects of the course will be the most relevant to their own teaching situations. On their return they are invited to keep a record of how they have been able to utilise ideas gained on the course in their own classrooms.

They are encouraged to share their experiences with their fellow participants by email.

CERTIFICATE & ERASMUS+ VALIDATION:

A certificate of attendance (stating course content, learning outcomes and number of hours) will be provided and Erasmus+ documentation will be validated.