

LEARNING PROGRAMME

Cultural Heritage in Action (Relating Past to Present Through Experiential Learning, Study Visits and Simulations)

5-DAY COURSE

25 learning hours | Course programme

Cultural Heritage in Action (Relating Past to Present Through Experiential Learning, Study Visits and Simulations) – 5-Day Course

Introduction & Description

This intensive 5-day teacher training course examines cultural heritage as a multidimensional educational resource through a highly experiential format combining theoretical grounding with three structured study visits. The course investigates how tangible and intangible heritage reflect and transmit values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions, and how these elements can be used pedagogically to foster intercultural understanding, critical thinking and civic engagement.

Participants explore cultural heritage in situ through guided fieldwork, observation, documentation, short interviews and sensory mapping, working directly with heritage sites, local custodians and living cultural practitioners. Drawing on these experiences, the course introduces teachers to inquiry-based learning, object-based learning, embodied learning and simulation techniques for integrating heritage into formal and non-formal educational contexts.

Sessions on pedagogical simulations and re-enactments support participants in analysing how narrative, perspective-taking and role-play deepen learners' engagement with the past and its relevance to contemporary identities. The course also develops digital and media literacy skills by guiding participants through the creation of photo stories, audio narratives or short educational videos based on their fieldwork.

Through individual reflection, group collaboration and hands-on project development, participants acquire practical strategies for designing heritage-based learning activities that connect past and present, stimulate curiosity, and promote respect for cultural diversity. By the end of the programme, participants will be equipped to embed cultural heritage education into a range of curricular areas, age groups and learning environments.

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 5-day course, participants will be able to:

Understanding Cultural Heritage

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of key concepts related to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, cultural identity, memory and transmission.
- Analyse how heritage expresses and preserves values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions within different communities.

Fieldwork & Inquiry Skills

- Apply basic fieldwork methods (observation grids, sensory mapping, interviews, photographic documentation) to analyse cultural heritage sites and practices.
- Interpret and synthesise information gathered during study visits, identifying connections between past and present.
- Formulate inquiry questions and structure small-scale heritage investigations for use with learners.

Pedagogical Application

- Design learning activities that use cultural heritage as a stimulus for cross-curricular learning, creativity, critical thinking and intercultural dialogue.

- Implement experiential methods such as object-based learning, embodied learning, role-play and simulations to deepen understanding of cultural perspectives and historical contexts.

Media & Digital Competence

- Produce educational media outputs (photo stories, videos, audio narratives or digital exhibits) that represent cultural heritage accurately and ethically.

- Use digital tools to document, interpret and communicate cultural heritage based on materials collected during field trips.

Educational Project Development & Reflection

- Design a small-scale cultural heritage project suitable for classroom or school-wide use, grounded in inquiry and reflective practice.

- Critically evaluate their own learning and pedagogical choices, recognising cultural biases and considering inclusive and ethically responsible approaches to heritage education.

- Demonstrate increased confidence in facilitating heritage-based learning in both 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: 400 €

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 (25 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	Heritage, Identity & Cultural Community
12.15 - 13.00	Preparing for Fieldwork & Study Visits
Day 2	Tangible & Intangible Heritage in Context
09.00 - 09.45	Briefing & Task Review
09.45 - 10.30	Field observation and sketching
10.30 - 11.15	Identifying intangible heritage linked to the site (traditions, rituals, craftsmanship)
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Short interviews with local practitioners or custodians
12.15 - 13.00	Photo/video documentation and reflection
Day 3	Inquiry-Based Exploration of Cultural Heritage
09.00 - 09.45	Mapping heritage layers

09.45 - 10.30	Investigating cultural practices, narratives, or local stories
10.30 - 11.15	Analysing social, educational or preservation challenges
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Conducting micro-interviews with community members
12.15 - 13.00	Collecting materials for media and project work
Day 4	Experiential Learning: Simulations & Re-Enactments
09.00 - 09.45	Tools for documenting intangible heritage
09.45 - 10.30	Observation & documentation
10.30 - 11.15	Collecting narrative elements for simulations and media work
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Simulation & Re-Enactment
12.15 - 13.00	Reflection: From Fieldwork to Classroom Practice
Day 5	Heritage Media Projects, Presentations & Closing
09.00 - 09.45	Heritage Media Literacy
09.45 - 10.30	Media Production Workshop
10.30 - 11.15	Group 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.