InterAct

LEARNING PROGRAMME

Drama in Education: Learning Through Creativity, Collaboration and Play

5-DAY COURSE

25 learning hours | Course programme

Drama in Education: Learning Through Creativity, Collaboration and Play – 5-Day Course

Introduction and Description

This intensive 5-day teacher training course provides participants with a foundational yet comprehensive introduction to Drama in Education as a pedagogical methodology that enhances learner engagement, fosters creativity, and promotes social-emotional development across educational contexts. Drawing upon established theoretical frameworks and the work of influential drama educators such as Dorothy Heathcote, Gavin Bolton, and Cecily O'Neill, the course positions drama not simply as a performing art but as a powerful tool for active, inquiry-based learning.

Throughout the programme, participants experience and analyse core drama conventions—including tableaux, mime, hot seating, teacher-in-role, improvisation, role-on-the-wall, and thought tracking—and examine how these conventions can be meaningfully integrated into curriculum areas such as language teaching, social sciences, history, wellbeing education, and STEM. Through a guided simulation of a closed-type process drama, teachers explore how narrative, tension, and role can structure immersive learning experiences that support critical thinking, collaborative problem-solving, and perspective taking.

The course pays particular attention to the use of drama to cultivate interpersonal and intrapersonal competences, Self-Regulated Learning (SRL), and inclusive classroom practices that respond to diverse learners, including multilingual and mixed-ability groups. Participants also engage in practical lesson design sessions, micro-teaching, structured peer feedback, and reflective practice aimed at supporting the transfer of drama-based approaches into their own classrooms.

By the end of the training, participants will be able to design and facilitate drama-based learning activities with confidence, implement strategies that enhance learner motivation and engagement, and integrate drama as a cross-curricular methodology that supports academic, social, and emotional development.

Methodology and Assessment

The course is delivered through experiential, participatory, and reflective methods characteristic of Drama in Education. Participants engage in warm-ups, drama games, structured improvisations, process drama, and hands-on workshops to experience conventions from the learner's perspective. Micro-teaching, collaborative lesson design, and peer feedback support the transfer of methods into classroom practice. Reflection,

dialogue, and analytical debriefs deepen theoretical understanding and pedagogical awareness. Assessment is continuous and formative, based on active participation, contribution to group tasks, reflective discussions, and the development of a drama-based lesson plan demonstrated during micro-teaching. Participants receive individual support throughout the course.

Learning Objectives

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

1. Conceptual and Pedagogical Understanding

- Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical foundations and educational principles of Drama in Education.
- Explain the pedagogical functions of dramatic role, tension, focus, framing, and narrative in experiential learning.

2. Mastery of Drama Conventions

- Apply a range of drama conventions (e.g., teacher-in-role, tableaux, thought tracking, role-on-the-wall, improvisation) to structure meaningful learning experiences.
- Select and adapt conventions to suit various age groups, subjects, and learning objectives.

3. Facilitation of Process Drama

- Participate in and critically analyse a closed-type process drama.
- Design small-scale process drama experiences that promote inquiry, collaboration, and ethical reasoning.

4. Social-Emotional and Inclusive Teaching Competences

- Integrate drama games and activities that foster empathy, cooperation, communication, and self-expression.
- Implement drama strategies that support inclusion, engagement of diverse learners, and social-emotional learning.

5. Cross-Curricular Integration

- Design drama-based activities that enhance learning in literacy, history, social sciences, citizenship, and STEM subjects.
- Use drama as a tool for creative, multidisciplinary, and active learning environments.

6. Practical Lesson Design and Reflective Teaching

- Develop drama-based lesson plans tailored to participants' teaching contexts.
- Demonstrate improved facilitation skills through micro-teaching and reflective evaluation.

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, Group Formation & Fundamentals of Drama Pedagogy
09.00 - 09.45	Introductions & Icebreakers
09.45 - 10.30	Course Overview & Learning Agreement
10.30 - 11.15	Introduction to Drama in Education (DiE)
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Core Drama Conventions
12.15 - 13.00	Pedagogical Reflection & Application

Day 2	Process Drama: Experience & Analysis
09.00 - 09.45	Warm-ups & Entering Creative Mode
09.45 - 10.30	Introduction to Process Drama
10.30 - 11.15	Simulation: Closed-Type Process Drama (part 1)
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Simulation: Closed-Type Process Drama (part 2)
12.15 - 13.00	Simulation: Closed-Type Process Drama (part 3) and reflection
Day 3	Drama Conventions for Interactive Learning
09.00 - 09.45	Embodied learning activities
09.45 - 10.30	Conventions for Engagement
10.30 - 11.15	Creating an interactive learning environment
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Drama for SEL & Inclusion
12.15 - 13.00	Activities that support inclusive teaching and differentiated learning
Day 4	Multidisciplinary & Cross-Curricular Applications
09.00 - 09.45	Collaboration & creative thinking energisers and improvisation tasks
09.45 - 10.30	Drama across Subjects
10.30 - 11.15	Character building, creative storytelling
11.15 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.15	Ethical dilemmas, civic roles
12.15 - 13.00	Problem-solving through role-play
Day 5	Final Presentations, Evaluation & Closing
09.00 - 09.45	Designing Drama-Based Lessons
09.45 - 10.30	Rehearsal time for final presentations
10.30 - 11.15	Small-group teaching demonstrations
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.