

Course code CSS.1.DEB

Last update 03/08/21

## Course information

Title	Classroom Debates: Turn Them Into an Effective Teaching Tool
Concept by	<a href="#">Cristina Salvatori</a>
Course URL	<a href="https://www.teacheracademy.eu/course/classroom-debates/">https://www.teacheracademy.eu/course/classroom-debates/</a>
N. of participants	Min. 4 - max. 14
Course length	One week (6 days, Monday - Saturday)
Language	English. Other languages may be available upon request
Locations and starting dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Amsterdam</a> - Fourth Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Dublin</a> - Second and fifth Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Florence</a> - First Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Prague</a> - Third Monday of the month</li> </ul> <p>On request, we can organize this course directly at your school. Discover all the dates at <a href="https://www.teacheracademy.eu/courses-dates/">teacheracademy.eu/courses-dates/</a></p>
Free time activities offered	All courses include at least one city guided tour and one full-day Cultural Activity.
Type of certification awarded	Certificate of Attendance, including a description of the course contents (80% of attendance required); other Certificates may be available upon request
Price	<p>Starting from 480€ *</p> <p>* Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the <a href="#">Erasmus+ KA1 funds</a> and several other programs.</p>

## Course contents

### Description

School debates are a rising star in the interests of teachers, and the reasons for this are numerous and clear: debates increase students' engagement and sensitivity towards delicate issues, and help them acquire new researching skills. However, although this activity always had space in many school systems around the world, it is fairly new for European schools.

This course provides specific tools for teachers to activate, facilitate, and dig deeper into meaningful discussions that lead to learning.

As a participant, you will acquire all the tools to introduce debates in your teaching practice, both as a "stand-alone" activity meant to enhance soft skills (such as active listening, researching, empathy, public speaking) and as part of your curriculum. You will learn to energize discussions that will improve student engagement, develop critical thinking skills, and deepen understanding and appreciation for diverse views.

The instructor will provide discussion tools and model exercises to enliven classrooms and ensure that all voices are heard, by demonstrating ways for listening and responding to one another with empathy so that all students' values and needs are respected. Finally, you will become familiar with creating a lesson plan for a debate, as well as evaluation tools, and you will be able to provide your students with all the tips that they need to excel in their debate! After an intense week of practice—where you will plan, analyze, participate and evaluate debates—you will feel confident in implementing debates and take advantage of all the amazing benefits in your classroom.

### Learning outcomes

- Stimulate meaningful, constructive, and engaging discussion in the classroom while ensuring that all students are heard;
- Develop students' ability to articulate an informed understanding of different topics;
- Model and facilitate deeper listening skills resulting in improved collaboration, group dynamics, and collective learning;
- Cultivate empathy amongst their students while fostering an appreciation for different perspectives;
- Identify in which area of their practice to introduce debates as a teaching tool;
- Design interesting lesson plans involving debates;
- Create evaluation tools for their debate sessions;
- Implement debates as an outcome for curriculum subjects.

## Tentative schedule\*

<b>Day 1 – Course introduction and needs analysis</b>	<b>Day 2 - The skills for debates</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to the course, the school, and the external week activities;</li><li>• Icebreaker activities;</li><li>• Analyze the need for debate classes;</li><li>• Presentations of the participants' schools.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theories behind debate practice;</li><li>• The concept of active listening;</li><li>• The art of public speaking.</li></ul>
<b>Day 3 - Lesson planning with debates</b>	<b>Day 4 - Let's debate!</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement debates in your curriculum;</li><li>• Choose the right topic for your debate;</li><li>• Carry out accurate preparatory research;</li><li>• Create evaluation tools for your debates.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to facilitate the emergence of debates;</li><li>• Support debating activities while avoiding taking control of them.</li></ul>
<b>Day 5 - Supporting your students</b>	<b>Day 6 - Course closure &amp; cultural activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reflections about debating activities;</li><li>• Create a sustainable debate lesson plan;</li><li>• Create tools to help your students prepare for debate sessions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion;</li><li>• Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance;</li><li>• Excursion and other external cultural activities.</li></ul>

\*The schedule describes likely activities but may differ significantly based on the requests of the participants, and the trainer delivering the specific session. Course modifications are subject to the trainer's discretion. If you would like to discuss a specific topic, please indicate it at least 4 weeks in advance.

## Links and resources

Discover our:

- Self-paced online courses for teachers: [online.teacheracademy.eu](https://online.teacheracademy.eu)
- Online English Courses for Teachers: [online.teacheracademy.eu/tag/english-courses/](https://online.teacheracademy.eu/tag/english-courses/)
- The New 2021-2027 Erasmus+ Programme Made Easy: [online.teacheracademy.eu/course/erasmus-programme-2021-2027/](https://online.teacheracademy.eu/course/erasmus-programme-2021-2027/)
- CELTA Courses for teachers: [teacheracademy.eu/celta/](https://teacheracademy.eu/celta/)

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Academy of Creativity: [eacbarcelona.eu](https://eacbarcelona.eu)

Italian Language School: [europassitalian.com](https://europassitalian.com)

Teacher Academy Ireland: [teachertraining.ie](https://teachertraining.ie)

German Language Center: [europassberlin.com](https://europassberlin.com)

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