

## Course information

Title	Service Learning: Environmental Projects for Your Classroom... and Beyond
Concept by	<a href="#">Natalie Croome</a>
Course URL	<a href="https://teacheracademy.eu/course/service-learning/">teacheracademy.eu/course/service-learning/</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="#">Nice</a> - Third Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Dublin</a> - Fourth Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Strasbourg</a> - First Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Cefalù</a> - Second Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Valencia</a> - Fourth Monday of the month</li> </ul>
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	Starting from 480€ *  * Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the <a href="#">Erasmus+ KA1 funds</a> and several other programs.

## Course contents

<p>Description</p>	<p>Service Learning is a wonderful, inclusive, and effective way for teachers, students, and schools to <b>contribute in positive ways</b> to the areas they live and work in, including the school community, the local community, the national community, the EU community, and even the global community.</p> <p>In our schools, there is a growing appreciation for the fact that students really care about issues in their local community. By engaging them in learning about <b>real-world situations</b>, we can support them in taking thoughtful and strategic action, and they can contribute positively to the <b>well-being of people and the environment</b>. When learning is applied in real-life situations, the purpose of that learning becomes so obvious and meaningful.</p> <p>This course combines areas of <b>Science</b> (biology, ecosystems, habitats...), <b>Geography</b> (basic needs of humans, animals, and plants, geology...), and <b>Social Studies</b> (human impact on environments, human patterns of settlement, renewable and non-renewable resources...).</p> <p>During this course, teachers will be guided through approaches to develop their own knowledge of these areas, through managing their own research, and collaboratively inquiring into ways of guiding their students in an exploration of the <b>natural and man-made environments</b> in their area. A focus will be placed on how to create opportunities to visit local areas of interest and connect with people involved in service-based organizations impacting local environments.</p> <p>Participating teachers will examine the <b>possibilities and potential of Service Learning</b> in engaging themselves and their students in practical ways with local communities and environments. They will find out about strong and impactful Service Learning projects that other schools have engaged in. They will also support each other in designing their own program to take back to their school and share with their students, colleagues and community.</p>
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appreciate that their local community presents environmental issues and concerns which are important to their students;</li><li>• Make connections between their student’s perspectives and the world around them;</li><li>• Engage teachers and students in real learning through addressing environmental issues that they are passionate about;</li><li>• Develop knowledge and skills about Service Learning;</li><li>• Connect the principles of Service-Learning with 21st Century Skills;</li><li>• Engage in the practical application of knowledge and skills towards meeting an identified community need;</li><li>• Demonstrate care for the environment through identifying current issues which threaten it and its inhabitants;</li><li>• Become familiar with approaches to initiate and strengthen partnerships with local organizations and individuals in the community.</li></ul>

## Tentative schedule\*

<b>Day 1 – Course introduction</b>	<b>Day 2 - Our Environment...Our Shared Responsibility</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>• Presentations of the participants' schools;</li><li>• Approaches to exploring and understanding local environmental challenges and concerns that interest teachers and students.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brainstorm environmental issues currently being experienced around the world, in Europe and in our countries and communities;</li><li>• Focus on environmental issues that are being felt in our local communities, select one;</li><li>• Identify the cross-curricular areas of knowledge and skills that are required to better understand the chosen environmental issue;</li><li>• Conduct research to develop your own understanding of how this environmental issue is manifesting in your community...What do you need to understand and find out more about? How can you find out? What sources of research exist to support your learning; primary, secondary and tertiary?;</li><li>• Reflect on our own learning and how this could be applied with our students.</li></ul>
<b>Day 3 - Service Learning</b>	<b>Day 4 - Caring for our Environment through Service Learning</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What Service-Learning is... and is not;</li><li>• The Five stages of Service-Learning: Investigation, Preparation and Planning, Action, Reflection, and Demonstration;</li><li>• Preparing and empowering teachers to guide students to find ways of authentically engaging with their communities, to develop and apply personal and social skills in real-life situations involving decision-making, problem-solving, initiative, responsibility, and accountability for their actions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Examine case studies of effective and impactful Service Learning projects;</li><li>• Plan a framework for working with students back at school: students must be involved in the whole process;</li><li>• Engaging students: decide on some questions you will ask, as well as on strategies you will use to raise awareness, care and initiative to take action.</li></ul>
<b>Day 5 - Sharing and Refining Frameworks for Taking Action</b>	<b>Day 6 - Course closure &amp; excursion</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share your planned framework;</li><li>• Collaborative problem-solving – Clinical Protocol;</li><li>• Give and receive constructive feedback on your planned framework;</li><li>• Make changes and re-share planned frameworks.</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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