








# Strategies for Understanding and Engaging Teenagers in Learning

By Zsuzsa Tölgyesi

## Course details

-  One week course
-  Starting from 480€ (Cultural activities included)\*
-  Min. 4 - max. 14 participants
-  Certificate of attendance included (80% of attendance required)
-  Available in Amsterdam, Budapest, Florence, and Ghent

\* A 60 € late registration fee will be applied if you register less than 8 weeks before the course start date.

## Course description

Working with teenagers has always been challenging and, today, the generation gap between “adults” and “teenagers” seems to be even bigger. Educators often struggle to understand teenagers’ real needs and to respond to them. In educational environments, teenagers’ attitude toward learning sometimes hinders the progress of learning activities, and teachers might have a hard time reaching a consensus with pupils as for learning goals and methods.

This course aims to guide educators in finding effective ways to better collaborate with teenage students. Participants will reflect on what it means to be a teenager nowadays and explore a variety of strategies to make them more autonomous, responsible, and motivated learners. Participants will get familiar with ideas on how to engage teens, help them develop their study skills, and manage teen learning groups. They will also analyze age-appropriate activities, and come up with their own ones, adapted to their subjects and their students.

In addition, this course will provide an overview of digital resources and 21st-century media to be used in and outside the classroom, which can facilitate learning and make it more enjoyable.

By the end of this training, participants will feel more confident in tackling students’ needs, effectively directing them toward learning goals, and managing strategies, as well as tools, methods, lesson plans, and activities that aim at creating a meaningful learning experience for their teenage pupils.





## Learning outcomes

The course will help the participants to:

- Better understand and identify the specifics of teenage learners (some psychological background and its effect on teens' needs and approaches to learning);
- Find strategies to set up/create a successful learning environment;
- Design courses, choose and/or develop materials taking into consideration the traits and interests of this special age group;
- Evaluate and adapt materials available;
- Find suitable methods and materials that would motivate teenage learners in the lessons;
- Incorporate the main ideas of learner autonomy to help their learners become more autonomous;
- Incorporate teamwork, collaborative, or project-like tasks in the lessons.

## Tentative schedule

### Day 1 – Working with teenagers: an introduction

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- Introduction to the course, the school, and the external activities during the week;
- Icebreaker activities;
- Presentations of the participants' schools and background.

### Day 2 – Getting to know our hero: the teenager

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- Linking the needs and specific features of teenagers to teaching methods;
- Learner autonomy and developing responsible learners.

### Day 3 – Materials for the teenager of the 21st century

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- Experiencing and evaluating task types, activities, and materials designed for teens to be used in the classroom;
- Finding suitable or adaptable online materials for the teenager of the 21st century;
- Building on creativity.

### Day 4 – Social learning: cooperation and project work

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- Giving space for self-expression: presentations, discussions, debates;
- Assessment but a little differently: peer and self-assessment.





## Day 5 – Presentations

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- Participants' portfolio presentations of ideas, methods and materials adaptable to their home teaching context.

## Day 6 – Course closure & cultural activities

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- Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion;
- Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance;
- Excursion and other external cultural activities.

\*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.

Our courses usually include two cultural activities. Further information is available on the webpage of each course location.

## About the provider

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