

Course code SI.1.YDL

Last update 17/12/21

## Course information

Title	Promoting Youth Participation in Democratic Life and Environment Sustainability
Concept by	Owen Connolly
Course URL	<a href="https://teacheracademy.eu/course/democratic-life-and-environment-sustainability/">teacheracademy.eu/course/democratic-life-and-environment-sustainability/</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="#">Tenerife</a> - Third Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Nice</a> - First 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://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

Just because of unreflected habitude, **many schools are often managed with a hierarchically “top-down” approach**. Most academic decisions are made by a small number of top-level staff members while teachers are encouraged to follow the curriculum and teach by the coursebook.

Over time, this can result in **teachers** feeling like being isolated, unrecognized, and trapped in an environment uncondusive to change and development—eventually leading to burnout. Instead, they **are weakly encouraged** to build on their own creativity and develop novel strategies **to innovate their daily activities**.

**This course challenges such a hierarchical top-down approach** on the ground that schools and organizations work better when teachers and workers are given more autonomy. Accordingly, the course will explore key themes **to help participants promote a more collegial (“bottom-up”) approach to decision-making within their school or organization**.

With a practical approach, **course participants will discuss collegiality in the workplace** and learn about practical ways to implement democratic modes of collective decision-making and resilience within the organization. The course will also focus on educating the young generations on democracy and introducing collegiality in classroom activities.

The course will also try to demonstrate that **the more democratized an organization is, the more sustainable it will be**. Traditional models of administration make it harder for organizations to change, and for workers to promote sustainability as a topic. Instead, the course will show how a more democratic organizational structure can provide an eco-friendly school environment. By the end of the course, **participants will have acquired the capacity to build a work environment based around reflection and collegiality** to support change and sustainability in their school or organization.

### Learning outcomes

- Reflect on their management and teaching practices;
- Implement practical policies promoting organizational change;
- Democratize their workplace and the classroom environment;
- Foster collaboration in their academic teams, and minimize conflict;
- Promote democratic teaching in the school culture;
- Uncover the importance of sustainability academic management
- Promote sustainability and cooperative learning practices for teachers;
- Develop and maintain an environmentally friendly school or organization;
- Analyze the importance of reflection and collegial discussion in the development of democratic practices.

## Tentative schedule\*

<b>Day 1 – Introduction to the course</b>	<b>Day 2 - How to democratize your organization</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>• Why democracy?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Democracy within organisations;</li><li>• Democratic participation of stakeholders;</li><li>• Democratic Collaboration in the classroom.</li></ul>
<b>Day 3 - Climate change and the argument for sustainable practices</b>	<b>Day 4 - The "nuts" and "bolts" of policy design and implementation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Climate change and sustainability;</li><li>• Why sustainability requires participatory democracy within an organization;</li><li>• Class project discussion.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementing organizational structure change: The power of buy-in;</li><li>• School policy design.</li></ul>
<b>Day 5 - Keeping Quality</b>	<b>Day 6 - Course Closure &amp; excursion</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality assurance;</li><li>• Work shop on conflict resolution.</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)

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