

Course code SI.1.PHBL

Last update 03/05/22

Course information

Title	The Secret of Finnish Education: Phenomenon-Based Learning
Concept by	Irena Papa
Course URL	www.teacheracademy.eu/course/phenomenon-based-learning/
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"> Helsinki - Fourth Monday of the month <p>On request, we can organize this course directly at your school. Discover all the dates at teacheracademy.eu/courses-dates/</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	Starting from 480€ * * Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the Erasmus+ KA1 funds and several other programs.

Course contents

Description

Finnish PISA results in recent years have put the Finnish Education System in the limelight and raised worldwide interest. Researchers started to visit Finnish universities and other educational institutions looking for answers to what was considered **the “Finnish miracle”**.

How did education in Finland move from being close to international averages to ranking **at the top in international testing exams**? What’s the secret behind the success of the Finnish education system?

One of the elements that played a major role in the turnaround of the **Finnish Education System** is the Finnish brand, *peruskoulu*, or the 9-year comprehensive basic school, and the holistic approach, or phenomenon-based learning (PhBL), the motto of which is **“less is more”**.

This course will offer participants an insight into **PhBL in Finland**, and the educational approaches and techniques accompanying this approach. Participants will learn how to plan and assess phenomenon-based tasks and projects by using planning and assessment tools.

Through the analysis of different case studies of phenomenon-based lessons, participants will be able to identify and observe the elements behind the scene and the pillars of PhBL.

Teachers will explore the concept and importance of **teaching with joy and positivity**, looking closely at Finnish school scenarios, and will participate actively in a group discussion about the trends of future education in Finland, and not only.

By the end of the course, participants will have gained a thorough understanding of phenomenon-based learning in Finland; they will, therefore, be equipped with **valuable ideas and approaches** for teaching Finland-style, that is, in a motivating and engaging way.

Learning outcomes

- Gain insight into and become familiar with the Finnish Phenomenon Based Learning Approach;
- Discover different games and techniques to teach the Finnish way;
- Practice how to make a lesson plan and assess in a Phenomenon Based learning environment;
- Promote Digital Storytelling as a powerful tool to boost the teaching and learning process;
- Appreciate the shift from STEM to STEAM in Finnish schools;
- Reflect on the future of education.

Tentative schedule*

Day 1 – Introduction to the Finnish Education System	Day 2 - Phenomenon-Based Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the course, the school, and the external week activities;• Icebreaker activities;• Presentations of the participants’ schools;• Open discussion: Participants’ expectations for the course;• Introduction to the Finnish Education system throughout the years – Less is more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Finnish success;• Phenomenon-Based Learning: What and How?• Planning and Assessing Phenomenon Based Learning;• Pedagogical Models of PhBL.
Day 3 - Teaching the Finnish Way	Day 4 - Finnish STEAM Education in practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational Approaches in Finland;• Teaching with joy and making it fun;• Digital Storytelling;• Using games for learning to increase students’ motivation and engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• STEAM in practice;• The benefits of STEAM learning environment;• A Finnish holistic school pedagogy.
Day 5 - The Future of Education	Day 6 - Course closure & cultural activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let’s identify the key drivers of future change;• Learning tools to predict future trends in education;• Life-long learning in Finland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion;• Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance.• Cultural activities• 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.

Links and resources

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