

Course code SI.1.ECO

Last update 27/09/22

## Course information

Title	The Ecocentric Approach: Introducing Sustainability in Education
Concept by	<a href="#">Gabriele Cinti</a>
Course URL	<a href="http://www.teacheracademy.eu/course/ecocentric-approach/">www.teacheracademy.eu/course/ecocentric-approach/</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="#">Berlin</a> - First Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Florence</a> - Fourth Monday of the month</li> <li>• <a href="#">Valencia</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="http://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	Starting from 480€ *  * Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the Erasmus+ KA1 funds and several other programs.

## Course contents

<p>Description</p>	<p>How can schools introduce environmental sustainability to everyday curricular activities?</p> <p>The issue is not straightforward, and to some extent, it seems paradoxical: on the one hand, society insistently requires schools to <b>improve their pupils' attitude towards the environment</b>; on the other hand, national educational institutions provide limited suggestions on how to motivate students to take responsibility and become aware of sustainability.</p> <p>During the course, participants will have the chance to deconstruct the notion of sustainability and examine it with an <b>interdisciplinary approach</b>, i. e. one that encompasses its social, humanistic, economic, environmental, and scientific aspects.</p> <p>The course will show how sustainability correlates with many commonly taught subjects, and how schoolteachers can make their students more aware of important environmental issues, thereby increasing their motivation to become <b>active advocates of sustainability</b>.</p> <p>Among others, participants will learn about strategies to introduce their students to critical consumerism and to reuse materials in their projects, especially in the creation of a design or a prototype.</p> <p>They will also learn to identify sustainability as a relevant criterion when assessing the quality of the projects created by their students, which will facilitate the introduction of sustainability to any given subject.</p> <p>Simultaneously, participants will find out about <b>different techniques and practical methodologies</b> to evaluate the sustainability of their school over time. Moreover, they will discover how to use these methods of assessment to devise change and make their school more sustainable.</p> <p>By the end of the course, participants will have learned how to involve their students in issues connected with sustainability, and they will have discovered strategies and techniques to make their school environmentally friendly. Learning about sustainability within education will help their pupils stay motivated to <b>make the world a better place</b>.</p>
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective;</li><li>• Introduce sustainability to any given school subject;</li><li>• Evaluate the sustainability of their school with the aid of practical strategies;</li><li>• Design a sustainable classroom;</li><li>• Foster sustainable behavior at school.</li></ul>

## Tentative schedule\*

<b>Day 1 – What is sustainability?</b>	<b>Day 2 - Environmental sustainability: a practical approach</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to the course, the school, and the external activities for the week;</li><li>• Icebreaker activities;</li><li>• Presentation of the schools of participants;</li><li>• Definition of sustainability and sustainable development;</li><li>• Sustainable Development Goals 2030.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to measure sustainability?</li><li>• The meaning of waste in the 21st century;</li><li>• Recycling: using creativity to change the history of an object.</li></ul>
<b>Day 3 - Economic sustainability</b>	<b>Day 4 - Sustainability in education</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The theory of needs vs consumerism: practical and active learning activities;</li><li>• From a linear to a circular economy;</li><li>• Open innovation: how to relate reusing and teaching school subjects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sustainability in the society: an ethical approach;</li><li>• Interdisciplinary approach in education and its pragmatic relation to sustainability;</li><li>• How to develop sustainable learning approaches.</li></ul>
<b>Day 5 - Create a sustainable project for schools</b>	<b>Day 6 - Course closure &amp; cultural activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Let's identify the key drivers of future change;</li><li>• Learning tools to predict future trends in education;</li><li>• Life-long learning in Finland.</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

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- Self-paced online courses for teachers: [online.teacheracademy.eu](https://online.teacheracademy.eu)
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- 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/)
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