

Structured Course:
“Structured Educational Visit to Schools & Training Seminars in Finland”

Helsinki (Finland)

LOCATION: Helsinki (FINLAND)

Finland is one of the Nordic countries located on the very border of East and West Europe. The geographical location of Finland, its history, and its social ethics, have shaped a working and egalitarian society, committed to the future of its young citizens through education.

The **Finnish Education System** is regarded as one of the best in the world, especially after its good results in the Pisa Reports (triennial OECD international evaluation) during past years. Other nations all over the world are attempting to emulate Finnish structure of highly respected teachers and its focus on equity.

TARGET AUDIENCE - Who is this course for?

This structured course is designed for **teachers, head teachers, principals and other school staff** who would like to learn about the Finnish education system within the context of Finnish culture. Although the visits to schools are focused on Primary and Secondary levels, other educational levels may also benefit from the general approach of this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This structured course combines pedagogic visits to schools, workshops, seminars, and field projects “Contexts4Content”. This programme is implemented during the academic term, when schools can show their daily life and operation.

Please note that this programme should be included as a Structured Course in your Erasmus+ project.

English Matters will select educational institutions related to Primary and Secondary school levels. Each participant will benefit from pedagogic visits and will have the opportunity to share their experience and ideas with colleagues from a variety of schools around Europe. This will support a European Dimension in Education and everyone participating in this experience will receive maximum benefit from it.

The course offers several **key activities**:

1. Educational visits to schools to learn about their educational organisation and management of learning.
2. Seminars and workshops to explore specific aspects of the Education System and culture of Finland.
3. Professional and cultural discussion resulting in a concluding presentation of learning.
4. Field projects “Contexts4Content” to explore places of natural, historical, and cultural significance, as a basis for the development of teaching materials to assist their students in meeting their learning goals and be aware of the richness of Europe.

OBJECTIVES:

- Become familiar with relevant aspects of the Finnish Education System.
- Observe examples of teaching practices in schools in Finland.
- Participate in lectures and workshops related to educational and cultural aspects of Finnish society.
- Participate in field projects “Contexts4Content” to places of natural, historical, and cultural significance, to support the development of teaching resources.
- Promote a European Dimension in education among participants and schools and discuss dissemination strategies.

TYPES OF COURSES FOR THIS MOBILITY - Which course is better for me?

Participants have the option of participating in either **Course A (7-day Structured Course)** or **Course B (Blended Learning Structured Course)**, depending on their preferences or circumstances:

A) 7-day Structured Course in Finland (7 Training days in Finland)

This **7-Day Structured Course in Finland** will allow you to experience the authenticity of the country and its people from the very moment you step foot in the airport.

Our 7-Day Structured Course is for those who want to learn about Finnish education and culture through a combination of seminars, workshops, pedagogic visits to schools and field projects “Contexts4Content”. Allowing yourself to spend enriching days in full contact with Finnish society and culture, and combining this with pedagogic visits to schools to learn about their educational organisation and management of learning, will bring you an in-depth understanding of the Finnish education system.

The way in which students are educated can be a window to a deeper vision of a society. This can also lead to reflection on why a society educates its people in a certain way and may encourage you to see your own education system from a refreshed perspective.

B) Blended Learning Structured Course (Online sessions + 4 Training days in Finland)

Our **Blended Learning Structured Course** is best suited for participants who want greater flexibility of time, place, and pace, due to personal, professional, or international circumstances.

During the first stage of the course, participants will benefit from online live sessions through our dedicated virtual learning environment, allowing them to learn from home. During the second stage of the course participants will enjoy an enriching 4-day training period in Finland.

This **Blended Learning** course provides an excellent opportunity to explore the Finnish educational system little by little. During the online stage at home, you will gain a general understanding of the Finnish educational system and its historical and cultural background through online live seminars and workshops, and online content to support your learning. During the 4 days training in Finland, you will have the opportunity to contrast the concepts learned, with real experiences on educational visits to schools and field projects “Contexts4Content”. This combination of elements will help build a holistic vision of education and culture in Finland from several enriching perspectives.

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Blended Learning Structured Course	7-day Structured Course in Finland
<p>I. STRUCTURED TRAINING ONLINE (4 sessions): Online Training module: Fundamentals. Building your Learning Portfolio. Online Training module: Education System in Finland. Online Training module: Preparation for Educational visits to schools.</p>	<p>Sunday Registration. Seminar: Fundamentals. Building your Learning Portfolio. Seminar: Preparation for Educational visits to schools.</p> <p>Monday Seminar: Education System in Finland. Field Project “Contexts4Content”.</p> <p>Tuesday Educational Visit to School I: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School.</p> <p>Wednesday Educational Visit to School II: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School. Field project “Contexts4Content”.</p> <p>Thursday Educational Visit to School III: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School.</p> <p>Friday Itinerary A Seminar: Feedback on Educational Visits to Schools. Field project “Contexts4Content”. Itinerary B (optional, not included in course fee) Field project Tallinn “Contexts4Content”.</p> <p>Saturday Seminar: European Dimension & Discussing dissemination strategies. Seminar: Reflection on Learning and Presentation of Learning Portfolios. Evaluation.</p>
<p>II. STRUCTURED TRAINING IN FINLAND (4 days):</p> <p>Tuesday Educational Visit to School I: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School. Field project “Contexts4Content”.</p> <p>Wednesday Educational Visit to School II: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School. Field project “Contexts4Content”.</p> <p>Thursday Educational Visit to School III: Educational organization and management of learning. Feedback on Educational Visit to School.</p> <p>Friday Itinerary A Seminar: Feedback on Educational Visits to Schools. Field project “Contexts4Content”. Itinerary B (optional, not included in course fee) Field project Tallinn “Contexts4Content”.</p>	
<p>III. FEEDBACK & PRESENTATION OF LEARNING ONLINE (1 session): Online Training module: European Dimension & Discussing dissemination strategies. Online Training module: Reflection on Learning and Presentation of Learning Portfolios. Evaluation.</p>	

NOTE: These Reference programmes may be subject to amendment. Such amendment, if necessary, would be kept to a minimum, consistent with the quality and balance of the programme.



DATES

A) 7-day Structured Course in Finland (7 Training days in Finland)

Place: **Helsinki (Finland)**

Language of communication: **English**

Duration (days): **7 training days in Finland**

Course starts on Sunday evening (16:00) and finishes on Saturday noon (12:30 approximately).

Dates in 2021	Dates in 2022
18-24 April Helsinki · 7 training days	24-30 April Helsinki · 7 training days
25 April-1 May Helsinki · 7 training days	02-08 October Helsinki · 7 training days
03-09 October Helsinki · 7 training days	
<p>Note: Dates above may be subject to amendment according to the school calendar year of the country visited. Participants will be informed of changes, if necessary, before the course confirmation.</p>	

B) Blended Learning Structured Course (Online sessions + 4 Training days in Finland)

Duration (days): **Online sessions + 4 training days in Finland**

Language of communication: **English**

Blended Learning courses - Dates	
Option 1	3 Online sessions in November 2020 1 Online session in February 2021 4 training days in Finland: 27-30 April 2021 1 Online final session in May 2021
Option 2	4 Online session in February 2021 4 training days in Finland: 27-30 April 2021 1 Online final session in May 2021
Option 5	4 Online sessions in September 2021 4 training days in Finland: 05-08 October 2021 1 Online final session in November 2021
<p>Note: Dates above may be subject to amendment according to the school calendar year of the country visited. Participants will be informed of changes, if necessary, before the course confirmation.</p>	

TYPE OF CERTIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE AWARDED

Europass and Certificate of attendance with description of training content and time input (40 hours).