

Council of Europe Pestalozzi Programme seminars

Multilingualism and social cohesion: How language learning can prepare children for the 21st century citizenship

London, England, 27 February – 3 March 2012

Working language: English

The learning of other languages is critical for the citizens of the 21st century. The present Workshop will focus on a very important aspect: how language learning can enhance individual understanding, support greater social cohesion and underpin mutual respect and tolerance. It will also consider how the intercultural elements of language learning can be taught in different contexts, and how they might be evaluated. Participants will share experiences from across Europe (and beyond) and seek to establish common ground and guidelines for teachers about the impact of languages on future citizens. A shared and agreed rationale – guidelines for future work – which will be distributed as a Workshop report subsequent to the event. Participants will also be encouraged to establish ongoing links via the Pestalozzi collaborative platform with a view to developing common action.

Target group

Teachers or advisors of languages from primary, secondary and higher education. "Languages" will include not only "foreign" language teaching but also the teaching of English and community languages.

Deadline for application: 15/01/2012

Student mediators influence the school atmosphere

Meißen (Germany), 26 – 28 March 2012

Working language: German

While talking about acquiring competences in mediation by pupils, most of the time the settlement of conflicts is the model people first think of. Therefore the workshop will provide the opportunity to examine other concepts and ways of intervention by student mediators. In a more concrete way, participants will work on a communication model based on 4 modules: the first one will focus on the fundamental elements of communication psychology, the second one on best possible counselling techniques, the third on the way to organise meetings or events, the fourth on mediation basic principles. The training session will include short theoretical sequences and numerous role-playing sequences.

Target group

School counsellors, confidential counsellors, trainers and education professionals in general.

Deadline for application: 26/01/2012

Reykjavík, Iceland, 12-16 April 2012

Working language: English

Knowledge of and insight into our shared history provide a starting point for an understanding of the present, and can help us plot a path into the future: A future in which we can build upon a Europe founded on reason, democracy, humanism and tolerance.

Democracy, the founding principle of our society, must be repeatedly elucidated ,

defended and reclaimed. Today, this is more important than ever, and presents an increasingly challenging task for schools and the education sector in a Europe where the majority of countries have democratically elected xenophobic and fascist political parties represented in their parliaments.

Current trends and changes in society from a social history perspective will be analyzed and discussed in lectures and workshops, with a particular focus on the responsibilities of schools and the education sector.

This European workshop is offered in cooperation between Iceland and Sweden.

Target group

Head teachers, teachers (10-20 year old students) and teacher trainers.

Deadline for application: 01/02/2012

Being a teacher in 2032: Changing roles and competences

133rd European Seminar Academy of Bad Wildbad, Germany,

23 – 27 April 2012

Working language: English

What will schools in 2032 look like and what will be their main functions? A balance between education for economic growth and education for a democratic culture of living together in a world of diversity. The present seminar will look at current educational practice and challenges, identify indicators and drivers of future developments and look in details at the implications this may and will have for the role of teachers twenty years from now and in particular at the values, attitudes, skills and knowledge these teachers will need.

Target group

Teachers of all subjects from primary school to upper secondary school (6-19)

Deadline for application: 02/03/2012

Social and political history of fear and the exploitation of fear

Lausanne, Switzerland, 9-11 May 2012

Working language: French

Fear seems to take an ever larger space in today's societies, more so since 11 September 2001 and the emergence of what some call the "islamic threat". But fear has a long history : from witches to microbes, from devil to terroriste, numerous images have haunted us over time. By examining the relation human society has with its fears, we approach a better understanding of these societies and of our own fears to better overcome them if necessary.

Target group

History teachers, teachers of citizenship or humanities of secondary schools ; teachers of primary schools.

Deadline for application: 02/03/2012

Roma and Human Rights: cultural and linguistic aspects in society

ECML Graz, Austria, 10-12 May 2012

Working languages: English/German/Romani

The workshop will offer general information on cultural and linguistic aspects of Roma life in European countries and in Austria in particular and allow participants

to get a good overview of the issues. The discussion of regional measures for the inclusion of particular needs of the Roma population in education, culture, language and communal participation will allow to better address these issues in the classrooms and to prepare pupils for a respectful and tolerant encounter with each other. Study visits will offer a further possibility to focus on practice.

Target group

Teachers of any subjects from all types of schools or further education institutions, teacher trainers; administrative school staff

Deadline for application: 30/03/2012

Evaluation of transversal attitudes, skills and knowledge

Estonia, 4-8 June 2012

Working language: English

The workshop is based on an understanding that evaluation is an action to support learning, and it will focus on participatory, cooperative evaluation and self-evaluation approaches. Individual and social success of learners depend on diverse range of competences which are not directly linked to a particular discipline. The development of such transversal competences can take place in schools.

Building on the list of core components developed within the Pestalozzi Programme, ways of supporting learners' development will be discussed and experimented. A special focus will be directed towards learners' observable behaviour indicating changes and development potential as well as evaluation activities appropriate to reflect these changes in different learning contexts. This workshop is the first of two workshops (the second one is taking place in November 2012 in Norway) and participants will have the time to experiment and pilot what they have learned in between the two workshops.

Target group

Teachers from primary, secondary and upper secondary schools and teacher trainers are target groups. The teachers agree to actively participate in both workshops and carry out the agreed tasks for the phase between the two workshops.

Deadline for application: 31/03/2012