



Open Discovery Space Academy 2016

Marathon, Greece, 3-8 July, 2016

<http://ods.ea.gr/>

Join us this summer in Attica, Greece, to bring and sustain innovation in your school during our Summer Academy

Visit the ODS Academy website for more information!

<http://ods.ea.gr>

Save the dates!

ODS Academy – Marathon, Greece
July 3-8 2016

Questions, comments, ideas? Contact us:

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The Open Discovery Space Academy, exploiting and expanding the outputs, experiences and heritage of the **Open Discovery Space (ODS)** project, offers a multitude of courses to school leaders, teachers acting as change agents in their schools and teachers with a newly acquired taste for innovative practices from all over Europe. Participants will exploit **the experiences** and **lessons** learnt from **the largest European network of pilot schools** (2500) that are involved in [Open Discovery Space](#). Participants will have the chance to test and use the [school innovation toolkit](#) that was designed based on empirical research and data from actual school settings across Europe. The toolkit offers a unique guide to facilitate the introduction of innovation in school settings..

School innovation that corresponds to your school's needs

Courses include presentations of actual experiences, lectures, interviews, group-work, observations and hands-on activities aimed at stimulating innovative uses of contemporary methodologies, best practices, ICT tools, game based learning, school leadership techniques and Teacher/Learning communities of practice. Throughout these courses, participants are encouraged and guided to monitor and evaluate the current context, the prevailing culture and attitudes in their school towards change, innovation, leadership, and uses of ICT as well as to identify the real needs and identify priorities.

The courses – an overview

Innovation in action

The **Open Discovery Space** development and innovation course is addressed to school leaders and leading members of school staff, who can act as change and innovation agents. The aim of the course is to support school innovation and to train teachers to act as successful change agents in their schools and to promote the development of schools into open learning communities. The participants will be invited to monitor their schools' profiles and assess their needs, as well as to acknowledge their own professional competences, so as to then set specific development goals.

Creativity and games

All training activities of the "**Creativity and games**" course aim to familiarize school educators from various subject areas with concepts and examples of practice related to game-based learn-

ing as a vehicle for promoting creativity in education, including creative thinking, in and around schools, in the intersection of formal and informal learning activities (curricular, cross-curricular, extra-curricular). In this way, the training activities aim to inspire participants to become creative practitioners in their professional settings.

Inclusive learning for learning variability

Participants will be provided with inclusive learning strategies, based on the framework of Universal Design for Learning, addressing learning variability that promote competence acquisition and student-centered learning. Participants will have the opportunity to be exposed to a number of training techniques such as: lectures, discussion, project teams, brainstorming, and case studies enabling them to collaborate and learn from each other.

What will I learn at the ODS Academy 2016?

At the end of this 5-day course the participants are expected to:

- Understand how to use the Open Discovery Space school innovation tool-kit in order to implement an innovation strategy in their schools.
- Have a clear picture of their own professional competences and their role as change agents in their schools.
- Improve their leadership and change management skills.
- Increase their understanding on how the use of technology can facilitate innovation.
- Have a clear vision about the progress of their schools that they will then set out to share with the rest of their school community.
- Develop a clear strategy for helping their schools to innovate and to develop as a learning community, in which other stakeholders, such as parents, are actively involved.
- Network with teachers from European countries, share ideas and successful practices and be empowered by a collaborating group of peers that will be engaged in follow-up interactions after the completion of the course.
- Have experienced a creative and inspired working atmosphere as well as a culture of collaboration among teachers of different science disciplines in organizing multidisciplinary activities to commonly develop ideas for Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships;

The ODS Academy 2016 offers a comprehensive open learning network approach that allows teachers to access and analyze their colleagues' course materials, share their own and collaborate with each other. All courses will encourage participants to examine their own teaching practices and compare them in the light of the best performing approaches developed during the academy.

Based on the **UNESCO ICT Competency Framework for teachers**, our courses address 6 competence areas that we will endeavor to develop:

| Competences | Learning objectives |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Policy and vision | Teachers and heads of schools develop a clear strategy for helping their schools to innovate and to develop as a learning community, in which other stakeholders, such as parents, are actively involved. |
| Curriculum and assessment | Teachers learn to assess their own individual competences as well as the development of their schools. |
| Pedagogy | Teachers learn to solve complex problems in pedagogy and development of self- management. |
| ICT | Progressing from basic ICT tools to sophisticated educational design and digital authoring tools |
| Organisation and administration | Promoting the school as an open learning community through learning to produce and share open resources. Improving leadership and change management skills. |
| Teacher professional development | Exchange of good practices among teachers and international networking between teachers and schools. |

Funding by Erasmus+

Your participation in any ODS Academy 2016 course can be funded by the **Erasmus+ Programme** (Key Action 1, Mobility project for school education staff). Teachers interested in the ODS Summer Academy 2016 can apply to their National Agencies for an Erasmus+ funding. The applications are submitted by the schools, and no individual personal applications can be submitted. The deadline

for funding applications is **February 2nd, 2016, 12:00 (noon) CET**. Eligible countries for Erasmus+ funding are the 28 EU member States, plus Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and FYROM. Since the course is taking place in Greece, all participants from Greece are unfortunately not eligible to apply for an Erasmus+ grant to attend it.

How to apply for funding?

The steps to follow to apply for an Erasmus+ (School Education Staff Mobility) grant are:

- Contact your [National Agency](#) to obtain information on the grant application procedures in your country.
- Contact us by [e-mail](#) (see contact details) to express your interest in our courses and if you need assistance with the application procedure. By doing so we will reserve places for your school/organization.
- Register your school/organization on the [European Commission Authentication Service \(ECAS\)](#) if not already registered.
- Log in to the [Participant Portal](#) with your ECAS account details and register your organization to obtain your unique Participant Identification Code (PIC), if not already registered.
- Download the application form for School education staff mobility of the Erasmus+ Programme from the website of your [National Agency](#).
- You will receive our application assistance form, giving useful guidelines on how to fill it in.
- Fill in and submit the application form to your [National Agency](#). The deadline is **February 2, 2016, 12:00 (noon) Brussels time**.
- Do not forget to inform us as soon as you get notified from your National Agency whether your grant application is accepted or rejected

After having submitted the funding application, fill in the registration form to the ODS Summer Academy 2016 with your details. This is an individual registration form, so if there is more than one participant from the same school, each one will have to submit a separate registration form.