e-teach
Upskilling Digital Pedagogy

Upskilling Digital Pedagogy for Teachers and Future Teachers
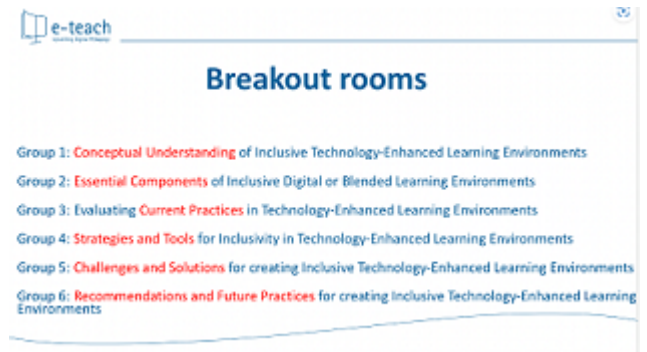
Eighth E-newsletter

THIS ISSUE

ABOUT THE E-TEACH CERTİFİCATE TRAİNİNG PROGRAM

Supported by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union, the four online workshop sessions of the E-Teach Certificate training program are crafted to provide educators with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance their digital teaching effectiveness. A total of 348 participants registered for this program. The initial session aimed to familiarize participants with the fundamentals of digital pedagogy, investigate innovative teaching methods and digital tools, comprehend digital pedagogical theories, and deliberate on the potential influence of these theories on the landscape of digital teaching and learning. In the second session, participants delved into the essential competencies for educators in the digital era. They also gained insights into successful approaches, platforms, and tools for crafting engaging digital content. During the third session, participants acquired valuable knowledge about the advantages and tactics of blended learning. They also explored cutting-edge technologies that elevate teaching and learning experiences. In the last session, attendees discovered strategies for digital planning, explored inventive assessment approaches, and understood the significance of evaluations in the digital era. In addition to the online workshop sessions, this extensive program included an online course on Open Educational Resources (OER) via the Canvas platform. As a result to the active and extensive participation in this program, teachers and future teachers received badges and certificates that confirm their dedication and commitment to professional growth and excellence in digital education. After completing this program, 71 certificates were granted to the candidates who met the rigorous requirements.
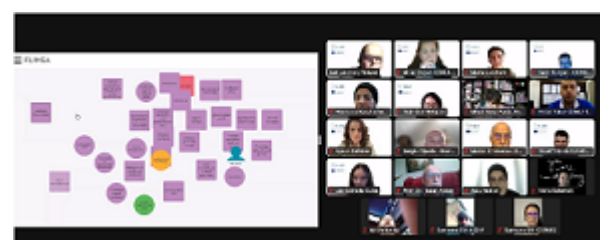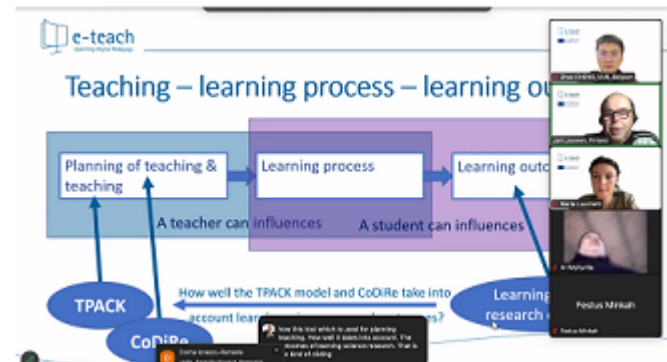
COMPLETİON OF SESSİON 1: CONCEPTS AND APPROACHES TO DİGİTAL PEDAGOGY

The first session, held on October 17, 2023 and hosted by Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University (COMU) and Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), marked a successful gathering of educators, scholars, and digital pedagogy enthusiasts worldwide. Key highlights included a deep exploration of digital pedagogy foundations, theories, and design principles, emphasizing the seamless integration of technology into teaching for inclusive and meaningful learning environments. The session featured interactive workshops and breakout sessions, enabling participants to share experiences and discuss challenges related to digital teaching and learning, drawing from diverse global and local perspectives. As a consequence, 107 participants earned badges as a mark of completing the activities of this session.
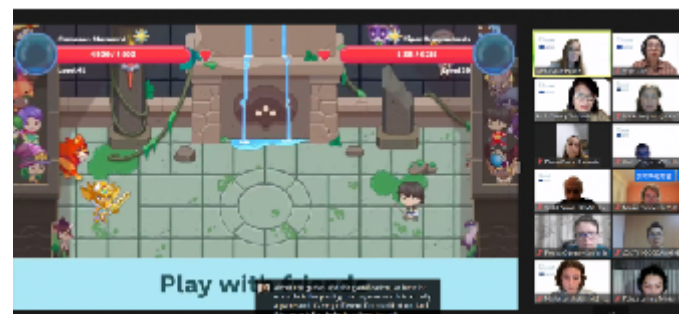

COMPLETİON OF SESSİON 2: DİGİTAL COMPETENCİES AND DİGİTAL CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Session 2, held on October 24, 2023 and hosted by the University of Helsinki (UH) & Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (LBUS), brought together passionate educators and teachers eager to explore the complexities of digital pedagogy. The session focused on crucial digital competencies for teachers in the modern era and revolved around grasping the intricacies of creating impactful digital content. Participants explored strategies and tools for crafting engaging content and engaged in practical exercises to refine their skills in digital content creation. They directly used tools like Miro, Mentimeter, Padlet, and Flinga to brainstorm in groups. These interactions emphasized the significance of adaptability and continuous learning in the current digital-centric education environment. As a consequence, 94 participants earned badges as a mark of completing the activities of this session.
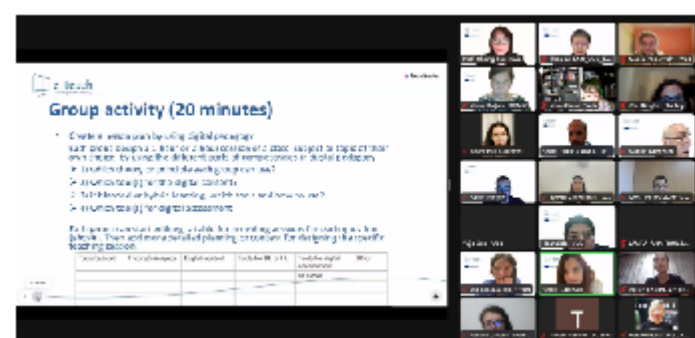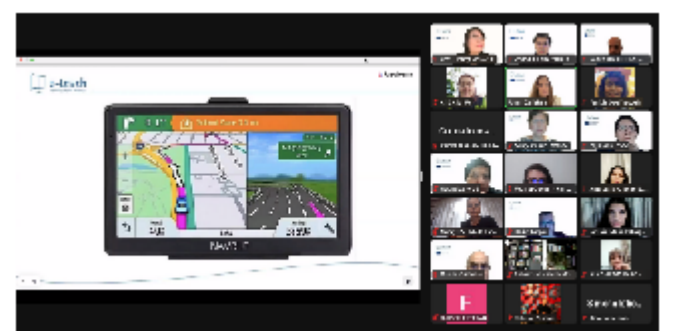
COMPLETİON OF SESSİON 3: E-BLENDED LEARNİNG AND EMERGİNG TECHNOLOGİES

Session 3, held on October 31, 2023 and hosted by the University of Social Sciences (SAN) and the Baltic Institute of Educational Technologies (BETI), focuses on the blended learning and emerging tecnologies. During this session, educators delved into a comprehensive study of blended learning through interactive discussions, weighing its benefits and drawbacks. They also examined the latest technological advancements influencing education. Topics ranged from artificial intelligence and machine learning to virtual and augmented reality. Through interactive discussions, participants collaborated to devise strategies for integrating emerging technologies into specific teaching scenarios. As a consequence, 82 participants earned badges as a mark of completing the activities of this session.

COMPLETİON OF SESSİON 4: DİGİTAL PLANNİNG AND DİGİTAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATİON

The Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) hosted the fourth session on November 7, 2023, that focuses on digital planning and digital evaluation. Educators were introduced to vital digital planning tools and strategies crucial for contemporary curriculum development. The emphasis shifted to exploring various forms of digital assessments, including formative and summative tools. A substantial part of the session involved dicussions and hands-on practice, where educators applied their newly acquired knowledge in real-world scenarios. This practical engagement was instrumental in highlighting the tangible implications and benefits of integrating digital strategies into teaching. As a consequence, 81 participants earned badges as a mark of completing the activities of this session.

WHAT İS NEXT?

1.   E-TEACH TRANSNATIONAL MEETING AND ALTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN LITHUANIA

The upcoming E-Teach Transnational Meeting in Lithuania, hosted by the Baltic Education Technology Institute (BETI) will take place on 11th of December, 2023 and the much-anticipated ALTA International Conference will take place on the 12th of December, 2023. This year's ALTA conference theme is "Advanced Learning Technologies and Applications. EMPOWERING LEARNING THROUGH DIGITAL PEDAGOGY."

The ALTA'2023 conference, a gathering of Europe's educational community, serves as a platform for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers to share experiences, research, and projects related to e-learning methodologies and innovative technologies in education and research. This year, the conference features a dedicated parallel session spotlighting the e-Teach project. Partners are encouraged to present scholarly papers, fostering intellectual discussions and facilitating learning from diverse aspects of the project.

2.   TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING AND FINAL PROJECT CONFERENCE

The upcoming **Transnational Project Meeting and Final Project Conference** at Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium, is scheduled for February 1-2, 2024. This significant event marks the successful culmination of collaborative efforts to advance education through digital technology.

The final meeting and conference in Brussels will provide a platform for project partners to present findings, share insights, and discuss achievements and outcomes. Key topics include digital professional development of teachers, impact on partner institutions and wider audiences, and sustainability and future initiatives in digital education.

The event will feature interactive sessions, demonstrations, workshops, and collaborative discussions, fostering an environment of knowledge exchange and cooperation. Stakeholders and educators from various countries are anticipated to attend, creating a truly transnational gathering of experts, professionals, and learners in the digital education field.