

CRITICAL THINKING FOR THE 21st CENTURY CLASSROOM

Erasmus+ KA1 course



Course overview

It is important to acknowledge the fact that there are many definitions of the term “critical thinking. Dewey speaks about critical thinking as “active, persistent and careful consideration of a belief or supposed form of knowledge in light of the grounds that support it, and the further conclusions to which it tends (Dewey, 1909)

Critical thinking is not a matter of accumulating information. A person with a good memory and who knows a lot of facts is not necessarily good at critical thinking. A critical thinker is able to deduce consequences from what they know and also knows how to make use of information to solve problems, and to seek relevant sources of information to inform themselves.

The global knowledge economy is driven by information and technology. One has to be able to deal with changes quickly and effectively. The new economy places increasing demands on flexible intellectual skills, and the ability to analyse information and integrate diverse sources of knowledge in solving problems. Good critical thinking promotes such thinking skills, and is very important in the fast-changing world. In order to live a meaningful life and to structure our lives accordingly, we need to justify and reflect on our values and decisions. Critical thinking provides the tools for this process of self-evaluation.

This workshop aims to help teachers to develop an understanding of the relevance of critical thinking on a personal level and share ideas for, and experiences of, critical thinking methodologies in the classroom. Teachers will also consider what sort of activities might be useful to help pupils engage critically with global issues by exploring different methodologies for critical thinking and considering different resources and stimuli.

“It’s not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer.” Albert Einstein

Application form relevant topics

key competencies, critical thinking, learner-led classrooms, teacher as facilitator, global learning,

Course Methodology

Each module covers a different aspect of critical thinking. Coursework will incorporate your existing knowledge and experience and provide a helpful learning environment with a vibrant mix of theoretical and practical knowledge. Demonstration and interaction within an international group setting will show the value of collaboration and shared experience in discussion.

Modules

Module 01 – Why do we teach?

Module 02 – The 21st Century classroom

Module 03 – Critical Thinking methodologies – Part 1

Module 04 – Demonstration Class

Module 05 – Critical Thinking methodologies – Part 2

Module 06 – Controversial issues & Critical Thinking
Module 07 – Digital Literacy & Critical Thinking
Module 08 – Critical Thinking for Community Engagement
Module 09 – Critical Thinking for Early Years education
Module 10 - Cross Curricular development
Guided City Tour

Learning outcomes

- Incorporate key components of critical thinking methods into lesson planning and delivery.
- Empower teachers with useful tools to develop classroom units incorporating critical thinking skills.
- Encourage collaboration through project development and thinking games.
- Learn how to embed these methods into existing curriculum framework to develop an interdisciplinary approach.
- Revise and develop personal and professional competences, build confidence in promoting use of critical thinking, support innovative and active pedagogies responsive to social and cultural diversity.
- Meet colleagues of different nationalities within the EU, engage in cross-cultural learning experience, exchange ideas and build a network for future international cooperation.

General Course Information

Before the course:

- ✓ You will be required to complete a pre-course questionnaire.
- ✓ You will receive a Changemakers Unltd course pack with all necessary information.

After the Course:

- ✓ Course evaluation form
- ✓ Certificates
- ✓ Course materials in e-form / Other materials for self-study and dissemination of the techniques.

Please contact us: changemakersunltd@gmail.com

EACH COURSE WILL BE HELD WITH MINIMUM OF 15 COURSE
PARTICIPANTS