



# Open Discovery Space 2014 Summer School

Attica, Greece,  
13-18 July 2014

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

## Description

The Open Discovery Space Summer School 2014 is a school development and innovation course, addressed to teachers and school leaders. The aim of the course is to support school innovation and to train teachers and leaders of European schools to act as successful change agents in their schools and to promote the development of their schools into open learning communities, and thus improve the quality of all aspects of schooling. The course is thus addressed to members of school staff who are already acting or are willing to act as committed mediators of innovation in their schools. It will be a participatory learning course, which will address participants' and schools' real needs. The participants will therefore 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. The course will also focus on promoting the opening-up of the school, and will therefore explore parental engagement in schooling as a key aspect that can foster innovation and facilitate school development and quality of learning. The course will include presentations of actual experiences, lectures, interviews, group-work, observations and some playful activities aimed to stimulate out-of-the-box thinking and innovation.

The course is addressed to Primary and Secondary School teachers and school leaders from European countries. Participation in the course can be funded by the ERASMUS+ programme. More info on the eligible countries and on the process for applying is available on our website [ods.ea.gr](http://ods.ea.gr). The course, as well as all training material, will be delivered in English.

### Course Objectives

The **objectives** of the course are to equip teachers and school leaders with skills that will enable them to promote innovation and development in their schools, so as to improve the quality of schooling and support the modernisation of the education provided in their schools.

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

- 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



Participation in this course can be funded by the ERASMUS+ Programme (Key Action 1, Mobility Project for school education staff). The deadline for applications is March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 12:00 CET!



### Preparation

The participants of the course will have to prepare:

- 1) A short presentation of their school's profile that they will share with the rest of the group, that will include specified key-aspects of the school profile.
- 2) A **scenario/ design of a school-based activity that will actively engage pupils' parents**. This activity could be related to any curriculum area or aspect of schooling, based on the context and needs of participants' schools. More details can be found on the Summer School website: [ods.ea.gr](http://ods.ea.gr)

- 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.

The course is also planned to have a long-term impact on European schools by setting-up a Pan-European network of change-agents that will be sustained and expanded after the end of the course, through the Open Discovery Space platform  
<http://portal.opendiscovery.space.eu/>

As a follow-up to the training course, the participants will be asked to produce and implement an individualized strategy that will attempt to help their schools develop and innovate in specified areas. The progress of the implementation of this strategy will be monitored and shared among the community of participants by making use of the Open Discovery Space community of change agent teachers, enabling thus for ongoing reflection-on-action and for making possible improvements in the selected course of action. Through this process, opportunities for follow up interaction not only among schools, but also among schools and education/ innovation experts will also be offered.

### Follow-up

In order to assess whether, and to what extent, the course has reached its objectives and expected results the participants will have to answer, during and at the end of the course, a set of relevant questionnaires that will be provided by the course providers. The results of the survey or a so-called evaluation report will be available to all participants of the course.



## How to apply for an ERASMUS+ grant

Teachers and school leaders who are interested in the ODS Summer School 2014 can apply to their National Agencies for an ERASMUS+ Funding, under Key Action 1, "Individual mobility". Although the type of action is entitled "Individual mobility", the applications are submitted by the participants' schools- no individual applications can be submitted. The deadline for funding applications is **March 17, 2014, 12:00 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, participants from Greece are not eligible to apply for an ERASMUS+ grant to attend it.

Taking part in this course can be included in the school's application to ERASMUS+ as a training activity. Please consult the description of the course (objectives, preparation, follow-up) available at the url [ods.ea.gr](http://ods.ea.gr) in order to fill in the application and read carefully the information provided below on the ERASMUS+ application process.

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. National Agency contact details can be found at: [http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/national-agencies\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/national-agencies_en.htm).
- Contact us by e-mail (see contact details below) to express your interest in our course and if you need assistance with the application procedure. By doing so we will reserve places for your school/organisation.
- Register your school/organisation on the European Commission Authentication Service (ECAS) <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/eim/external/register.cgi> , if not already registered.
- Log in to the Participant Portal <http://ec.europa.eu/education/participants/portal/desktop/en/home.html> with your ECAS account details and register your organisation on the Unique Registration Facility (URF) to obtain your unique Participant Identification Code (PIC), if not already registered. The European Commission has produced a Participant Portal User [Manual](#) to help guide you through the process of registering on the portal. You may seek further assistance on this by contacting your [National Agency](#)
- 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 according to the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.
- Fill in and submit the application form to your National Agency. **The deadline is 17th of March 2014, 12:00 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 School 2014 with your details. This is an individual registration form, so if there are more than one participants from the same school, each one will have to submit a separate registration form.



We will be happy  
to help you to  
prepare your  
application!

## CONTACT US

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