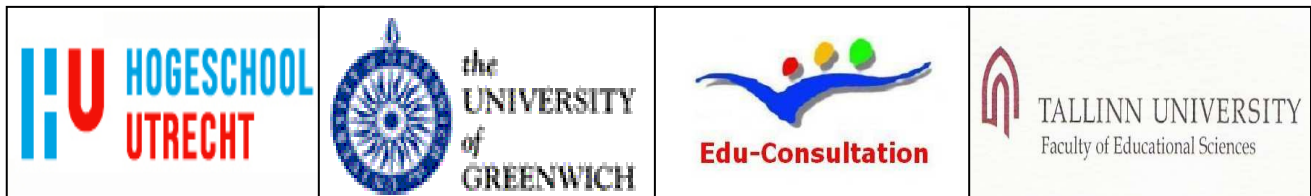


- You share the idea of solving classroom problems where they occur...
- You take an active interest in pupil- and/or learning-support...
- You believe in learning together with European colleagues...
- You like to take part in further EU-actions on teacher-support...

So... JOIN US



The – INSPIRE - Consortium

Organizing

**The 4th < INSPIRE >
Comenius Course 2009**

***Innovations in
Special Educational Needs Support
in Regular Education***

***Practical implementation of Inclusion
in schools and classrooms***

Comenius Catalogue reference number : NL2009-187-001

Tallinn, Estonia, October 10-16, 2009

More information from: gden@skynet.be or ceesgrol@fcc.feo.hvu.nl
Or at: http://www.edu-consultation.org/inspire_home.html

Aims and concept

The course in Tallinn is the 4th edition of "INSPIRE", after Dublin (2004), Albufeira (2005) and Ljubljana (2007). The course still focuses on Innovations in Special Educational Needs Support In Regular Education. The concrete programme however is substantially updated.

The focus of this conference will be on:

- *the theory and basic concepts of inclusion in education, as revealed by the current policies and practices in the various E.U member states.*
- *meeting the new challenges of inclusion, caused by changing legislation and changing practical situations in classes and schools, notably a changing school population.*
- *effective support for teachers for the practical implementation of inclusion, as to diversification of the curriculum and managing a classroom with children causing complex difficulties.*

The conference methods used will include lectures, discussions and evaluation of case studies during workshops. Key note presentations will be delivered on important issues and recent developments regarding inclusion of learners in need of special educational support in regular education, in primary as well as in secondary education. As part of the course programme schools and support services will be visited in the Tallinn Region, to meet Estonian colleagues and to review the current developments in the Republic of Estonia.

Organization

The conference is organized by an academic consortium of collaborating universities and independent consultants: the Utrecht University of advanced professional education in The Netherlands, the University of Greenwich-London, the University of Tallinn, Estonia, and Mr. Gust Dens, independent educational consultant from Flanders, Belgium.

Target groups

The main target audience are: teachers, teacher trainers, support teachers, consultants, advisers, and other professionals s.a. schools-pedagogues, child psychologists, social workers, etc. School level: Pre-Primary, Primary, Secondary, Vocational, Special education. The maximal number of available places is 40.

Dates and location

The course will be in the city of Tallinn, Capital of the Republic of Estonia, from Saturday, October 10th. (arrival day / PM) till Friday, October 16th. (departure after lunch). Details of hotel and accommodation modalities will be forwarded to the registered participants.

Preparation and certification

Participants are expected to prepare themselves for the conference by studying a reader compiled of relevant articles on the conference issues. They are also invited to present a short contribution based on their personal experience with inclusion. This contribution should focus on main inclusion issues such as: '**managing curriculum diversity**', '**effective support delivery**', '**the challenge of complex problems**', '**involvement of parents**' etc. These contributions will be presented and discussed in thematic pannel sessions. In this way participants will learn from each other.

The main language of the conference will be English but during group activities other languages may be spoken, depending on the languages spoken by the participants. Each participant will receive a named certificate after the conference on behalf of the three collaborating universities.

Costs and payments

The total price per participant is **1150** Euro. This includes: 600 Euro for accomodation & subsistence, and 550 Euro for the the course fee (including materials). There is a cancellation fee of 100 Euro, which will be refunded when application for a grant at the National LLP Agency has a negative result. **Bank account details of the course organisation:** Will be forwarded to interested applicants after receiving the 'registration form' at: <http://www.edu-consultation.org/Tallinn-RegistrationForm.doc>. The organiser will then send a "confirmation of registration" including all the necessary data for paying the booking fee (100 Eur.) and a schedule for paying the remaining balance of the total cost.

Course Programme

Saturday, October 10: Travelling day and arrival in Tallinn

PM: Reception and registration.
Participants to assemble in the foyer of the hotel for supper at 19:00

Sunday, October 11: Introduction day

AM: Participants getting to know each other: "Eurobingo"
Identification of participants' experiences and expectations related to the course
Group discussions on relevant statements about educational inclusion
Presentation of a follow-up and personal evaluation tool
PM: Cultural programme and guided tour in Tallinn Old City.

Monday, October 12: Inclusion: Concepts and Trends

AM: Inclusion, threats and challenges(Key note presentation). Overview of recent developments in the EU Countries. We aim at a joint contribution by the course team and partners from Estonia, eventually Latvia and Lithuania.
PM: Policies and practices, plenary session: Interactive reflection in international groups (based on the themes addressed in the morning programme, focusing on developing 'a vision for the future'. Displaying outcomes of reflections on posters.

Tuesday, October 13: Innovative practices at school- and classroom level

AM: Inclusion in action: problems and challenges. Focus of the day: "What bothers...?"
PM: Activities by the participants based on their personal contributions, structured along main topics of inclusion such as: managing curriculum diversity, coping with complex problems in the classroom; effective support for teachers; involvement of parents, etc.
Participants are invited to send in their proposals and ideas in advance. Focus is on what they feel comfortable with, e.g. displaying a poster, showing a video, doing a PowerPoint.

Wednesday, October 14: School visits in Tallinn

AM: School visits and discussion of experiences, examples of good practice, similarities and differences of practices.
PM: Cultural Programme, "inspired" by the local hosts.

Thursday, October 15: Coping with inclusion on a daily basis

AM: Inclusion in action: Consultation and support for teachers. Focus on: "what works well?"
Introduction of a tool to organise, implement and sustain peer-to-peer support in the school. Workshop in which participants learn to use this tool effectively.
PM: Activities by the participants based on their personal contributions, structured along main topics of inclusion such as: managing curriculum diversity, coping with complex problems in the classroom; effective support for teachers; involvement of parents, etc.
Participants are invited to send in their proposals and ideas in advance. Focus is on what they feel comfortable with, e.g. displaying a poster, showing a video, doing a PowerPoint.

Friday, October 16: Synthesis, evaluation and further planning

AM: Synthesis of the seminar
Preparation of the individual ECTS-reports
Written evaluation, reflections on the seminar and personal action planning.
PM: Closing of the seminar and departure of the participants.

Registration and application for a grant

Please follow the following procedure:

1. Send an preliminary application (registration form) to the course organiser (address below). You will soon receive an invoice to pay a deposit of € 100, and a 'confirmation of acceptance'.
2. Request **BEFORE APRIL 30th 2009** a course grant from your National LLP Agency, and include our 'acceptance confirmation' to this request.
See the address of your national LLP agency and look for the proper **application form** for the grant on: http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/national_en.html
3. As soon as you get informed by your National Agency that you will receive a grant, contact us again, and **confirm** your participation.
4. You will then receive an invoice for the full course costs. On receipt of your payment you are formally registered as participant.
5. Deadline for final registration **September 1, 2009**, or earlier, when the number of available places will be reached.

Further information

The organizing institution: Utrecht University of Professional Education, Faculty of Education, Seminarium for Orthopedagogiek, represented by Mr. Cees Grol, Senior Lecturer.

Contact person for all matters concerning content, registration and payment :
Mr. Gust Dens - Mail to : educonsult@skynet.be Tel. ++32 16 22 12 59.

USEFUL LINKS AND TOOLS

Source information

This course results from the Socrates Project: 94284-CP-1-2001-1-NL-COMENIUS-C21

Formal course information in EU course database:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/llp/istcoursedatabase/index.cfm?fuseaction=DisplayCourse&cid=20001>

Course Reference number: NL-2009-187-001

Other useful links

Description of the Comenius IST action

http://ec.europa.eu/education/comenius/doc/fiches/ist_en.pdf

In-service-training courses / Comenius Individual Mobility

http://ec.europa.eu/education/comenius/doc990_en.htm

EU Training Database

<http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/>

Instructions for searching and applying

<http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/instructions%20for%20applying-EN.doc>

Deadlines 2009

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/COM GRU decision timetable 2008-2009 EN.doc](http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/COM_GRU_decision_timetable_2008-2009_EN.doc)

In Service Training / FAQ

http://ec.europa.eu/education/comenius/doc/faq092_en.pdf

Adresses of National Agencies

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/national_en.html

Comenius IST-Aanvraagformulier BE-Vlaamse Gemeenschap

<http://epos-vlaanderen.be/Uploads/dbsAttachedFiles/2009-COM-IST-Nederlands.doc>