

# Upskilling Digital Pedagogy for Teachers and Future Teachers

*First E-newsletter*

## THIS ISSUE

Introduction to the Project.....	<b>P.1</b>
Project Objectives.....	<b>P.2</b>
Project Core Output.....	<b>P.2</b>
Project Consortium.....	<b>P.3</b>
Digital Pedagogy in Traditional Classrooms...	<b>P.4</b>
Kick-off Meeting.....	<b>P.5</b>
First Transnational Project Meeting.....	<b>P.5</b>

## INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

The e-Teach project is an EU-supported Erasmus+ project with a partnership of 6 educational institutions from six countries. The partners include Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium), Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University (Turkey), Baltic Education Technology Institute (Lithuania), University of Helsinki (Finland), Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (Romania), and University of Social Sciences (SAN) (Poland).

The e-Teach project aims to transform the pedagogical methods and techniques to digital pedagogic methods and techniques. The project develops Digital Pedagogy and provides training for teachers and prospective teachers on how to use digital pedagogy in digital learning applications and innovative teaching.



[www.e-teach-eu.net](http://www.e-teach-eu.net)

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Transform the pedagogical methods and techniques to digital pedagogic methods and techniques

Transform traditional pedagogic practices into digital pedagogy for the successful realization of the learning and teaching processes of students in the digital environment

Provide a digital guide to implement the digital pedagogy in online education.

Train teachers and prospective teachers how to use digital pedagogy in digital learning applications and innovative teaching (such as flipped learning applications).

Enhancing capacity building of prospective teachers in the departments of education and enabling them to excel in teaching & learning.

Promoting digital pedagogy for better cognitive and digital skills of prospective teachers in departments of education

## PROJECT CORE OUTPUT

Two intellectual outputs in the project:

**1**

**Knowledge Paper of Upskilling Digital Pedagogy for Teachers and Modular Course Curriculum for Digital Pedagogy**

**2**

**Scenario-based Digital Pedagogy Teacher Guide for Learning/Teaching Practices & the online course on Digital Pedagogy.**

## Digital Pedagogy

Digital pedagogy has defined the use of digital technologies to shape teaching qualifications and transform teaching practices and learning experiences. In this regard, teachers need to discover the digital part of education, which is a new dimension and to teach lessons by pedagogy with solutions for students' needs.

Digital pedagogy includes many subjects, such as knowing the needs of the individual, that is, the student, keeping the classroom atmosphere in balance, motivating the student, monitoring their success, and enabling students to express their feelings while teaching the lesson with these technologies.

The concept of digital pedagogical competence refers to the ability to consistently apply the attitudes, knowledge and skills required to plan and conduct, and to evaluate and revise on an ongoing basis, ICT-supported teaching based on theory, current research and proven experience to support student's learning in the best possible way.

Teachers' use of technology with digital pedagogical approaches may present opportunities or risks to existing educational settings. Therefore, digital pedagogy competence starts with digital transformation and defines the process of finding solutions to social and educational needs with the integration of digital technologies.



## PROJECT CONSORTIUM



**Vrije Universiteit  
Brussel**

The Vrije Universiteit Brussel is the offshoot of the French-speaking Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) that was founded in 1834. VUB has more than 14, 000 students, among which 23% are international students. VUB offers 27 Bachelor programmes, 90 Master and Advanced Master (32 are taught in English) programmes, and over 35 Ph.D. disciplines. VUB has over 3000 staff at the university and 3,350 staff at the university hospital, UZ Brussel. Innovation and internationalization are the core strategies of the university. Companies and institutions expect the new generation of graduates to think and work innovatively and at an international level. Many VUB researchers are ranked as world-class. VUB has awarded honorary doctorates to Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi, Václav Havel, and Sonia Gandhi, among others.



**Çanakkale Onsekiz  
Mart University**

Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University (ÇOMU) was founded in 1992, with its new status and intake from Turkey's large youth population, the university developed quickly in terms of the number of students, staff and facilities, spurring the opening of new faculties and colleges. The university has over 47.500 students participating in a wide variety of programs taught by 2000 academic staff in 18 faculties, 1 institute, 3 colleges, 12 vocational high schools, 50 research and application centers and a Research Hospital.



**University of Social  
Sciences**

Spoleczna Akademia Nauk (University of Social Sciences) is one of the leading private universities in Poland having 16.000 students and numerous academic staff. In the educational rankings, published by the influential national magazines our Academy is placed very high. There are 25 departments, including Management, Pedagogy, Psychology Sociology and IT studies. As an educational organization University of Social Sciences promotes multidisciplinary approach, bringing together researchers from a diversity of backgrounds (economics, humanities, artistic, educational science, etc.). Our University has potential to provide support (according to specific roles and tasks assigned within the consortium) to project's activities having an immense expertise and experienced staff in respective field. The Institute of Educational Studies prepares teachers to become professional educators, open for challenges of the rapidly changing environment that surrounds us.

## **BETI** Baltic Educational Technology Institute

BETI was founded in 2003 by an active team of professionals who have been working in the field of ICT and education technologies for more than 18 years. While implementing different activities in higher education and vocational training sectors the rich experience, knowledge and skills were accumulated in the field of ICT enhanced training, distance education methodology, learning technologies, multimedia production, development of web applications, etc. The team has been actively participating in national and European initiatives, namely, Framework, Eureka, Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, Phare, UNESCO and others.



HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO  
HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET  
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

## University of Helsinki

The University of Helsinki is a highly reputable university that has been ranked among the top universities worldwide in various rankings (QS World University Ranking, <http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings>; Shanghai Ranking, <http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2014.html>). Also, it is one of the leading research universities in Europe and belongs to the League of the European Research Universities (LERU, <http://www.leru.org>). The teaching provided by the University of Helsinki is based on scientific research. The University of Helsinki, established in 1640, has the widest range of disciplines in Finland. There are altogether 11 faculties with 38,000 degree students and 7,600 staff. The University operations support the development of society and industry.

## DIGITAL PEDAGOGY IN TRADITIONAL CLASSROOMS

In schools, teachers can increase interest in lessons by using technological tools. In this way, the teachers can ensure that their digitized lecture attracts more attention and leaves a good impression. For this reason, educators often focus on using tools rather than the subject. However, it should include skills other than technology to realize mastery of learning, for the lecture to reach its goals, for student motivation and for a long-term learning experience. Most of these skills are related to the subject and digital pedagogy. There are two essential components of digital pedagogy:



## Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

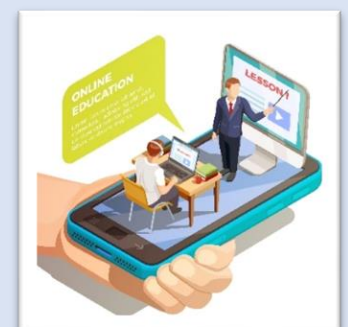
LBUS is a public institution, established in 1990. The origin of LBUS as an academic institution is recorded in the first months of 1990, immediately after the overturn of the political regime in Romania – therefore LBUS is a young university. The University of Sibiu became a legal entity by means of the Romanian Government Decree no. 255 of March 5, 1990 which stipulated that the former Sibiu Higher Education Institute changed into an independent University subordinated to the Ministry of Education. On May 12, 1995 the University of Sibiu was granted the name of the distinguished Romanian writer and philosopher Lucian Blaga.

### Digital Pedagogy in Education

*Technological advances and social change put tremendous pressure on educational systems and organizations. Educators constantly challenge refining teaching and learning techniques to keep up with students' increasing demands and expectations.*

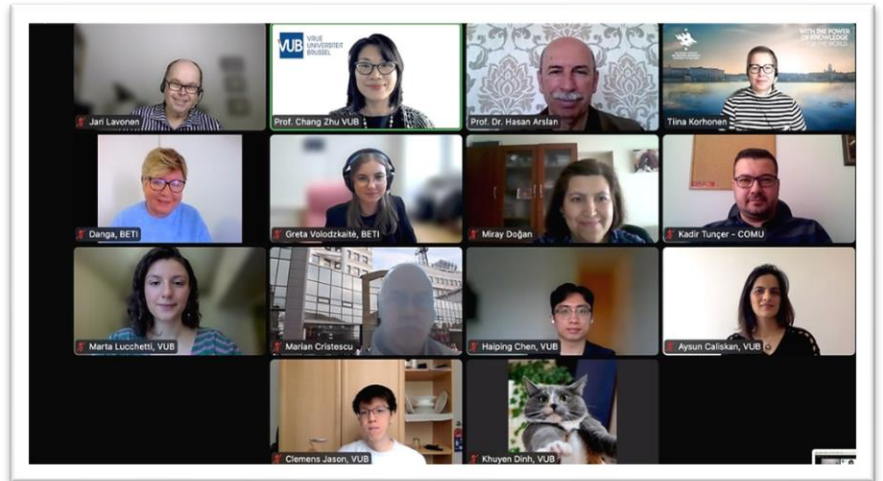
*Teachers must implement the pedagogical change indicated in current educational reform agendas; professional development programs must look beyond first-order barriers to the intrinsic, more complex second-order barriers of teacher beliefs and how they influence ICT implementation in the class-room.*

*In this regard, digital pedagogy is a concept that starts with digital transformation and defines the process of finding solutions to social and educational needs with the integration of digital technologies and, accordingly, the development and change of all kinds of systems and cultures.*



## KICK – OFF MEETING

The e-Teach project online kick-off meeting took place on 30/03/2022. This is the first online kick-off meeting of the e-Teach project partners. All partners introduced each other and elaborated on the project work plan and implementation issues. The coordinator VUB introduced the overall plan of the project and project management related issues. Key partner COMU presented the work plan regarding the project intellectual output Knowledge Paper of Upskilling Digital Pedagogy for Teachers and Modular Course Curriculum for Digital Pedagogy.



## FIRST TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING

e-Teach Project F2F Transnational Project Meeting in Brussels, 19 Sep.2022. Monday, 19 September 2022 marks the the first face-to-face meeting of the transnational e-Teach project. The meeting was held successfully at VUB Campus in Etterbeek, Brussels. This is the first transnational and in-person meeting for all the members of the e-Teach project. The partnership consists of six educational institutions: Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Baltic Education Technology Institute, University of Helsinki, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, and University of Social Sciences (SAN) Poland.



The goal of the e-Teach initiative is to convert traditional educational methods and techniques to digital educational approaches and methods. The project creates Digital Pedagogy and trains teachers and future teachers on how to utilize it in digital learning and creative teaching. After a warm welcome and introduction for all the partners and attendants, two presentations were demonstrated by one of the key partners COMU and the coordinator VUB, as well as several issues related to e-teach project knowledge paper and curriculum for digital courses were discussed actively among partners.