

Memo

From: Peter Dankmeijer, director
To: potential partners KA1 courses
Date: 30 March, 2016

Sexual Diversity in Schools

A European course on Homophobia/Transphobia in schools

In July 2015, GALE offered a European course on combating homophobia and transphobia in schools in Sitges, Spain. The course will be repeated from **Monday 23 May until Friday 27 May** (5 days). The course takes place in Sitges and is hosted by SVS (Association of Sitges Volunteers). The program runs from 9:00 in the morning till 4 in the afternoon, leaving some free time to go to the beach, a bar or to shop. We will suggest affordable restaurants to have dinner together. In Spain, dinner is later than in Northern Europe, so this will usually be between 8 or 9 PM.

Program

The course "Combating homophobia/transphobia in schools" focuses mostly on how to change a school culture to be more LGBT friendly and less heteronormative; this is partly about how people deal with this on a personal level, but also about how heteronormativity translates in a negative organizational culture and how organizational change can be stimulated. A core element in the course is how schools can teach students to deal with negative emotions and opinions they may have about things that are "different" from their regular expectations, values and group norms.

This is the general program:

Sunday: arrivals

Monday: exploring how homophobia/transphobia works, with young people but also within ourselves

Tuesday: exploring our own drives to do (peer) education and how it influences our strategies

Wednesday: introduction to a range of educational discussion techniques and other educational methods like drama and simulation games, and trying them out

Thursday: exploring how homophobia/transphobia works to make a school structurally unsafe and how to stimulate and coach organizational change of a school culture

Friday: a skill building day on how to deal with strong emotional and biased opinions of students, teachers, principals and politicians in teaching, consulting and advocacy

Saturday or later: departures

The fee includes access to an online (e-)course which covers the same issues.

Costs

- The course fee is €420 per person, 80% (€336) to be paid before the course, 20% (€84) afterwards. The fee corresponds with the €70 the Erasmus KA1 program finances per training day including one travel day. (<http://www.erasmusplus.nl>)
- For participants without European funding, a discount can be arranged. Please contact us.
- The course fee does include the facilitation, the training room, course materials and tea/coffee.
- The course fee does NOT include travel, accommodation, or meals.
- The training accommodation can offer a breakfast & lunch arrangement of € 95 per person for the whole week, This is €19 per day for an elaborate breakfast buffet and a 3-course hot lunch.

Arrangements

1. You will get a contract, information about the exact time and location, and suggestions for hotels/rooms, so you can book your travel and accommodation.
2. After returning the signed contract, you pay the 80% advance payment.
3. Just before the training, you pay the 20% second payment.
4. A few weeks before the training you will get a detailed program.
5. After the training you will receive a certificate stating your participation in the training.

To do now

- If you are interested, please mail p.dankmeijer@gale.info
- Let us know how many participants would like to participate
- Let us know if you want to make use of the breakfast/lunch arrangement

Not available now?

Next year, GALE will offer this course again, and also a course on how to do research on SOGI-phobia. Your organization can ask a grant for participation in these courses. The deadline for asking such an Erasmus+ "KA1" grant is in the end of February. Look for

information on the website of your national Erasmus+ authority

(http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/national-agencies/index_en.htm).