

Course title	Bringing biodiversity into the classroom
Course code	077
Course category	Global citizenship education
Course purpose and overview	<p>In teaching students about biodiversity, you help students understand biodiversity as a measure of planetary health.</p> <p>What resources can you use to let students experience markers of biodiversity, both within individual ecosystems and of the interconnectedness for the planet as a whole? Learn more about biodiversity teaching activities, lesson ideas, film clips, career resources, background information, practical tips and suggested teaching strategies through a full immersion experience about biodiversity.</p> <p>Join us and visit the unique Padova Biodiversity Garden: more than 1,300 plant species in uniform climatic environments in terms of temperature and humidity, emulating the conditions of the planet's biomes in an itinerary that also takes in anthropological items and interactive exhibits!</p> <p>Outdoor lessons will take place in the Natura 2000 Sites of Community Importance inside the Euganean Hills and Po Delta Regional Parks in order to observe and have a direct experience of different plant species and different environments.</p> <p>Debriefing those direct-learning experiences is a such a great opportunity to discuss openly, practice and exchange ideas with teachers interested in the topic of biodiversity in the classroom and be engaged with a meaningful process of mutual curiosity and collective reflections.</p>
Course structure and content	The course is structured in one third of the lessons in the classroom and two thirds in the outdoor.
Duration	One week
Daily programme example	<p>Here is an example of the programme:</p> <p><i>Day 0</i> (usually Sunday) Arrival date</p> <p><i>Day 1</i> Welcome and introduction Ice breakers and team-building exercises Presentation of the participants and their environment What is biodiversity in your opinion. List of common ground and other views. Discussion Cultural and social activities Feedback day 1</p> <p><i>Day 2</i> The birth of biodiversity on our planet. Adaptative strategies in response to climate changes The ecosystem and the relationship among all the living beings. The lowering of biodiversity endangers humanity Group activity: link biodiversity to geography, where can we find the richest biodiversity? Why? Discussion</p> <p><i>Day 3</i> Old Botanical Garden of Padova: centuries-old trees and insectivorous plants From the rainy forests to the deserts in the Biodiversity Botanical Garden of Padova: the biomes</p>

	<p>How man change the biodiversity rate: endangered habitats. Importance of biodiversity in agriculture Cultural and social activities <i>Day 4</i> Outdoor whole-day lesson: the Porto Caleri Coastal botanic Garden. Landscape geomorphological description Relationship between geomorphology and biodiversity: adaptative strategies. Group activity, recognise plants (i.e. with Google lens) and shoot photographs Count biodiversity: collecting data to build graphs and thematic maps Cultural and social activities <i>Day 5</i> Practical activity: produce graphs with the data collected in the previous days produce thematic maps with the data collected in the previous days Complete the thematic maps including photograph Use arts (draft, photographs, poetry) to highlight the differences. Create your abstract artwork: simplify to highlight peculiarities Discussion of future cooperation and planning follow-up activities / Brainstorming dissemination ideas Final feedback Validation of learning outcomes and a certification ceremony Cultural and social activities <i>Day 6</i> Full-day trip <i>Day 7</i> Departure date</p> <p>Programme details may be subject to amendment based on trainer, participant needs and other factors such public holidays. Changes might be needed to make up for time lost due to unforeseen or changing circumstances which might be out of the reasonable control of the hosting organisation.</p>
Learning objectives	<p>Enhance knowledge of biodiversity and its significance in ecological balance. Develop creative ways to integrate biodiversity concepts across various teaching fields. Acquire skills to create original thematic maps for outdoor biodiversity activities. Raise awareness about personal relationship with nature and sustainability education. Build empowerment in teachers and classrooms to navigate challenging situations while teaching biodiversity.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>Improve knowledge about Biodiversity Develop ideas on how to introduce biodiversity concepts in other teaching fields such as literature, geography, arts and maths How to produce original thematic maps concerning outdoor activities Raise awareness about your personal relationship with nature and sustainability education Build empowerment in teachers and classrooms in challenging situations Improve knowledge to shape effective hands-on lessons to teach biodiversity Implement new teaching resources immediately upon finishing the course Be able to plan specific activities connected with your context and objectives</p>
Assessment and validation of learning outcomes	<p>The learning outcomes will be assessed and validated through various methods during the course: group discussions, lesson plans and teaching demonstrations, group projects, reflective journaling</p>

Target audience	Teachers of primary to secondary school of any subject as course aims to share/include/spread the biodiversity concepts in other fields than natural science
Admission requirements for participants	No specific requirements
Language of delivery	English
Language level requirements for participants	B1 or more
Maximum number of participants	20

Please note that the course outlined is intended as an example only and may not necessarily be fully executed in accordance with all its details. Our need analysis is primarily based on enrolment information, information shared at kick-off meetings, and pre-evaluation of competencies. As such, it is possible that the programme may be adjusted to better accommodate the diverse needs of participants.