

## Special Mobility Strand

### University of Salzburg (PLUS):

#### 1. CONCRETE OBJECTIVIES AND TOPICS OF TRAINING

##### 1.1 General framework

The SMS-training offered by PLUS (University of Salzburg) will concentrate on methods, didactics, tools, and practices of values education, especially on the didactical approach *VaKE* (Values *and* Knowledge Education). In addition, we will visit some institutions addressing issues of civic education. Finally, one day the group of Linz (PHOO) will come to Salzburg and present their own approach.

The general objective of the *VaKE* unit is to enable the participants to conceive, execute, and evaluate *VaKE* courses and to implement such courses in their own institution. This requires that the participants are familiar with the underlying theories, the methods (steps and specific techniques), tools for assessment, and previous experiences. In particular, they must experience *VaKE* themselves.

##### 1.2 Specific goals

In detail, the objectives are as follows:

- General introduction to *VaKE*;
- Experiencing *VaKE* oneself: Going through the process of *VaKE* as a group, with all steps, using a dilemma that addresses both issues of dealing with problems that include (i) values in the class as well as (ii) a content problem dealing with active citizenship;
- Underlying theory of *VaKE*: To apply *VaKE* appropriately, adaptations to the specific conditions might be necessary. This only can be done, if the participants really understand the theoretical base – the proposed adaptations of *VaKE* must be in agreement with the theory but provided this is satisfied, there is much freedom to adapt to the specific conditions. The theoretical base includes, in particular
  - Meta-theory (constructivism; meta-ethics, i.e. issues of Is-Ought relationship and the naturalistic fallacy);
  - Assimilation, accommodation, etc. (Piaget);
  - Development of the moral judgment (Kohlberg);
  - Our interpretation of social constructivism (Vygotsky);
  - Inquiry-based learning;
  - Moral and values education following Blatt & Kohlberg;
  - Etc.
- Learning and practicing specific tools of *VaKE* (role-play, Potter box, values square, pro-contra analyses, perspective taking, how to conceive a dilemma story, etc.);
- Introduction to specific assessment tools (WALK, LIM, narratives, interviews, etc.) and research designs (cross-over, time series, process analyses, etc.);

- Information on results achieved in studies using *VaKE*;
- Conceiving a concrete project in the own institution, including an implementation plan; we offer supervision and counseling.

### 1.3 Sustainable outcome

The participants will have the necessary competence to plan and guide *VaKE* processes of their own and will be encouraged and supervised to implement such processes in their own institutions. They will also be encouraged to publish the results of their studies.

Eventually, we hope that the participants will create sustainable *VaKE* communities within and across HEIs that support and supervise each other. For this, the association *AVaKE* (Association for Values *and* Knowledge Education) can serve as platform that can also establish links to researchers working with *VaKE* outside of CURE.

## 2. TENTATIVE PROGRAM

This program needs to be coordinated with PHOO since its team will conceive and arrange one day. Further, we must emphasize that the program labels address the “main topic of the day”, whereas there will be a high overlap of topics, and in particular, the topics will be adapted to the participants’ needs. Further, visits of institutions will be included depending on the time frame they have.

- Sunday: Travel to Salzburg (Salzburg airport, or Munich airport and take the train – one change -, or Vienna airport and take the direct train);
- Monday: Introduction; experiencing *VaKE*;
- Tuesday: Theoretical background, based on the experiences on Monday; visit of relevant institutions
- Wednesday: Specific tools; visit of relevant institutions
- Thursday: PHOO day (can be moved to any other day);
- Friday: Conceiving the own *VaKE* project in the home institution;
- Saturday and Sunday: Work on the own project on individual or group level, including counseling and supervision if necessary;
- Monday: Presentation and discussion of the projects;
- Tuesday: Travel from Salzburg.