

Erasmus+
Blended Intensive Program

THE IMPORTANCE OF SOFT SKILLS FOR STAFF AND TEACHERS



Nov 9th to 13th



Lisbon

iscte

UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE
OF LISBON

BIP SCHEDULE

NOV 2

online
09h30

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF CRITICAL THINKING IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE

Cristina Sousa; Rosário Mauritti

NOV 9

C1.01
09h45

WELCOME SESSION

Vice-Rector for Internationalization; IRO Director

PRESENTATION OF THE SOFT SKILLS LAB

Cristina Sousa; Rosário Mauritti

ACADEMIC TRADITIONS: PRAXE AND TRAJE

Iscte students

PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Jessica Mendes; Sara Mourato

LUNCH

DESIGNING EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS: EVIDENCE-BASED PRINCIPLES AND AI TOOLS

Ioanna Vekiri

C2.05
11h00

Clube-I
12h45

D1.12
14h30

NOV 10

C1.01
09h30

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: PRESENTATION OF THE PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

BIP participants

Exhibition
space
11h00

INTERNATIONAL FAIR

BIP participants

B2.03
14h15

ENGLISH: ONE LANGUAGE, DIFFERENT CULTURES

Rūta Maltisova

BIP SCHEDULE

NOV 11

AA2.24
10h00

14h00

SKILLS FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION: BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS

Eleonora Papaleontiou Louca; Michaela Paraskeva-Siamata

MATHEMATICS: FROM HARD SKILLS TO SOFT SKILLS

João Rijo

EXPLORE DOWNTOWN LISBON: TEAM CHALLENGE

BIP participants

NOV 12

AA2.25
10h00

FROM COMPLEX DATA TO UNDERSTANDING: EXPLAINING DIFFICULT CONCEPTS CLEARLY

Nora Miljanic

BEYOND BORDERS: THE ART OF CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Malwina Wojciechowska

NOV 13

AA2.25
10h00

TURNING CONFLICT INTO COLLABORATION: THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Paraskevi Chatzipanagiotou

CERTIFICATE DELIVERY

Cristina Sousa; Rosário Mauritti

THE WORKSHOPS

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF CRITICAL THINKING IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE

Rosário Mauritti; Cristina Sousa

This session introduces the fundamentals of critical thinking, focusing on how to identify, analyze, and evaluate arguments and common reasoning errors. Using Edward de Bono's Six Thinking Hats methodology as its main framework, participants will explore different perspectives in problem-solving and decision-making.

PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Sara Mourato; Jessica Mendes

This interactive session offers a light-hearted introduction to Portuguese language and culture, helping participants feel more confident when exploring Lisbon and interacting with locals. Through practical expressions, everyday situations, cultural curiosities and fun activities, participants will learn essential Portuguese phrases while discovering traditions, customs, food, humour and some of the unique characteristics that make Portugal such a distinctive and welcoming country. The focus is on participation, cultural exchange and enjoying the Portuguese way of life.

DESIGNING EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS: EVIDENCE-BASED PRINCIPLES AND AI TOOLS

Ioanna Vekiri

This interactive workshop introduces evidence-based principles for designing clear, engaging, and visually effective presentations. The first part explores research-informed approaches to educational multimedia and graphic design through an interactive presentation. The second part demonstrates selected AI tools for generating presentation graphics and slides, followed by hands-on activities in which participants experiment with these tools.

THE WORKSHOPS

ENGLISH: ONE LANGUAGE, DIFFERENT CULTURES

Rūta Maltisova

English indeed is a universal language, our lingua franca. But do we really speak the same language, when it comes to it? The key question: Is speaking the same language enough to truly understand one another? As the lecture will explore, fluency alone does not guarantee understanding – intercultural awareness matters just as much. During this workshop, we will explore how English varies across cultures – from vocabulary, idioms and language varieties to the less visible cultural rules behind communication. We will look at how people interpret politeness, silence, eye contact, punctuality, small talk, saying “no,” and so on. Join the lecture and you'll get to know which English you actually speak!

SKILLS FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION: BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS

Eleonora Papaleontiou Louca; Michaella Paraskeva-Siamata

This workshop explores effective communication as a key soft skill for building healthy, meaningful relationships. Participants will reflect on active listening, empathy, emotional expression, boundaries, and respectful communication, with a focus on strengthening mutual understanding and connection.

MATHEMATICS: FROM HARD SKILLS TO SOFT SKILLS

João Rijo

Mathematics is much more than numbers, formulas, and calculations. Through simple challenges, surprising examples, and engaging stories, this session explores how mathematical thinking can foster essential soft skills such as creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication – skills that extend far beyond mathematics and play an important role in our personal and professional lives.

THE WORKSHOPS

FROM COMPLEX DATA TO UNDERSTANDING: EXPLAINING DIFFICULT CONCEPTS CLEARLY

Nora Miljanic

This interactive workshop explores how to make complex ideas clear and accessible to diverse audiences. Using examples from astrophysical data as a starting point, participants will engage in short interactive tasks and discussion on how to interpret, structure and explain complex information. The session focuses on analytical thinking and adapting communication to different audiences.

BEYOND BORDERS: THE ART OF CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Malwina Wojciechowska

What happens when we allow someone else to transform our ideas? Beyond Borders: The Art of Creative Connections is an interactive, two-hour workshop that brings together art, design thinking, and intercultural exchange.

Through a series of playful drawing challenges, participants explore the invisible barriers that separate people, whether cultural, linguistic, social, or personal, and discover how creativity and collaboration can transform these barriers into opportunities for connection.

Starting with individual drawings and gradually introducing contributions from other participants, each artwork evolves into a collective creation shaped by different perspectives.

No artistic experience is required. The emphasis is on imagination, openness, experimentation, and the unexpected beauty of creating something together.

TURNING CONFLICT INTO COLLABORATION: THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Paraskevi Chatzipanagiotou

Focusing on communication skills for the prevention and management of conflicts, with the main context being the educational organisation, such as a school or a university. More specifically, how effective communication can help educational leaders and staff prevent misunderstandings and conflicts, manage difficult interactions, and maintain constructive relationships within the educational organisation.