CPD Award: Educational Leaders as Action Researchers

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<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>TBA</th>
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<tr>
<td>MQF Level</td>
<td>Level 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass Mark</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<td>No. of ECTS</td>
<td>2 ECTS</td>
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**Entry Requirements**

Educational Leaders from Primary and Secondary Public, Church or Private Schools. This training is being proposed in Malta and in Italy. Two training-research groups of Educational Leaders will be formed, one in Malta, and other in Italy, which will interact through a virtual platform. Each group will consist of 6-8 participants so as to guarantee individual attention to each and every participant throughout the training-research experience.

**Rationale**

The one-year course is a training-research experience with a major objective, i.e. that to bring Educational leaders to acquire and employ an action-research approach to their everyday work, through self-reflection, partnership coaching and learning community sessions. By the end of the course participants will have acquired, practised and have come to skilfully implement an effective inquiry-operative tool to handle more effectively the array of educational difficulties encountered on their working place, and implement efficiently, innovations and change in their school context. This learning by doing training will help participants become agents of change since it will hand over and help them practice specific operative tools specifically designed to help them improve their problem solving and communication skills which, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2009), are the most essential competencies for School leadership.

**Overall Objectives and Outcomes**

- Define action research (AR) and administrative inquiry.
- Implement AR approach to School administration: research applied to everyday practice.
- Acquire a better understanding of Action research and the potential of using AR for professional development and school improvement.
- Acquire a systemic, intentional study-method of learner’s own administrative practice and taking action based on what one learns as a result of his/her inquiry (A learning by doing approach).
- Acquire an effective problem reflective-solving tool in dealing with everyday difficulties and problems, to improve his/her skills, techniques and strategies.
- Acquire a method which can be passed on to teachers and students; educational leaders as learners but also as models of guided change.
- Use technological equipment to facilitating evaluating and monitoring skills so as to improvement their practice (e-portfolios, audio-video recordings, weblogs, virtual platforms, blogs etc.), while use social networks to widen horizons.

## Pedagogical Guidelines

- Lectures/interactive lessons
- Discussions
- Fieldwork
- Hands-on:
- Presentation
- Mentoring/coaching

## Assessment Strategies

- Logbook
- Mentoring / Ongoing assessment
- Portfolio
- Reflective Diary

## Suggested Readings