



# **DIV.ED: Theory and Practice of Diversity in Higher education**

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# Diversity in the Learning Experience in (Higher) Education

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## **Partners:**

Johannes Kepler University Linz (Austria)

Universidade Aberta (Portugal)

LKPA ( Lithuania)

FernUniversität in Hagen ( Germany)

On Screen OG ( Austria)

I.Zone Knowledge Systems (Portugal)

European Association of Distance Teaching University ( Netherlands)

# Why is diversity vital?



- Diversity awareness is crucial for a society which aims at cohesion , educational and professional mobility;
- We still have a worrying tendency towards discrimination in EU countries;
- Social learning is vital: it is more than pure knowledge, it is the whole learning individual and society.
- Diversity is on the agenda of each EU country. Are we ready to cope with it?

# Focus, Outputs, Methods

**DIVERSITY** - acceptance / tolerance – everywhere and especially in the academic learning context;

**Module ( 6 ECTS) + Documentary + Digital stories;**

**ICT- and Web-based methodologies + video art and theatrical techniques;**





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# **Learning empowerment Empowerment**

refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social, educational, gender, or economic strength of individuals and communities;

It is a multi-dimensional social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power in people for use in their own lives, their communities and in their society, by acting on issues they define as important.

(<http://www.joe.org/joe/1999october/comm1.php>)

# Learning empowerment (2)



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## **Empowerment**

is the process of increasing the capacity of individuals or groups to make choices and to transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes. Central to this process are actions which both build individual and collective assets, and improve the efficiency and fairness of the organizational and institutional context which govern the use of these assets.

# Module (6 ECTS)



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## **Knowledge on Diversity:**

- Primary and secondary diversity
  - Diversity at University
- Management of diversity

## **Why is considering diversity important:**

- Pervasiveness of cultural differences
- Limited access of cultural minorities to public goods

## **Diversity as both a Challenge and an Opportunity:**

- Acculturation
- Stigmata and Makel
  - Identity
- Inclusion and learning

# Changes in the European HE Area

- The Bologna Process Implementation Report ( executive summary, 2012)
- The *Erasmus* programme – over 4000 students involved in exchanges at any time
  - *Erasmus for all* ( start 2014) – up to 5 mln people will get grants to study or train abroad.





# DIV.ED progress

- Module writing
  - Piloting
  - Documentary
  - E-version
- Blended learning course accreditation





Follow the project progress at

<http://www.diversity-ed.eu>

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