

SHORT REPORT FROM GIESSEN

TLT Activity in the Context of the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership „Short Forms Beyond Borders“

From March 29 to April 1, 2022, a Teaching Learning Training Activity for students was held at the GCSC. Besides members of the partner institutions, doctoral candidates, MA students as well as faculty members at Justus Liebig University Giessen were invited. The workshops were practice-oriented and aimed to train the participants in short presentation techniques and their medialization.

In this context, storytelling, creative-writing and pedagogical perspectives (in the context of higher education learning as well as work with young migrants) were also covered. In addition, the participants discussed and compared the respective partner universities' corporate films as short forms, and learned about the app Baludik and explored its potential uses as a creative space within educational settings.

As part of the workshop series, participants produced a joint video addressing their individual experiences with short forms, definitions, potential uses in teaching, and the place of short forms in their research.

In addition, the participants developed a common scenario for the app Baludik in order to explore its functions, possibilities and limitations in education.

What would you like to highlight about this event?

- The Student participants met here for the first time in person after previously only digital events due to corona conditions
- The group chose to apply the learning content together and create joint products. This has increased team building and networking enormously and established sustainable international contacts.

What was the identity, the specificity of the event in Giessen?

- In keeping with the role of the Giessen team in the wider framework of the project, the workshops of the TLT centered primarily on the uses of short forms in higher education contexts and with regard to their affordances in the professionalization of . Whereas the online events (April and June 2021) had a stronger focus on the theory and definitions of short forms, the individual workshops in Giessen were practice-oriented and aimed to train the participants in short presentation techniques and their medialization.
- In this context, storytelling, creative-writing and pedagogical perspectives (in the context of higher education learning as well as work with young migrants) were also covered. In addition, participants discussed and compared the respective partner universities' corporate films as short forms, learned about the app Baludik and explored its potential uses as a creative space within educational settings. This was part of the pedagogical training on the theme of "culture and identity".

What were the objectives of the event? Have you achieved these objectives?

- The goal of the event was to heighten the participants' awareness for short forms in various media and professional contexts, train them in storytelling and short presentation techniques and to apply these skills into different short media formats

on a test basis. In addition, the participants were to meet, exchange and connect in person for the first time. This was not possible before due to the corona.

- As the jointly created film and the jointly developed scenario for the Baludik app show, this goal was achieved. The feedback of the participants was collected formally in an (online) evaluation form. The results of the evaluation demonstrated a high level of satisfaction among the participants, who particularly praised the balance between presentations/lectures, collaborative and individual work.

You are responsible for the IO 3 and IO 4, can you tell us more about your role and involvement in the project?

- Giessen's major role in the IO3 and IO4, as well as in the project more generally, was to utilize its expertise in postgraduate education and interdisciplinary collaboration (reflected through the participating experts) across the humanities and social sciences to develop innovative methods to apply short forms in the communication and dissemination of research and knowledge. In particular, doctoral students from Giessen and beyond were invited to contribute to the application of a variety of short forms for teaching and learning foreign literatures and cultures.
- The Teaching Centre of the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC), with its aims to foster teaching skills and to critically reflect on methods of higher education learning, provided the institutional setting for the coordination of the project, e.g. through a five-part workshop sequence offered at the GCSC on "Short Forms, Big Impact: Brevity as a Tool in Research, Teaching, and Communication" (2023) as well as the evaluation of the project.

Your event was a « Intensive programme for higher education learners », how did the students/trainees benefit from the event?

In the evaluation conducted after the workshop series, participants identified the following aspects as most useful and worthy of emphasis:

- I think the creative writing workshop was really interesting because it gave me a broader vision on the artistic using of short forms.
- One of my favourite presentations was George Androulakis's, I found it very inspiring and well linked with the current situation.
- Katrin Lehnen presented useful didactic tools that I may use during my classes. I may also use what I have learned in terms of short presentations: Youtube videos, Pecha Kucha, etc.
- I think the most productive days we spent were the two last days, when we carried out the whole team work. This great collaboration was the most inspiring experience for me.
- The international, interdisciplinary and collaborative work within the students groups
- Interactive parts, exchange of ideas
- I really enjoyed most of the workshops, it felt like they provided useful tools to use in our research as well as beyond it. I really liked the interaction that was encouraged amongst participants, which helped feel very welcome and made the workshops feel productive.

- I really enjoyed the programme, I think it was fruitful for the evolution of the Short Forms Beyond Borders project but also for my personal experiences. I learned the existence of useful teaching tools and my vision of short forms and their use has broadened.
- I think that this week was especially beneficial for me in terms of motivation and human relations. During this programme I met great and inspiring people.