

Examples for FAQs “Sharing Worldviews: Learning in Encounter for Common Values in Diversity”

Examples for FAQs Concerning the Study Day of Module 1.2

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1. The students are a little nervous about the encounter – what can we tell them to encourage their participation?

It is reasonable for anyone to feel nervous when speaking in front of people they meet for the first time. However, this feeling can usually be overcome when one realises that we are all fallible humans and feel the same way, as well as that all the students are almost at the same level. After all, the lecturers will have prepared the students well on the topic, and each group of students will have more knowledge on their field than their audience. Finally, some students might not wish to look at this like an academic activity, but like a friendly chat with a group of students of a different worldview that you randomly met online and wish to see your similarities and differences on a topic.

2. What do the students have to gain from this experience?

Most students that have attended these study days say that they have benefited from the experience itself, that is the opportunity to find students of almost the same level from around the world and discuss their similarities and differences. Furthermore, participation encourages students to cultivate international contacts also as teachers. The students will not only gain valuable teaching experience, but will also be gaining a certificate of participation, which is certainly valuable for their CV.

3. The students worry about the language barrier given that English is not their mother language. How do we overcome this?

Speaking in a foreign language is indeed something difficult for most people. However, you can rest assured on the willingness of the people in your group and those of the other groups to help you overcome this difficulty by suggesting any words you might be looking for. After all, almost all the participating students are non-native English speakers, hence we are all in the same position. Please do not see this as an insurmountable obstacle, but as a challenge that you can all overcome together. In these meetings kindness, tolerance, understanding, patience, and help are more important than the words one uses. On top of that, the students will have received sufficient support from their lecturers during their preparations for the study day, and they will have written text available (e.g. presentations) with all the relevant terms they might need.

4. What is the latest date you can register your students?

The students should notify their lecturers, and the lecturers should notify the organisers of the study day at least one week in advance before the study day. Please also remember to register the students in groups of two or three, if possible, so that the students of the same group can help each other, and also so that there are enough students available in each group in case someone fails to attend the study day.

5. How long are the students expected to participate?

Students are expected to connect 15 minutes before the beginning of the study day, so that they set up their equipment, and then participate to the study day till the end of it. The total duration of the event is approximately 4 hours.

6. A student has also to attend another important meeting (doctor's appointment, class etc.) that they cannot reschedule. Can they leave before the end of the study day?

Ideally, all students should have made the necessary arrangements to be able to attend all of the study day. However, if any emergencies occur that prevent the students from attending all of it, then the



students should make the necessary arrangements with the people in their group to cover for them during their absence.

7. How long are the lecturers expected to participate?

The lecturers should attend the first part of the study day (introduction) and the final part (plenary reflection and conclusion). Other than that, they should be available should their students require any help of the topics they discuss. In any case, this is a matter that the lecturers should discuss with the study day organisers and arrange the schedule together.

8. Will students and lecturers be in different subgroups?

Students will be in their own subgroups (students-only-breakout-rooms). If possible, 2-3 participants of one course will stay together within the mixed-groups-sessions. Lecturers may visit their students in the subgroups if the need arises and the students request for help.

Lecturers could form their own “lecturers only” breakout rooms, should they wish, and discuss with their colleagues about the study day, ideas for further cooperation, or anything else they need. They should also be vigilant to the needs of the students and assist them whenever necessary.

9. What will students need to prepare for the study day?

Each pair or triad of students is expected to prepare a presentation answering the main questions of the topic. If there are 3 questions, then the presentation should include 3 slides, with each slide answering one question. On the study day they will present their slides to the students of the other worldviews within their subgroup. Each presentation should not be longer than 7-10 minutes (=30 minutes presentation time in total per subgroup). Students should be prepared for all three questions, even if they have to present only one. This will help in case a student fails to attend the study day; their colleagues can cover for them, if they have prepared on all three questions.

10. What will the lecturers do on the study day? Do they have to prepare anything?

The lecturers do not have to prepare anything for the study day, but they have to prepare their students on the topic of the study day during the weeks before the event. Also, they have to present themselves in the introductory phase of the study day, participate in the plenary reflection in the end, and always be available to their students should they need any help with their topic during the study day.

11. Do you have any updates on the ECTS points the study day might give?

The participation in your course including the study day may possibly give 3 CPs for the additional qualification planned in the project, but the accreditation is still ongoing. A certificate of participation will be given to the students at the end of the study day.

12. Will I receive any further information on the study day?

You will receive all the relevant documentation, like the topic, the schedule, the contact details, the dialogue rules, the questions for reflection etc., well in advance before the study day, so that you have everything needed available for you to prepare well and stress-free.

