The EU4ART European University, created by four higher education institutions devoted to fine arts, aims to develop common flexible curricula in the field of painting, sculpture and graphic art. The new curricula are based on an interdisciplinary and international approach, integrating innovative pedagogical methods, including digital technologies. These new curricula will serve as a model that could be used for other European universities, with the goal of creating a European Virtual University of Arts by 2025.

EU4ART has established a common structure to share art technique, specific knowledge and practical experience. In developing a European Network of Workshops for Teaching and Art Practice, EU4ART will be asking about the impacts, relevance and demands of teaching manual art techniques and traditions in an increasingly digital world. The relationship between historical techniques and the contemporary technologies and materials that are likewise taught in art academies raises issues about their specific qualities. Within this context, and in addition to this, EU4ART will look in terms of professional practice, rather than theory, at the role art plays in forging continuity and defining identity, as one of the original roots of a ‘European higher education’. Students will have the possibility to move smoothly, without difficulty, from one institution to another.
Another innovative feature of the EU4ART European University is that, differently from practices of higher education established in other areas, the result of the activities will be manifested in works of art, which will express the common European idea, the diversity of cultures, the use of new technologies and the role of fine arts in the 21st century. These will be physically manifested, available to society at large through exhibitions. EU4ART will contribute to the reinforcement of a consciousness of European identity and make known, and popular, the heritage and diversity of European culture, focusing on fine arts.

PUTTING OUR VISION INTO PRACTICE

KEY DELIVERABLES / ACTIVITIES

- Common flexible curricula in the field of fine arts.
- Methodological renewal of training courses via common exhibitions and personal study of the work carried out at the workshops and studios of the other partners, obtaining experiences and expanding instruments of pedagogical methodology.
- Broad networking of participants in all four institutions, focusing on the integration of workshop facilities into the local structure at different levels.
- Carrying out research in the field of ‘fine arts language’ and compiling a fine arts multilingual dictionary (verbal-visual).
- Promoting learning foreign languages for students as well as for teachers and staff.
- Developing a mentor system to facilitate mobility.
- Creating innovative pedagogical models and make the best use of digital technologies and work-based learning.
- Promoting multilingualism.
- Interlink EU4ART with the public/society, with a thematic focus on European values and diversity and a methodological focus on documenting teaching processes, art specific evaluations and display of art results via common exhibitions; and
- Setting up a European Network of Workshops for Teaching and Art Practice.

HOW OUR ALLIANCE WILL TRANSFORM OUR UNIVERSITIES

EU4ART aims to:

- Be a vehicle for skill-specific knowledge transfer which, together with the shared use of resources, will ensure top-quality teaching;
- Champion interdisciplinarity through course options;
- Strengthen cooperation, via common working groups and tools, towards a common curriculum, a mentor system, methodological renewal, common exhibitions, conferences, art language research, art language courses, student and teacher mobility, a common website and more;
- Create a common flexible curricula in the field of fine arts.
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