

International Summer Course on The use of Creativity and Occupational Therapy

Online part from 13 April 2026


Intensive Programme:

Saturday 16 May - Thursday 21 May 2026

Travel days:

Friday 15 May 2026 & Friday 22 May 2026

Ghent-Dworp, Belgium



Creating tomorrow's world

Central themes in this intensive programme are the exploration of the 5 different creative thinking skills (delay judgement, observe creatively, develop your imagination, flexible association, diverge) while experiencing several creative media (drama, art, film, photo, movement and dance, sound and music).

The **first part** includes different workshops to explore and understand the different creative thinking skills and media. Discussions and exchanging experiences are an important part of this interactive programme. Workshops, self-experience exercises, improvisation, creative thinking, discussion and supervision are the main methods used during this programme.

In the **second part** students explore and reflect on the application of the different forms of creativity in Occupational Therapy with different client groups by means of workshops and discussions with Occupational Therapists from the clinical setting. Several workshops are inclusive with clients.

We welcome **70-80 participants** from all over Europe. The workshops are run by experienced Occupational Therapists of the clinical practice in Belgium and staff members from European partner institutes. During one day we work with client groups in Ghent and visit the medieval city.

Philosophy & Assumptions

The central assumption of this European programme is to exchange experiences and insights between the different partners regarding the use of creative thinking within the different areas of Occupational Therapy.

The programme focuses on creative thinking and innovative approaches in Occupational Therapy.

The international programme will create the opportunity to allow students to gain an international perspective by co-operation with students from different European countries.

The summer course reflects on a professional view of the development and current practices using creativity within Occupational Therapy in Europe.

Objectives in the OT-training

We are all born with a certain capacity of creativity, but we only use a little part of it. During the training we want you to stretch your creative ability. We will encourage you to come out of your comfort zone and broaden your creative thinking skills to face challenges in a more flexible way.

The objectives of the different lectures and workshops are related to the personal development, enhancing group skills and the professional development.

Objectives are:

1. Related to the person, they experience how:

- to stimulate their perception and creative skills
- to enhance their inventiveness, creativity and problem solving ability
- to enlarge their personal limits and assertiveness
- to stimulate them to think in different ways to reach client centred goals

2. Related to the group, they experience how:

- to use verbal and non-verbal communication
- to explore their own functioning in a group
- to co-operate with other group members
- to recognize, detect and anticipate strengths and weaknesses from each other
- to detect the richness of working together in an international team

3. Related to the profession, they experience how:

- to explore the different forms of expression and their elements
- to integrate these forms of expression and problem solving competences
- to analyse the forms from Occupational Therapy point of view
- to enhance the process of creative thinking within Occupational Therapy
- to explore creative thinking as a skill, language and argue the interventions of an occupational therapist



"It was an awesome course, a great week during which I have obtained many insights and have met many inspiring people. Highly recommended!"

AMBER, 2019, GHENT



ONLINE PART

(3 sessions) from 13th April 2026.
During the online part we start with the creation of a 'community'.
During the 3 online sessions, we introduce the framework of 'basic creative skills' and explore the skills in different international teams.

INTENSIVE PROGRAMME

Travel day and arrival:

Friday 15 May 2026

Intensive Programme Saturday 16 May
till Thursday 21 May 2026

Departure:

Friday 22 May 2026

BIP-funded: 6 working days

We work 6 days in a special training centre for art, Destelheide, Dworp.
Monday 18th May 2026 we work with clients in Ghent.
The day offers also free time to explore 'amazing Ghent'

Working Method

The programme focuses on the experience and exploration of the different creative thinking skills and media. Discussions and exchange of experiences are an important part of this programme.

The programme consists out of: workshops, self-experience exercises, creative play, improvisation, discussion and supervision.

The course is validated with 3 ECTS.

Participants

The intensive course will be open to third year Artevelde University of Applied Sciences—students Bachelor in Occupational Therapy.

Erasmus+ students studying in the department of Occupational Therapy at the Artevelde University of Applied Sciences take this module as a part of their exchange programme.

The module will be open to other European students studying in Occupational Therapy.

Staff members from partner institutes in the Erasmus+ programme will participate and give lectures and workshops about different issues.

Participation fee

PARTICIPANTS PAY 385 EURO

The price is possible with support of ERASMUS+ BIP funding. Students from the Artevelde University of Applied Sciences and incoming Erasmus-students (at Artevelde) pay 285 euro (with a financial support of the Artevelde University of Applied Sciences).

The participation fee includes accommodation costs during the whole programme (meals, lodge), all tuition fees, transport from Ghent to Dworp, material costs and course materials.

Not included: Travelling costs, drinks and snacks during bar-evenings and leisure time.



Payment details

Do you have an interest to participate? You can apply to your department of your home university. The sending university will confirm the nomination of your participation. After nomination, you receive a confirmation letter and a link for registration and payment.

Information on the course content and process:
filip.dejonckheere@artveldehs.be
Joke.standaert@artveldehs.be

Venue

The course will be organised in a residential setting in Dworp, Belgium. Destelheide is a centre for art training near Brussels. During one day we work with clients in Ghent.

Art training Center Destelheide
Vormingscentrum Destelheide
Destelheidestraat 66
B-1653 Dworp, Belgium
www.destelheide.be



“Ghent is one of the four creative cities of music along with Bologna, Seville and Glasgow. ‘Ghent with its numerous music festival integrates music in the fabric of the city, encouraging public participation.”

UNESCO

How to get there?

- If you arrive by plane at National Airport: take the train to Brussels (Midi)
- If you arrive by plane at Brussels South (Charleroi): take the FLIBCO to Brussels MIDI
- Then take the local train to Halle
- Take the local bus to Dworp-village > LIJN 153-155 Direction Drogenbos.
- Destelheide is 2 km from the village.

Why Ghent?

- Because Lonely Planet has called our city “Europe’s best kept secret” and a must see destination.
- Because National Geographic Traveler Magazine has listed this city as the most authentic historic city in the world and full of life.
- Because you must witness with your own eyes what Napoleon and the mysterious thief of ‘The Just Judges’ panel already knew: The Mystic Lamb really is key to European art history.
- Because the city comes to life again after sunset.
- And of course because you like to get off the beaten track!

...that’s why!!

Facts about Artevelde University of Applied Sciences, Ghent-Belgium

It is a great pleasure to introduce you to Artevelde University of Applied Sciences Ghent, member of the Ghent University Association (AUGent), and one of Flanders' largest university colleges.

Artevelde University of Applied Sciences Ghent offers a wide variety of study programmes in the fields of teacher training, economic education, graphic education, health care and social work. It is a knowledge center for education, research and services, where students and professionals cooperate and develop their talents in a stimulating and internationally oriented environment.

Artevelde University of Applied Sciences stimulates outgoing staff and student mobility and warmly welcomes international incoming staff and students.

The presence of foreign students and staff at Artevelde University of Applied Sciences Ghent is believed to be a significant enrichment, both academically and culturally, for the whole institute.

www.artevelde-uas.be

