

AI Tools for Teachers (from Zero to Hero)

A 5-Day Erasmus+ Professional Development Course

OVERVIEW

Many teachers hear about AI every day, yet still feel it belongs to someone else: the tech-savvy, the young, the already-digitally-confident. This course was built to close that gap entirely.

AI Tools for Teachers: from Zero to Hero is a structured, confidence-building five-day programme that takes participants from their very first encounter with artificial intelligence all the way to independent, fluent daily use. Starting from the absolute basics, each day introduces a new layer of tools and skills: chatbots and text generation, image and visual creation, audio and video tools, lesson and workflow automation, and finally a full personal AI integration strategy. The progression is intentional and supportive: every new tool is introduced in a familiar teaching context, every exercise produces something immediately usable.

Participants will work across a curated selection of the most effective AI platforms available to educators today, including ChatGPT, Claude, Canva AI, Adobe Firefly, ElevenLabs, Synthesia, MagicSchool, and others. Rather than overwhelming learners with options, the course focuses on understanding each tool's unique strengths and finding the right fit for each participant's subject, age group, and teaching style.

By the final day, participants will have built a working personal AI toolkit, a practical integration plan, and the confidence to keep exploring independently. No prior experience with AI tools is assumed or required.

SCHEDULE

Day 1: Starting from Scratch: What AI Really Is and What It Can Do for You

- Demystifying AI: what it is, what it is not, and why it matters specifically for teachers in 2026 and beyond
- Your first chatbot conversation: setting up ChatGPT, asking your first question, and understanding the response
- The teacher's lens: identifying five tasks you do every week that AI could help with right now
- Introduction to the AI landscape: a guided tour of the most relevant tools for educators, mapped by category and difficulty
- Establishing a personal learning baseline: reflecting on starting point, goals, and expectations for the week

Day 2: Text and Language: AI as Your Writing Partner

- Mastering the prompt: structure, tone, role-setting, and iteration, writing instructions that produce great results
- Generating lesson plans, student handouts, reading texts, and grammar exercises tailored to your exact curriculum
- AI for teacher communication: drafting parent emails, report comments, meeting summaries, and professional correspondence
- Comparing outputs: ChatGPT vs. Claude vs. Gemini on the same task, understanding differences and knowing which to choose
- Workshop: each participant generates and refines a complete, lesson-ready text resource in their own subject area

Day 3: Images, Visuals, and Creative Content

- AI image generation for education: creating illustrations, diagrams, posters, and visual prompts with Canva AI and Adobe Firefly
- Designing engaging classroom materials: worksheets, infographics, presentations, and social media content for school communication
- Copyright, attribution, and ethical use of AI-generated images in educational settings
- Video and audio tools for teachers: generating voiceovers, explanatory videos, and listening exercises with ElevenLabs and Synthesia
- Creative challenge: participants produce a visually rich, AI-assisted teaching resource combining text, image, and audio elements

Day 4: AI in the Classroom: Assessment, Differentiation, and Student Engagement

- Using MagicSchool and similar platforms: automated quiz generation, rubric creation, and differentiated task design
- Personalising learning at scale: how AI helps teachers adapt a single task to multiple proficiency levels simultaneously
- Formative assessment with AI: rapid feedback generation, peer-review scaffolds, and self-assessment tools for students
- Teaching students to use AI well: age-appropriate introduction, ethical guidelines, and classroom protocols
- Pilot session: participants design and test an AI-supported student activity and evaluate its learning potential

Day 5: From Zero to Hero, Building Your Personal AI Strategy

- Workflow automation: connecting AI tools into a seamless weekly routine that saves time without adding complexity
- Reviewing the week: consolidating the most useful discoveries and identifying the tools each participant will prioritise
- Hero showcase: each participant presents one AI-powered teaching resource created during the course to the group
- Building a 30-day AI integration plan: concrete, subject-specific commitments for the month ahead
- Course wrap-up: certificates, peer appreciation, and a shared resource collection accessible to all participants after the course

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the principles of artificial intelligence in plain language and describe its relevance for contemporary education
- Navigate a curated set of AI platforms (chatbots, image generators, audio and video tools, teaching-specific apps) with confidence
- Write effective prompts to generate high-quality, curriculum-aligned lesson materials, tasks, assessments, and communications
- Create multimodal teaching resources that combine AI-generated text, visuals, and audio tailored to their specific learners
- Differentiate learning materials using AI to address diverse student needs, proficiency levels, and learning profiles
- Apply ethical principles governing AI use in education: accuracy, bias awareness, data privacy, and academic integrity

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

- Progressive, scaffolded instruction: each day builds on the previous one, ensuring every participant moves from uncertainty to fluency at a sustainable pace
- Hands-on practice in every session: participants work directly with AI tools throughout the course, producing real materials rather than studying abstract concepts
- Differentiated support: tasks are designed to allow beginners and more experienced participants to work at their own level, with the trainer providing individual guidance
- Peer learning and collaborative challenge: small-group activities and a final showcase encourage participants to learn from each other's discoveries and subject expertise
- Immediate applicability: every exercise is grounded in authentic teaching situations, so all resources created during the week can be used directly in participants' classrooms
- Reflection and critical evaluation: structured moments throughout each day invite participants to assess the quality, limitations, and ethical implications of AI outputs
- Personal action planning: the course closes with each participant committing to a concrete, realistic AI integration plan for their return to school

ERASMUS+ PRIORITIES

This course directly addresses the following Erasmus+ horizontal and sector-specific priorities:

- Digital Transformation in Education: building practical AI competence across the full range of teaching tasks, aligned with the EU Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027 and the DigCompEdu framework
- Quality and Innovation in Teaching: strengthening professional practice by equipping educators with cutting-edge digital tools and evidence-informed integration strategies
- Inclusion and Accessibility: exploring how AI tools can reduce preparation barriers and help teachers meet the needs of diverse learners, including those with special educational needs
- Active Citizenship and Critical Thinking: developing educators' ability to model ethical AI use and teach students to navigate the digital world thoughtfully and responsibly
- Teacher Professional Development and Empowerment: building long-term capacity, self-efficacy, and a sustainable habit of professional growth through technology
- European Cooperation and Mobility: creating shared learning experiences and peer networks across European education systems through collaborative activities and joint resource creation

** The schedule above is a guide and may be adapted to reflect the specific needs, experience level, and priorities of each participant group.*



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