



Innovative Thinking

Competence 4 of 4

Lower secondary · ages ~12-15



WHAT IS THIS COMPETENCE ABOUT? A disciplined, iterative process for turning insights into testable solutions. It combines **inquiry and speculation, creativity, design skills, adaptability and storytelling** — from framing challenges to prototyping and purposeful communication.



The student is able to...

OBJECTIVES

- Explore alternatives and possibilities.
- Generate and evaluate conventional and unconventional ideas.
- Understand the stages and functions of a design process.
- Follow a guided process to evaluate ideas.
- Adapt strategies when conditions change and integrate feedback.
- Develop and communicate creative viewpoints.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Generates multiple explanations or possibilities and predicts outcomes.
- Combines and adapts ideas for practical results.
- Evaluates ideas for effectiveness and novelty.
- Applies an iterative design cycle and documents design choices.
- Adjusts the plan after feedback and integrates emotion, context and purpose into a narrative.



The teacher is able to...

OBJECTIVES

- Scaffold critical reflection and evidence gathering.
- Facilitate design and innovation workshops and guide students through full design cycles.
- Encourage documentation of and reflection on the design process.
- Create tasks that require adaptation and iteration.
- Use storytelling as a learning and communication tool across subjects.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Designs lessons with speculation and hypothesis-building.
- Plans iterative creative cycles (brainstorm-prototype-test).
- Uses feedback that rewards learning from failure.
- Encourages reflection on adaptive strategies.
- Facilitates projects that connect narrative and factual content.

Partners: Universidad de Burgos · HAMK · IPCA · Junta de Castilla y León · CFIE · Politécnico de Leiria · NHL Stenden · Howest · TUS

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The European Commission's support for this product does not constitute an endorsement of its contents.