



accelerate:

**accessible immersive learning for art
& design**

*Professor Ian Gadd, Head of Development for European Projects,
Bath Spa University, UK — Project Coordinator*



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Overview

- Erasmus+ funded (€298,189)
- 1 June 2021–31 May 2023
- ‘Digital readiness’ post-COVID
- Practical, open-access solutions that are scalable, inclusive, sustainable & responsive



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Aims

- Digital innovation
- Teaching of practice-based subjects
- Immersive technology
- Accessibility
- Underrepresented groups



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Partners

- Bath Spa University, UK
- University of the Arts London, UK
- Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dublin, Ireland
- SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Warsaw, Poland
- Sumy State University, Ukraine
- Chernivtsi National University, Ukraine



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Led by Bath Spa

- European Projects Team:
 - Ian Gadd
 - Rachael McDonald
 - Adele Keane
- Academic Leads
 - Jenny Dunseath (Art)
 - Andrew Southall (Design)
- accelerate@bathspa.ac.uk



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Structure

Four main elements:

- Transnational Project Meetings
- Intellectual Outputs
- Learning, Teaching, Training Activities
- Multiplier Events



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Transnational Project Meetings (planning)

Purpose is to plan, review progress, monitor quality, finances and goals of the project

June 2021 — online

October 2021 — online

February 2022 — Bath

April 2022 — online

July 2022 — Dublin

October 2022 — online

February 2023 — Warsaw

May 2023 — Bath



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Intellectual Outputs (resources)

Diagnostic Report (SWPS) Feb 22
(includes recruitment of Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors (ALSAs))

Methodological Guide (BSU) May 23

Online Training Course (IADT) May 23

Immersive Ecosystem (UAL) May 23

Art and Design Case Studies (BSU) Jun 22



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Training Activities (3 days each)

'Pre-training' event (online) Oct 21

Accessible Pedagogies (Bath) Feb 22

Immersive Technologies (London) Feb/Mar 22

Immersive Pedagogies (Dublin) Jul 22

Training for Trainers (Warsaw) Feb 23



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Multiplier Events (promotion)

May 2023 — Simultaneous one-day events in UK, Ireland, Poland, and Ukraine

Purpose to disseminate the outputs of the projects to a wide audience in all the partners' countries. Aimed at participants external to partner's universities



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Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors

- Undergraduate students studying art and design
- 8 per university partner, 40 overall
- Participating from February 2022–May 2023
- About six hours per term/semester for this project — but we can be flexible depending on your availability/interest
- Unfortunately we're not allowed to pay you but we think this is a unique extra-curricular opportunity to be part of an international and innovative project that will shape art and design teaching for the next generation of students!



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Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors

Key accessibility needs:

- physical, sensory, and cognitive functional diversity
- different learning styles
- complex personal circumstances (including caring responsibilities or long-distance commuting)
- difficulties accessing digital resources (e.g. because of low-quality devices, limited software, and poor or unreliable internet access)



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Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors

We want you

- To **inform** our decisions
- To **participate** in our collaborations
- To **evaluate** our work
- To help to **promote** our results



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Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors

Specifically this will involve:

- Sharing your thoughts and ideas about the project with the Bath Spa ACCELERATE team, other ALSAs at Bath Spa, and other ALSAs at other universities
- Participating in a focus group to discuss your experiences of higher education during the pandemic year of 2020-21
- Participating in and evaluating our work as we develop the immersive ecosystem and case-studies
- Co-drafting a reflective piece based on your experiences in exploring and evaluating for the Methodological Guide
- Participating in a public promotional event at their university in May 2023 (optional)



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Accessible Learning Student Ambassadors

Next steps:

- Get to know your fellow ALSAs at Bath Spa
- Help review our project website, our statement on inclusivity and diversity, and our code of collaborative conduct
- Attend some of our training events on 24-25 February
- Participate in a focus group discussion (today)
- Next ALSA meeting



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