

Thinking outside the box (3 ECTS)

Learning objectives

Why do some people come to solutions faster? Why do these people generate more ideas during a brainstorm session, for example? They think easier outside the box. Their creativity, their creative thinking is developed above average. And, the beauty is: creative thinking can be learned.

In the course *Thinking outside the box* students learn to find new solutions for (insolvable) problems. It is a course for your personal development.

Prerequisites

Forget your laptop and smart phone. Bring a notebook and something to write with to this course. Bring an existing real problem of your life or of the world to this course. Examples are: *more people are dying of obesities than hunger* or *how do I communicate better with my parents*.

Maximum of twenty students for the best results. Off course, active participation is expected.

Course content

- Session 1
 - Introduction in (creative) thinking.
 - What makes one person more creative than the other?
 - Rules of the game, rules for a successful creative process.
 - Observations. How do you see the world? What does it take to look differently.
 - Making teams and assigning the insolvable problems, the Missions Improbable.
- Session 2
 - Diverging techniques: Presuppositions and Direct analogy
 - Postponement of judgement.
 - Working on the Mission Improbable with the techniques of this session.
- Session 3
 - Increasing speed with flexible associations.
 - Tilting or how to make inspirational use of synonyms and homonyms.
 - Diverging techniques: The superhero and Personal analogy.
 - Working on the Mission Improbable with the techniques of this session.
- Session 4
 - Associations: connecting everything with everything.
 - Diverging techniques: Accidental hits, Free incubation and Guided fantasy.
 - Improvisation, a few exercises from the theatre.
 - Working on the Mission Improbable with the techniques of this session.
- Session 5
 - Presentations of the solutions of the Missions Improbable.

Learning methods

The learned theories are applied on the assigned Mission Improbable.

Evaluation criteria

The presentation of the solution of the Mission Improbable.