

Short Advanced Studies (SAS)

Creative Leadership

Activating Team Potential through Theatrical Techniques

Theater not only teaches acting but guides us towards an authentic and convincing performance capable of promoting a willingness for active participation.

- **Overview**

The training is aimed at business executives responsible for teams and professionals working with groups of various sizes. It allows for the learning and development of an effective methodology to foster an inclusive and creative work environment from the first interaction with interlocutors. Through practical tools inherent in theatrical training, participants will learn to promote participation and creativity among collaborators, ensuring mutual trust and cooperation.

- **Methodology and Contents**

The methodology is based on the organic integration of practical exercises and moments of reflection. The training course centers on working with theatrical training tools to stimulate creative potential. The learning process fosters a physical and mental connection with the surrounding environment: partners, space, and content. Through a dynamic and creative approach, the training course expands the capacities of perception and expression, utilizing theatrical tools to develop not only cognitive but also social and personal skills ("soft skills"). Participants develop the skills to stimulate collaborators' desire to engage, helping them explore their creativity to reach inventive and concrete solutions and communicate them authentically.

The SAS is structured into six distinct modules, each inspired and oriented toward certain principles of creative leadership. These are learned and deepened through theatrical training techniques. Each module addresses a specific theme, but key skills are developed transversally throughout the SAS.

1° Module: Authenticity

Authenticity in creative leadership is explored, contributing to creating an open and innovative work environment where employees are supported and motivated to give their best and fully express their creativity. By connecting with one's strengths, weaknesses, values, and beliefs, it becomes possible to communicate credibly and convincingly and align decisions and actions with personal goals.

2° Module: Creativity

Techniques are practiced that allow confident access to one's creativity, making it available. Curiosity is stimulated, activating the generation of new and original ideas, discovering other perspectives, directions, and opportunities in one's professional field.

3° Module: Courage

The courage to take risks and engage constructively and playfully with the possibility of failure is exercised. This approach leads to guiding towards innovation, developing creative decisions, and managing risks courageously, openly, and transparently, strengthening a sense of belonging and team spirit.

4° Module: Focus

Through theatrical techniques, one trains to devote and concentrate deeply on specific themes and tasks requiring great attention. "Focus" refers to a high form of concentration and presence, where perception is through active listening. This develops a leadership ability to focus the team on shared goals, priorities, and visions.

5° Module: Decision-Making Ability

The ability and methods of making decisions are discussed, considering various alternatives and taking into account different parameters and viewpoints. Various ways of combining adequate deliberation with the need for appropriate solutions within required timeframes are also explored.

6° Module: Perspective

By assuming different roles and functions present in a work context, new perspectives are explored to build a "fresh" view of one's environment. This strengthens social connections and playfully promotes the creation of a team open to creativity, humor, and willingness to experiment without prejudice.

- **Objectives**

- Create a stimulating environment that encourages participation and creativity.
- Develop sensitivity to group needs.
- Have a repertoire of tools to effectively respond to team requests and needs.
- Know how to work on the course's transversal themes.

- **Target Audience**

Managers and professionals with responsibility for leading teams of various sizes, holding a university or non-university tertiary qualification.

- **Duration**

3 ECTS

70 total hours

35 hours in classrooms:

Once Friday evening and Saturday = 26 hours

Three times on a Tuesday evening for 3 hours = 9 hours

35 hours of certification and home work

- **In-Person Sessions**

Friday, 31.1.25, 18:00-20:00

Saturday, 1.2.25, 10:00-16:00 (one-hour break)

Tuesday, 18.2.25, 17:00-20:00

Tuesday, 11.3.25, 17:00-20:00

Tuesday, 25.3.25, 17:00-20:00

Friday, 28.3.25, 18:00-20:00

Saturday, 29.3.25, 10:00-16:00 (one-hour break)

- **Certification Work**

Execute and apply a group activation moment. Briefly describe the work environment, the team's role, and the context in which the activation moment was applied. Detail the group activation activity in the work context, including objectives, practical steps, resources and methods used, and the type of participants involved. Examine the results of the activation activity, including participant feedback, personal observations, and performance metrics before and after the activity. Evaluate the effectiveness of the activity in achieving set objectives and its impact on the work environment's climate and dynamics.

- **Cost of SAS**

1500,- CHF

- **Location of SAS**

Depending on participants' origin. One of the SUPSI locations: Lugano, Mendrisio, or Accademia Dimitri Verscio and/or Avegno (Valle Maggia) or, upon request, in a specific space.

- **Teacher and Responsible**

Daniel Bausch

- **Language**

Italian

- **Context**

The Accademia Dimitri (affiliated with SUPSI, <https://www.accademiadimitri.ch/>) is an international professional university school of theater based in Verscio and Avegno. Its activities reference physical theater, a form of theater where the actor's body and movement are central to cognitive, compositional, and expressive processes. Among the Academy's activities are basic training programs (Bachelor and Master), continuing education offers (Advanced Studies), basic and applied research projects, and service performance for the territory. These offer the possibility of applying theater-developed skills to educational, social, communicative, or business contexts, where it is particularly necessary to develop an approach that considers relational, communicative, collaborative, aesthetic, and empowerment needs.