

# CHESS IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

## Academic Training Course



### Register for the course



Fill out the registration form and start your professional development through the online distance learning program.



### Learn more about Chess in Education

Learn the course material in your own pace and time and gain an academic qualification from the University of the Aegean.



### Teach chess with confidence

Start using the knowledge and skills you learned on the course in your teaching practice to teach chess for educational purposes.

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STARTING ON

07 SEPTEMBER 2026



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LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE



European Chess Union



## WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The course is aimed at teachers in Primary Education as well as those attending Teacher Training institutions. It is also suitable for chess tutors and educators who are interested in how chess can be used in education to develop children's social, emotional and intellectual skills.



## ACCREDITATION

The course provides a lifelong Academic Certificate from the University of The Aegean. It is a recognized academic qualification of 320 hours through distance learning, making it accessible to educators worldwide. It's designed as a comprehensive program that aligns with Continuing Professional Development standards and is recognised through the European Credit Transfer System. The academic content constitutes 12.8 ECTS academic points and enables participants to transfer their learning credits across various educational institutions.



## COURSE DELIVERY

The 20-week course is conducted in English, using the online Moodle platform. Students are expected to work independently, learn the course material at their own pace and time and submit their assignments after each Unit. The content is delivered by interactive materials, course documents, research papers, live sessions, video instructions, external resources, references, project works and assignments.



## COURSE FEE AND REGISTRATION

- **400€/person** Course fee. [Payment for the course via ECU-HUB](#)
- **350€/person** Early bird fee. Available until August 15, 2026.
- **300€/person** Five or more participants from the same institution.
- An instalment payment is also available. Please contact [info.edu@europechess.org](mailto:info.edu@europechess.org)

Find the actual [Registration Form](#) on the ECU Education Commission website



## COURSE OBJECTIVES

The teaching objective of the course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the different aspects of Chess in Education. We combine theory and practice to equip educators with the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to deliver effective lessons using chess as an educational tool. The course is divided into 6 Units, each of them contributing towards a better understanding of the possibilities what chess can offer in the classroom and beyond.



## COURSE CONTENT

<p>UNIT <b>1</b></p>	<p><b>HOW TO PLAY CHESS, RULES AND BASIC CONCEPTS</b></p> <p>In Unit 1 you learn the rules and basics of chess through puzzles, quizzes and game-play. For those who already know how to play chess, the lessons were designed to give useful ideas to be used in the classroom. These lessons also offer a practical guideline with a clear structure to be used as lesson plans for a session that you can modify (simplify, complicate and extend) considering the age, ability and attitude of the children you teach.</p>
<p>UNIT <b>2</b></p>	<p><b>CHESS THROUGH HISTORY AND CULTURE</b></p> <p>In Unit 2 you learn about the rich history and culture of chess and storytelling as a powerful teaching method to be used in the classroom. Stories bring chess to life. The history of chess provides countless stories and anecdotes that can be introduced in the classroom and help children to better engage, relate and remember the lesson.</p>
<p>UNIT <b>3</b></p>	<p><b>THE SMART METHOD TO TEACH CHESS, TEACHING TECHNIQUES AND STRATEGIES</b></p> <p>Unit 3 is <u>The SMART Method to Teach Chess</u> training course the Education Commission of ECU has been providing since 2017. You learn the basic didactics of how to deliver effective chess lessons for educational purposes and gain practical experience in applying the SMART framework in your teaching practice.</p>
<p>UNIT <b>4</b></p>	<p><b>WHAT DOES RESEARCH SAY ABOUT CHESS IN EDUCATION?</b></p> <p>Unit 4 offers a wide range of 50 selected studies to learn more about what Research says about Chess in Education. Is chess really an effective tool or is it just a Wishful Thinking? As one of the research paper's title suggests, teacher training is the key. You will find a lot of valuable information in these articles, connected to Primary Education that offer practical application to your teaching.</p>
<p>UNIT <b>5</b></p>	<p><b>INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE CLASSROOM, CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p>In Unit 5 you will be introduced to the CGS project with its different modules that provide instructional materials for the classroom for various ages that you can use in your teaching practice. Exploring different approaches will prepare you to discover what works best for you and your students. The CGS project was founded by Erasmus+ where the European Chess Union was in partnership with organisations from Italy, Spain and Sweden.</p>
<p>UNIT <b>6</b></p>	<p><b>DEVELOPING CHESS IN EDUCATION FOCUSED PROJECTS</b></p> <p>In Unit 6 the content is the accumulation of the content of the previous five units where you will develop Chess in Education-focused projects. You create specialized resources and intellectual capital to be reused across diverse audiences and settings, ensuring practical application in promoting Chess in Education.</p>

## **AEGEAN UNIVERSITY**

The University of the Aegean (UAegean) is dedicated to conducting high level research and qualitative teaching on contemporary dynamic study subjects serving the economic and social development, the cohesion of the European area and the values of a universal culture.

The Centre of Training and Lifelong Learning (CTLL) of the University of the Aegean is responsible for all continuing education, training and all lifelong learning programs organised by the University, on a national and international level. Academic staff, who are responsible for every project and program, supervise and monitor the design, organisation, and development of those trainings and programs.

The CTLL of the University of the Aegean drawing on the Institution's renowned expertise in developing and managing educational programs via live, mixed and e-learning courses, offers a set of innovative distance-learning Training Programmes for professional training and specialisation in cutting-edge topics.

## **EUROPEAN CHESS UNION (ECU)**

The European Chess Union was founded in 1985 and is based in Switzerland. It is the representative body for chess in Europe. The ECU works with National Chess Federations as well as international sporting, cultural and educational bodies and is committed to advancing the role of chess in education.

## **ECU EDUCATION COMMISSION**

The ECU Education Commission was established in 2014 and has been committed to advancing the role of *Chess in Education (CiE)* ever since. The primary objective has always been to promote Chess in Education, empower Chess Educators, and support CiE initiatives. The commission strives to advocate for the inclusion of chess in educational settings, recognising its numerous educational benefits. By delivering comprehensive training courses, the Commission empowers educators to use chess effectively as a teaching tool while supporting individuals, schools, organisations, and National Federations.



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### **Academic Director**

Professor Katerina T. Frantzi  
frantzi.kedivim@aegean.gr

### **Course Director**

Jesper Hall  
info.edu@europechess.org