

ITD EDUCATION FESTIVAL 2027

Call for contributions

This isn't a conference about what ITD education should be. It's a celebration of what's already happening.

We invite educators, innovators, researchers, students and societal partners across Erasmus University Rotterdam, Erasmus MC and TU Delft to share what they do: practice and research, not position papers. We especially welcome honest accounts of what didn't work as well as what did.

Who can contribute

Educators, researchers, students and societal partners from the three institutions. The call circulates within Erasmus University Rotterdam, Erasmus MC and TU Delft, and the committee may also invite a small number of external contributors.

We mean students as contributors, not only as audience: propose a session and lead it. We're inviting a student representative to help shape the programme. Joint contributions from academic and non-academic partners are welcome. The festival runs in English.

In this call

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- Proposal form (separate document)

Themes

Each theme offers some guiding questions to spark ideas, not a checklist.

1. Designing Authentic ITD Learning

How do we design learning for complex challenges?

- How do we design learning around real, messy problems rather than tidy cases?
- How do we hold academic rigour and real-world relevance together?
- What does assessment look like when the challenge has no single right answer?
- How do we bring academic and non-academic partners into the design, not just the delivery?

2. Developing ITD Competencies

What should students learn beyond disciplinary expertise?

- Which competencies matter most for working across disciplines, and how do we build them?
- How do we help students work with uncertainty and complexity?
- How do we develop collaboration across disciplines and with society?
- How do we make these competencies visible, and assess them?

3. Partnering with Society

How do we meaningfully involve stakeholders?

- How do we involve stakeholders in designing and running a course, not just visiting it?
- How has a company or public body been part of ITD education, and how did it work out?
- What makes academic and non-academic partners actually collaborate, rather than co-exist?
- How do we handle the practical side: agreements, expectations, time, reward?

4. Embedding ITD Education

How do we make ITD education sustainable?

- How do we embed ITD at curriculum and programme level, not just in single courses?
- How do we recognise and reward staff for ITD teaching?
- How do we assess ITD learning fairly?
- How do we keep ITD education going when the initial funding or enthusiasm fades?

Other

A theme we haven't named? ITD education is broad, and we'd rather not miss something that matters to you and connects with it.

- What aspect of ITD education would you add that the four themes above don't capture?
- What are you working on that connects with ITD but sits outside these?
- What question about ITD education feels important and still unanswered?

Formats you can propose

A short, curated set to keep the day focused. Here is what each session type is, what it's best for and how it runs on the day, so you can pick the one that fits. All sessions are in English.

Interactive presentation

60 minutes · main room · seated audience

A spoken account of a practice, method, result or lesson learned. Around 30 of the 60 minutes go to interaction: put questions to the audience and open a real discussion, rather than presenting at them.

How it runs In the main room, an old tiered lecture hall, to a seated audience.

Best for a single clear story or finding where the value is in the telling and the exchange after.

Workshop or tutorial

60 or 120 minutes · Small (about 10 to 12) or Medium (about 20)

A hands-on session where you guide participants through doing something, so they leave able to use a new approach, method or tool. Students are welcome to propose and lead one.

How it runs In a breakout room sized Small or Medium; there is no larger room for workshops. Participants should leave with a new idea, a practical approach, some inspiration or new questions.

Best when the learning comes from doing rather than watching, and people should go home with something they can apply.

Gallery session (showcase and work in progress)

Two one-hour slots · the gallery · separate from the lunch break

A hands-on exhibition of artefacts and stories: you set up a demo, stand or display, and people move between them, trying things and talking.

How it runs Two one-hour slots, which can be booked separately. A moderator keeps time, and participants walk round, spending about 10 minutes at each station.

Best for things better experienced than described (a method, tool or material people can see or try) and for early work that benefits from conversation.

Roundtable (Research Café)

20-minute rounds · tables of five or six · up to 50 people

A small-group academic conversation, not a presentation. You bring a question, a finding or a piece of work (a paper, a study, an idea you're wrestling with) and open the discussion; the table then digs into it together.

How it runs In a room for 50, set out as tables of five or six. Each conversation lasts 20 minutes, then everyone moves to another table, for three rounds. A double slot is possible.

Best for research and conceptual questions, work you want rigorous feedback on, and the kind of in-depth exchange a plenary doesn't allow.

Something else in mind?

Experimental and unconventional formats

If you have an idea for a session that doesn't fit the formats above, tell us anyway educationfestival@convergence.nl. We'll do our best to accommodate a different idea where we can, and we'll explore the possibilities with you.

What we're looking for

Grounded
Rooted in real practice or real research, with something concrete to show, do or discuss.

Theme-appropriate
It connects with the themes, whether it sits squarely in one or brings something we hadn't thought of, and it fits the format you propose.

Participatory
The audience takes something away, or does something.

Honest
What worked, what didn't, and what you learned.

Clear
About who it's for and what people will gain.

Collaborative
Contributions that bring academic and non-academic partners together are welcome.

What to submit

NOTE: The proposal form (a separate document) repeats all these questions.

- Title of your contribution
- Theme it best fits
- Format; for a workshop or tutorial, preferred size and length (60 or 120 minutes)
- What the session aims to achieve (its objectives, a sentence or two)
- What will happen during the session (the activity itself, max 300 words)
- A programme description for participants, which will appear in the festival programme as written (max 50 words, plus a one-liner)
- Who it's for, and your preferred number of participants
- What participants take away
- Anything you need (room set-up, materials, technical)
- Whether students or societal partners are involved in leading the session
- Your name, role and institution, and a co-applicant if you're proposing jointly
- A short bio (max 15 words) for each person leading the session (incl. name, title, role/function, affiliation), for the programme
- Your consent to publish programme details and to photography and recording on the day

Key dates

When	What
3rd week October 2026	Call opens
December 18, 2026	**Submission deadline**
January 2027	Selection and notification
Early February 2027	Detailed workshop plan to be submitted
End of January 2027	Enrolment to attendees opens
End of February	Enrolment closes
4 March 2027	**Festival**

How to submit

Complete the proposal form (a separate document), save it and submit it to educationfestival@convergence.nl.

After selection

We'll let you know in January 2027 whether your proposal has been accepted, and if so, ask you to confirm that you can take part.

About a month before the festival, by early February 2027, we'll ask for a full description of the activity: how you'll use the time, what participants will do at each stage, and the materials, room set-up and technical support you need. This lets us finalise rooms and timings, and make sure your session gets what it needs.

The programme, with your programme description and bio, is published when enrolment to attend opens.

Proposals are reviewed against the criteria in *What we're looking for* by the event committee.

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Because of the number of proposals and the time available, we can't give individual feedback on proposals that aren't selected. You're welcome to get in touch if you have questions about the outcome.

Practical information

- Taking part is free.
- Contributors also need to enrol to attend the festival, in the same way as everyone else.
- We can't cover travel or accommodation costs.
- If you or your participants have access needs, tell us in the proposal form or by email, and we'll do what we can to accommodate them.

Questions

For questions about the call, or to talk through an idea before you submit, email educationfestival@convergence.nl.