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## *What is Critical Cultural Literacy?*

Critical Cultural Literacy (CCL) is an educational framework that goes beyond traditional notions of literacy, which typically focus on reading and writing skills. Moreover, focusing on culture, CCL critically examines a broad understanding of culture as a way of life, providing a mean of expression to individuals and local communities. Engagement with local communities is a cornerstone of CCL – by connecting educational practices with the lived experiences and cultur-

al practices and expressions of local communities, CCL fosters a more relevant learning experience.

CCL aims to acknowledge and strengthen the tools and knowledge of individuals to critically analyse and engage with cultural practices. It focuses on the inclusion of marginalized voices and perspectives, emphasizing the need to understand and challenge dominant European and national cultural narratives.

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## *The Importance of CCL*

Critical cultural literacy is a human ability. As their everyday lives are already saturated and shaped by cultural and artistic forms of expression, humans are always already culturally literate. CCL promotes participation in activities of diverse cultural communities in addition to the

creation of common living spaces and co-creation of culture. This framework is crucial in today's diverse and interconnected world, where individuals navigate and interpret a wide array of cultural expressions and power dynamics.

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## *Our Commitment*

EXPECT\_Art is dedicated to integrating CCL into educational practices, providing resources and support for educators and learners to engage with this transformative approach. We believe that by fostering critical cultural literacy, we can contribute to a more inclusive, equitable, and just society.





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## Key Concepts related to CCL

### 1. ENGAGEMENT WITH MARGINALIZED CULTURES:

In the decolonial perspective of the project, CCL involves recognizing and valuing the cultural contributions and practices of marginalized groups.

### 2. CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF POWER STRUCTURES:

It encourages questioning and analyzing the power relations that shape cultural and artistic production and dissemination, challenging the status quo to discover alternative pathways for social and self-development.

### 3. MULTILITERACY:

CCL extends beyond print media to include various forms of cultural and artistic expressions, such as visual, electronic, and performative arts. This approach helps democratize cultural production and recognizes the diverse linguistic, social, economic, artistic and cultural capital that learners bring to their educational experiences.

### 4. EMANCIPATORY EDUCATION:

The ultimate goal of CCL is to provide an emancipatory educational experience that supports individuals and communities to advocate for social change and justice. It encourages a reflective and self-critical approach to education, ensuring that both educators and learners are conscious of the power structures inherent in their interactions.



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## Who is EXPECT\_Art?

We are happy to introduce you the diverse team that works together in the **EXPECT\_Art** project. Each institution brings along a unique set of expertise and commitment to advancing

critical cultural literacy through art education. We are sending our greetings from **Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Spain, and Slovenia.**

More about our project:  
[www.expectart.eu/](http://www.expectart.eu/)

Check out video from our first meeting here:

[www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=rVrOXqMzR-A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVrOXqMzR-A)

