

XXV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION
The pedagogical attraction to the sea during the 20th century
Barcelona, 23, 24 and 25 November 2022

First Circular

On the occasion of the celebration of the XXV International Conference on the History of Education, organized by the Grup de Recerca en Pedagògic i Social Contemporani (GREPPS) of the University of Barcelona, and by the Societat d'Història de l'Educació dels Països de Llengua Catalana (a subsidiary of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans), this first circular is presented with the aim of announcing the theme that will be the backbone of these conferences. The theme chosen is the relationship between pedagogy and the sea. This election is intended to honor the Escola del Mar, founded by the pedagogue Pere Vergés i Farrés (1896-1970), since the year 2022 will commemorate the centenary of its creation. Undoubtedly, one of the interpretive keys that best explains the work of this institution, so emblematic for the city of Barcelona, is the dialogue between pedagogy and the sea.

Thus, these international conferences establish the following axes of study, taking the sea as a key pedagogical category of the 20th century:

1) The sea as a pedagogical landscape

This axis proposes to focus the study on all those educational practices (open-air schools, school colonies, etc.) that have managed to combine the beach, the land and the water. There is no doubt that these practices were created under the influence of the spirit of renovation that appeared at the end of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century.

2) The sea as a means of communication and exchange

The wide horizon drawn by the sea enables the circulation of educational subjects, ideas and artifacts between different territories from a Mediterranean, European or transoceanic perspective. It is evident that educational discourses and practices do not remain outside the future of the world, so a space of historical biography is reserved to follow the study trips, routes, navigations or exiles of the professionals who are dedicated to teaching, to education and pedagogy.

3) The sea and the discovery of corporality

The pleasure of being outdoors highlights the importance of the body in education based on different pedagogical approaches and physical practices (such as Swedish gymnastics, swimming, games or sports). Also taking as a starting point the hygienist conception of the body, in addition to promoting a series of values such as sacrifice, struggle and respect for rules and regulations.

4) The sea and aesthetic education

Plenaryism as a cultural movement allowed us to apprehend in situ the inspiring force of nature. The presence and contact with nature also had its pedagogical aspect, through hiking, and in certain educational contexts, more linked to a maritime aesthetic, the presence of certain disciplines considered marginal to date, such as music, plastic expression, and poetry was promoted.

5) The sea as a journey: research and teaching in the history of education

This axis of study aims to address historiography and research in the history of education. As well as in didactics and teaching innovation in the history of education in the university environment. Likewise, and on the occasion of the twenty-fifth edition of some international conferences on the history of education such as the present ones, organized by the Societat d'Història de l'Educació dels Països de Llengua Catalana (subsidiary of l'Institut d'Estudis Catalans), it is intended to reflect on the role of this cultural society in the field of education, teaching and the research carried out to date.

Finally, it should be added that in the next circulars the program of the conference and other information of interest will be detailed (such as the registration form and fees, and the accommodation possibilities for non-Barcelona resident participants), as well as the deadline for submitting the summaries and the full texts of the communications, in order to make their pertinent assessment and to be able to announce its acceptance and subsequent publication well in advance.

We invite you to participate and prepare your communications. For any questions and details, we are at your disposal: **25jornades.hist.educ@correu.iec.cat**

Barcelona, 23 January 2021

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