ERASMUS+ 2027 · THEMATIC PROFILE 08 OF 35

Digital Education and Immersive Learning

Partner Identification Form · Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU), Türkiye

Why include AYBU in your consortium? Immersive and online learning: virtual reality curricula, learning platforms and evaluation of digital teaching. AYBU is a public university in Ankara with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and 28 Erasmus+ cooperation projects in the Commission's project database since 2014, 17 as coordinator. One contact for every thematic profile: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar, mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr.

1. Five reasons specific to this theme

1. Coordinator of a KA220-HED project on haptic-based virtual reality in clinical dentistry (2024–2026)
2. Three earlier Erasmus+ projects in which AYBU coordinated the development of learning platforms, and a new 2026 project on a 3D preclinical dentistry curriculum
3. A Distance Education Research Centre serving more than 26 000 students
4. An adaptive business simulation using machine learning for accounting education
5. Published evidence on students' attitudes to mobile learning after the pandemic

2. Thematic institutional profile

AYBU has coordinated an Erasmus+ higher education partnership that built a clinical dentistry curriculum on haptic-based virtual reality, won a follow-up 2026 partnership on an interactive 3D preclinical dentistry curriculum, and earlier partnerships that created digital learning platforms for adult educators, older adults and young people. Its Distance Education Research Centre delivers online teaching for the whole university, and its researchers have studied students' attitudes to mobile learning and designed a machine-learning-based adaptive business simulation. The university can lead the design, technical validation and evaluation of digital learning.

Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Distance Education Research Centre (AYBUZEM)
- Learning and Teaching Research Centre
- Faculty of Dentistry
- Business School

Research and training infrastructure

- Institutional online-learning infrastructure of the Distance Education Research Centre
- Haptic virtual reality curriculum materials from the dentistry project
- Continuing Education Centre for certificate delivery

3. Relevant previous projects

Project number	Title	Action	Call	AYBU role	EU grant (project)	Status
2026-1-TR01-KA220-HED-000467241	Interactive 3D Preclinical Dentistry Curriculum and Assessment Package	Cooperation partnerships in higher education	2026	Coordinator	EUR 250 000	Ongoing
2023-2-TR01-KA220-HED-000170604	Curriculum Development in Clinical Dentistry Treatment with Haptic Based Virtual Reality Application	Cooperation partnerships in higher education	2023	Coordinator	EUR 250 000	Completed
2021-2-TR01-KA220-YOU-000049540	DIGITAL YOUTH LIFE HEALTH PLATFORM	Cooperation partnerships in youth	2021	Coordinator	EUR 345 039	Completed
2020-1-TR01-KA204-094736	Golden Age Platform: Inclusion of Senior Citizens to Virtualised Environments with Lifelong Learning Facilities	Strategic Partnerships for adult education	2020	Coordinator	EUR 189 378	Completed
2020-1-TR01-KA204-092715	Supporting Public Education Centers' Educators for Refugee Adaptation	Strategic Partnerships for adult education	2020	Coordinator	EUR 159 435	Completed

Source: European Commission, Erasmus+ project lists, export of 19.11.2026. Grant = total EU grant of the project as awarded.

4. Key academic experts

Expert	Unit	Relevance to this theme	Profile
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar	Business School – Management Information Systems	Mobile learning attitudes study; coordination of digital platform projects	AVESIS
Res. Asst. Dr. Şevket Durmaz	Business School – Management (Accounting)	Machine-learning-based adaptive business simulation for accounting education	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vildan Ateş	Business School – Management Information Systems	Augmented reality tools for people with special needs; digital stress of students	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Erasmus+ projects producing digital training for teachers and adults	AVESIS

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar. Vice Dean of the AYBU Business School and Associate Professor of Management Information Systems. His research addresses smart cities, technology acceptance, AI adoption and data-driven digital governance. He leads AYBU's work in the Erasmus+ Alliance for Innovation BIAD on AI-enabled skills

analysis and micro-credentials, has taken part in Erasmus+ partnerships since 2016 and is the author of Smart Cities: Cases and Implications (2023). Teaching covers management information systems courses in the English-taught MIS programme (smart cities, business intelligence and AI-related subjects in the departmental curriculum).

Res. Asst. Dr. Şevket Durmaz. Research Assistant with a doctorate in accounting at the AYBU Business School. He works on sustainability reporting, ESG convergence among listed firms and auditing, and applies machine learning to financial prediction. He has developed a green financial literacy scale and a machine-learning-based adaptive business simulation for accounting education, which are relevant to financial literacy and innovative teaching projects. Teaching covers accounting courses (research assistant duties). Research record on AVESIS: 9 publications on AVESIS summary (11 listed), Google Scholar h-index 2, 2 projects.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vildan Ateş. Associate Professor of Management Information Systems at the AYBU Business School, with sixteen years of earlier IT practice. Her recent studies measure AI literacy among university students, AI anxiety among vocational school students and generative AI acceptance among employees; she also publishes on data governance, trust in e-government and cloud security and took part in the Digital Türkiye Index project. Teaching covers courses in the English-taught Management Information Systems programme. Research record on AVESIS: 91 publications (9 in Scopus), 11 theses supervised.

5. Keywords

digital education · immersive learning · virtual reality · haptic simulation · online learning · learning platforms · mobile learning · adaptive simulation · open educational resources · blended learning · digital pedagogy · learning analytics · augmented reality · educator digital competence · digital wellbeing of learners

6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Digital transformation: digital readiness, resilience and capacity of education and training; digital technologies for learning highlighted in the 2027 call.

Relevant 2027 action	Deadline (Brussels time)	Grant per project	Role AYBU can take
Cooperation Partnerships in higher education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in vocational education and training	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in adult education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in school education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Capacity Building in Higher Education	9 February 2027, 17:00 Brussels time	Strand 1 (Fostering access to cooperation in higher education): EUR 200 000–400 000; Strand 2 (Partnerships for transformation): EUR 400 000–800 000; Strand 3 (Structural reform projects): EUR 600 000–1 000 000 (Guide p. 337)	Coordinator or partner

7. What AYBU can contribute

Contributions described here are potential contributions based on verified institutional capacity; they become commitments only in a signed proposal. Named experts are proposed on the basis of their published work and their participation in a given proposal is subject to their confirmation.

Potential project objectives

- Bring simulation and immersive tools into practice-based curricula
- Raise the digital teaching competence of educators
- Evaluate what digital tools add to learning

Potential activities

- Co-design of simulation-based course units
- Development of open online modules
- Educator training on digital pedagogy
- Controlled evaluation of learning gains

Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Pedagogical framework
- Digital content and platform
- Educator training and piloting
- Evaluation and open publication

Training modules AYBU could deliver

- Designing simulation-based learning
- Teaching online and blended courses
- Evaluating digital learning

Potential deliverables

- Pedagogical framework
- Open online modules and simulation scenarios
- Educator training programme
- Evaluation report

Potential pilot activities

- Simulation-based unit piloted in a health or business course
- Online module piloted through the Distance Education Research Centre

Target groups AYBU can reach

- Higher education and VET teachers

- Students in practice-based programmes
- Adult learners
- Instructional designers

Expected institutional contribution

- Curriculum design with immersive technology
- Platform hosting and technical validation
- Educator training
- Evaluation design
- Open publication of resources

8. Management, quality and dissemination capacity

EU projects at AYBU are run by academic project teams with support from the Business School's projects office and the Competitiveness and Innovation Research Centre (REKMER). Financial administration follows Turkish public financial management and control legislation (Law No. 5018); EU grants are kept in dedicated project accounts and the university is subject to external audit by the Turkish Court of Accounts. In the Commission's project database AYBU appears in 28 Erasmus+ cooperation, policy and Jean Monnet projects from call years 2014–2026, 17 of them as coordinator; 9 are running today.

For each project AYBU proposes a quality plan with internal peer review of deliverables, milestone monitoring and partner feedback surveys. The university operates an institutional quality management system under the national Higher Education Quality Council framework, and Business School staff include an accredited external evaluator of that Council.

AYBU disseminates through its institutional website and faculty pages, official social media accounts, a community of more than 26 000 students and about 2 600 staff, its partner universities and its links with ministries, municipalities, chambers and Teknopark Ankara. Multiplier events and training activities can be hosted on its Ankara campuses, and online courses can be delivered through the Distance Education Research Centre.

Results can be sustained through courses in degree programmes, certificate programmes of the Continuing Education Centre, online delivery by the Distance Education Research Centre and follow-up funding from national programmes such as TÜBİTAK. Open publication of materials is the default.

9. Partners we would like to work with

- EdTech companies
- Universities with teacher education or medical education
- VET providers
- Adult education centres
- Simulation technology developers

10. Organisation identification

Legal name (national language)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT ÜNİVERSİTESİ

Legal name (Latin characters)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITESI
Name in English	Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU)
Organisation ID (OID)	E10137893
PIC	952723525
National / fiscal ID	9600521531
Type of organisation	Higher education institution (tertiary level); Public (state) university; non-profit public body
Erasmus Charter for Higher Education	Erasmus Charter for Higher Education holder — Erasmus code TR ANKARA15
Established	21 July 2010 (decision published in the Official Gazette)
Registered address	AYBÜ Etlik Milli İrade Binası, B-Blok, Ayvalı Mah. Gazze Cad. No: 7, Etlik, Keçiören, 06010 Ankara, Türkiye
Main campus	Esenboğa Merkez Külliyesi, Dumlupınar Mah., 06760 Çubuk / Ankara
Region (NUTS)	TR51 – Ankara
Website	https://aybu.edu.tr
General e-mail / telephone	basin@aybu.edu.tr / +90 312 906 10 00

11. Institutional representative and contact

Legal representative

Name	Prof. Dr. Ali Cengiz Köseoğlu
Position	Rector
E-mail	ackoseoglu@aybu.edu.tr
Telephone	+90 312 906 10 04

Main contact person

Name	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar
Position	Associate Professor, Department of Management Information Systems; Vice Dean, Business School
Unit	Business School – Department of Management Information Systems
E-mail	mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr
Telephone	+90 312 906 16 47
Academic profile	https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr/takpinar

12. Links

- University: https://aybu.edu.tr
- Business School: https://aybu.edu.tr/isletme/en
- Academic profiles (AVESIS): https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr
- AYBU projects in the Erasmus+ project database: https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects

Data verified on 20.11.2026. Institutional figures from aybu.edu.tr and AYBU records; project data from the European Commission's Erasmus+ project lists; staff data from AVESIS.