

Are you interested in intangible cultural heritage?

Would you wish to expand your knowledge and get credits while participating the marvellous Kaustinen Folk Music Festival?

Get to spend unforgettable days at Kaustinen ICH Academy!

When: 14–18.7.2026

Where: Kaustinen, Finland

For whom: students in higher education and EQF6 level interested in intangible cultural heritage (ICH)

Mandatory programme:

- **General Course Info** online (2hr) on 3.6.2026 at 14:00-16:00. The meeting will be recorded.
- **Online Workshops** 4 hours in total. First one on Thursday 9.7. at 14:00-16:00 EST and one reflection meeting after the Kaustinen week. The time for the reflection meeting will be decided with the students during the ICH Academy. Contents will be partly recorded and partly shared as documents.
- **During the Festival week** (14–18.7.2026):
 - **Daily lectures**, each 2,5 hours from Tuesday to Friday. 10 hours of lectures in total.
 - **Seminar attendance**, first one during the week and second on Saturday. Seminars in total 4,5 hours.

Optional programme:

- The daily ICH Tent programme related to many elements of ICH (f.ex. handicraft, instrument building and music)
- a possibility for presenting your own school/university

Assignments:

- a. Written assignment after the first online workshop about Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- b. Reflection diary will be kept during the festival week. Reflection discussion during the last online workshop after the ICH Academy.

What will you get:

- 3 ECTS credits
- free entry to Kaustinen Folk Music Festival (students from Erasmus Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) partner organisations)
- numerous opportunities to join music and dance workshops and jam sessions
- music and dance at 30 stages from morning until wee hours



Kaustinen FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

What is it?

Kaustinen ICH Academy and the festival is an opportunity for participants to share and expand their knowledge of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage and traditions of music and dance. Lectures and seminars are free for all participants. The working language of the program is English.

A typical *ICH Academy* day consists of a lecture session from 10.00 to 11.30, participating in a (voluntary) workshop 11.30–13.00, a lecture session 14.00–15.00, and enjoying the festival programme for the rest of the day.

Kaustinen Folk Music Festival, est. 1968, is the biggest in Finland and one of the best-known in Europe, with ca. 5000 professional and amateur performers in 400–500 groups, ca. 1700 performances yearly and ca. 50000 attendances in recent years. The core of the festival is the exceptionally viable local fiddle tradition, inscribed into Unesco's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2021. Besides dance and music performances, the festival program includes lectures, seminars and numerous inclusive and interactive programs like jam sessions, daily workshops etc. The festival hosts yearly international performers from 10–20 countries.

If you got interested, contact immediately your tutoring teacher or your institution's Erasmus+ coordinator to make sure your institution has the possibility to support your attendance.

For *questions* about the course practicalities, contact the course coordinator Annika Mylläri at Centria University of Applied Sciences, annika.myllari@centria.fi

For questions about the course contents, contact Outi Valo at Finnish Folk Music Institute, outi.valo@kaustinen.fi



Watch program from previous years: