

**Davide Taibi**

Senior researcher, National Research Council of Italy - Institute for Educational Technology

# Integrating Data and AI Literacy in Learning Pathways



# Who am I?

Davide Taibi is a senior researcher of the Institute for Educational Technology at the National Research Council of Italy. His research activities are mainly focused on the application of innovative technologies in the educational field, with particular emphasis on **mobile learning**, **the semantic web** and **linked data for education**, standards for educational process design, **learning analytics**, **open science**, **augmented reality**, and **AI in education**. He coordinated in the years 2019-2022 the projects **DATALIT**-Data Literacy at the interface of higher education and business, Erasmus+, Knowledge Alliances for higher education, and **DEDALUS** - DDeveloping DATA Literacy courses for University Students, Erasmus+, KA2 Strategic Partnership for higher education. At present, he is coordinating **SMERALD**—SMEs Raising Awareness and Learning on Digital Data, Data Analysis, and Artificial Intelligence—and **IDEAL**—Integrating Data Analysis and AI in Learning Experiences, two Erasmus+ Cooperation partnerships projects, respectively, in the Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education sectors.

# Something more

Contract professor of  
*Open Data  
Management* at the  
University of Palermo



Member of *opendatasicilia*,  
an online community on  
Open Data and civic  
engagement  
<https://opendatasicilia.it>



Co-founder of *OnData*, NGO  
promoting initiatives related  
to Open Data and Open  
Government in Italy  
<http://ondata.it>

# What is data literacy?

*“Data literacy is the ability to read, write, critically assess, and communicate data in context, including an understanding of data sources and constructs, analytical methods and techniques applied — and the ability to describe the use case, application, resulting value, and its implications.”*

Is it information/media/digital literacy?

# Information and Data Literacy

## DigComp 2.2

DIMENSION 1 • COMPETENCE AREA

### 1. INFORMATION AND DATA LITERACY

DIMENSION 2 • COMPETENCE

#### 1.1 BROWSING, SEARCHING AND FILTERING DATA, INFORMATION AND DIGITAL CONTENT

To articulate information needs, to search for data, information and content in digital environments, to access them and to navigate between them. To create and update personal search strategies.

DIMENSION 2 • COMPETENCE

#### 1.2 EVALUATING DATA, INFORMATION AND DIGITAL CONTENT

To analyse, compare and critically evaluate the credibility and reliability of sources of data, information and digital content. To analyse, interpret and critically evaluate the data, information and digital content.

DIMENSION 2 • COMPETENCE

#### 1.3 MANAGING DATA, INFORMATION AND DIGITAL CONTENT

To organise, store and retrieve data, information, and content in digital environments. To organise and process them in a structured environment.

# What is data literacy?

"Data Literacy" straight translates to "*Datenkompetenz*" which translates literally back to "data competence". Literacy translates to *Alphabetisierung*, which translates back to alphabetization. The term 'data literacy' is in very limited use in German speaking countries.

Term "data literacy" in Serbia is not recognized nor translated, common related terms are information literacy and data science. In Croatia it is translated as "*podatkovna pismenost*".

The term 'data literacy' isn't well known in most of the countries analysed. The most widely used terms are 'digital literacy', 'information literacy', 'data competence', 'media literacy', 'statistical literacy', 'computer/IT literacy', among others. In most countries is closely related to digital skills.

# Data and AI Literacy: experiences from EU funded projects



## DATALIT

Data Literacy at the interface of higher education and business

Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliances for higher education - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

612561-EPP-1-2019-1-IT-EPPKA2-KA

<http://datalit.itd.cnr.it/>



## DEDALUS

DEveloping DAta Literacy courses for University Students

Erasmus+ KA203 - Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education

2019-1-IT02-KA203-063359

<http://dedalus.itd.cnr.it/>

# Data and AI Literacy: experiences from EU funded projects



## SMERALD

SMEs – Raising Awareness and Learning on Digital data, data analysis and artificial intelligence

Erasmus+ KA220-VET - Cooperation partnerships in Vocational Education and Training

2023-1-IT01-KA220-VET-000151990

<http://smeraldproject.eu/>



IDEAL



## IDEAL

Integrating Data Analysis and AI in Learning experiences

Erasmus+ KA220-HED - Cooperation Partnerships in Higher Education

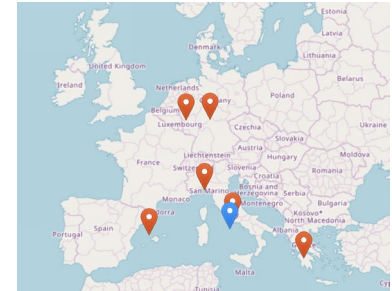
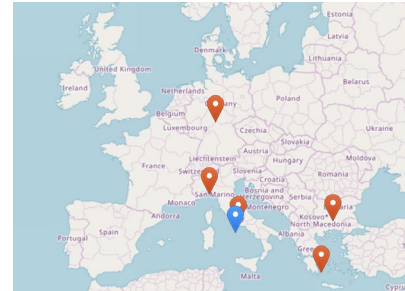
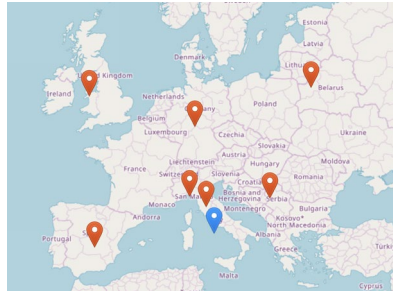
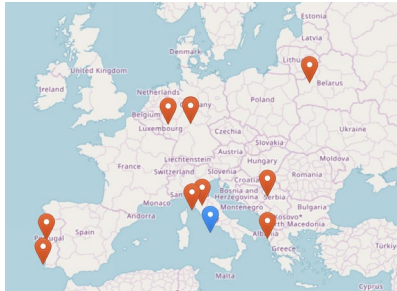
2024-1-IT02-KA220-HED-000251425

<http://project-ideal.eu/>



# A long story *in time and space*

|         | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| DEDALUS |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| DATALIT |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| SMERALD |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| IDEAL   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |



# Inception

## Rationale

Data and AI Literacy are a critical skills in the 21st century

Data and AI Literacy are no longer must-have skills for data scientist or technology experts only

Data and AI Literacy are becoming essential skills for **all** citizens

## Objectives

Promoting a conscious use of data and AI tools in several sectors.

Offering to citizens the opportunity to reach a suitable level of data and AI knowledge

Narrowing the gap between academia, business sector and citizens

# Projects' outcomes in a nutshell



# Research highlights

Data and AI literacy courses are fragmentary

The syllabus of data and AI literacy courses are very different

Need for a qualification system at European level specific on data and AI literacy

Needs of job market related to data and AI literacy have not been adequately analysed

# Common Syllabus

## Competences related to Data Literacy

### Domain Specific (“Data”) Competences

1. Digital Literacy
2. Data Processing Literacy
3. Data Management Literacy

### Social Competences

1. Teamwork (Intercultural)
2. Communication
3. Leadership: Conflict resolution
4. Client orientation, *Mobilising others*

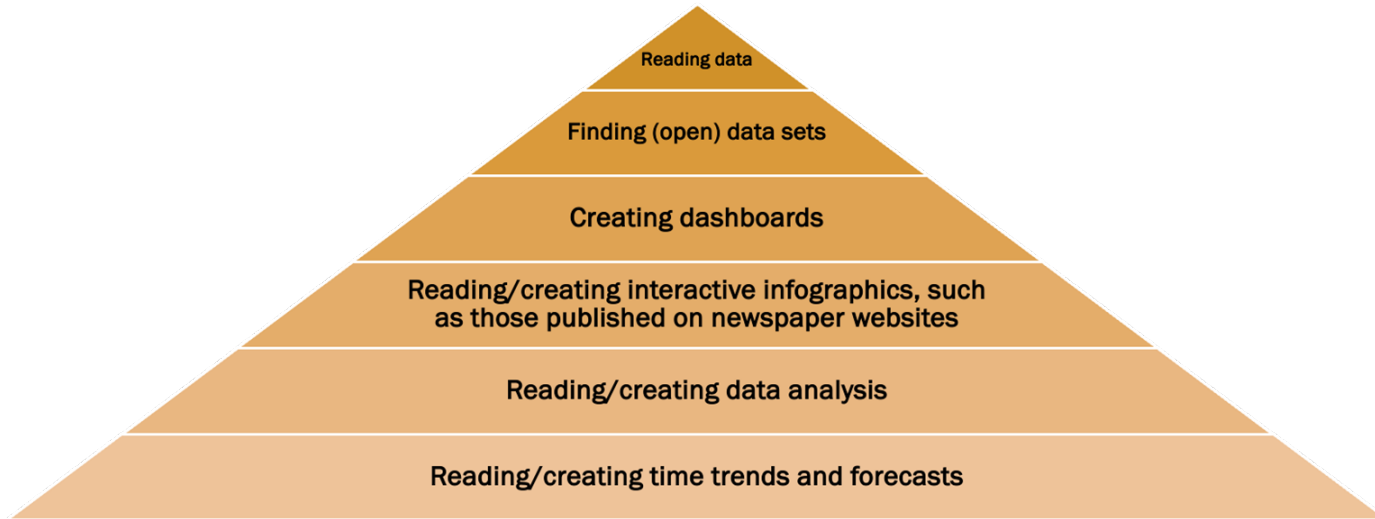
### Organisational Competences

1. Project development
2. Resource Planning; *Mobilising resources*
3. Evaluation
4. Networking
5. Entrepreneurial Competences *Creating Idea and opportunities*

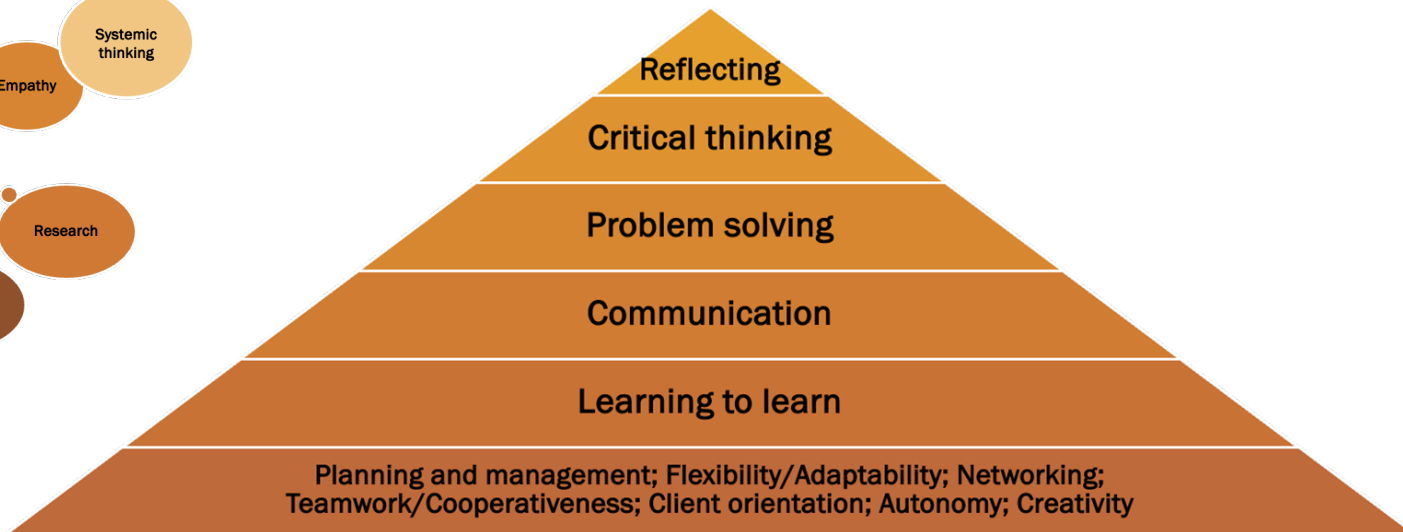
### Personal Competences

1. Creativity
2. Problem Solving
3. Critical (*Ethical and sustainable*) thinking
4. Flexibility *Coping with ambiguity, uncertainty and risk*

# Data Literacy functional competences



# Data, AI Literacy and soft skills



# Piloting

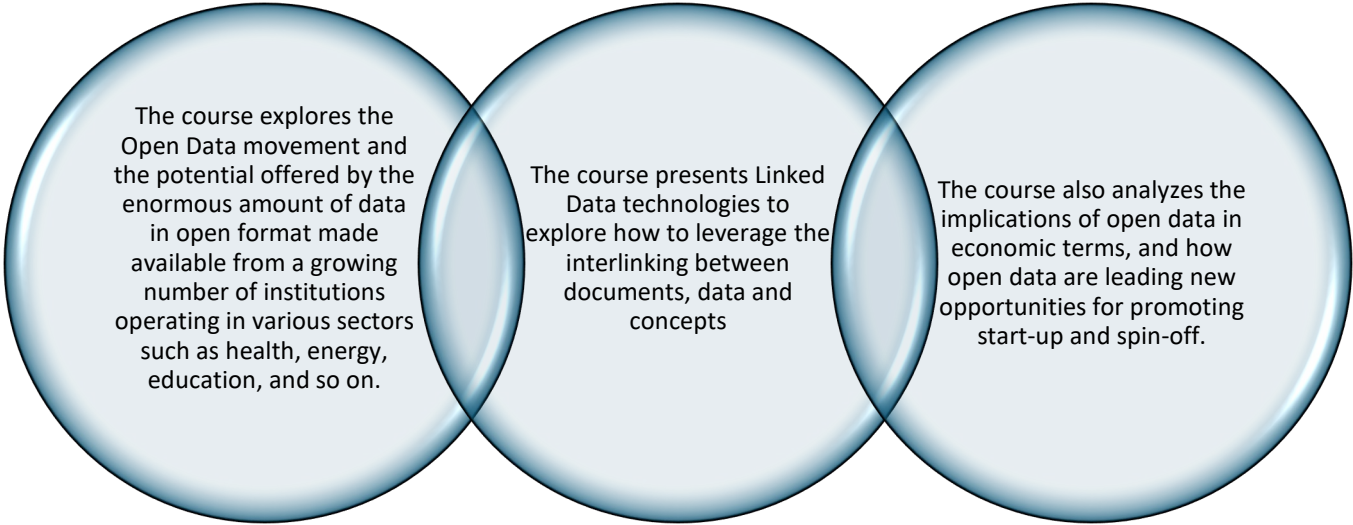
Piloting activities in the different contexts addressed by the projects were implemented to investigate the introduction of the data literacy learning path in university, business and VET real case scenarios



Guidelines and concrete recommendations were produced to facilitate the implementation of the approach and the transfer to different educational sectors and learning contexts.



# Pilot Example: the Open Data Management course at UniPa



The course explores the Open Data movement and the potential offered by the enormous amount of data in open format made available from a growing number of institutions operating in various sectors such as health, energy, education, and so on.

The course presents Linked Data technologies to explore how to leverage the interlinking between documents, data and concepts

The course also analyzes the implications of open data in economic terms, and how open data are leading new opportunities for promoting start-up and spin-off.

# Pilot Example: the Open Data Management course at UniPa

## Finding, Cleaning and Analysing Data GenAI to support Data Analysis Presenting and Reporting

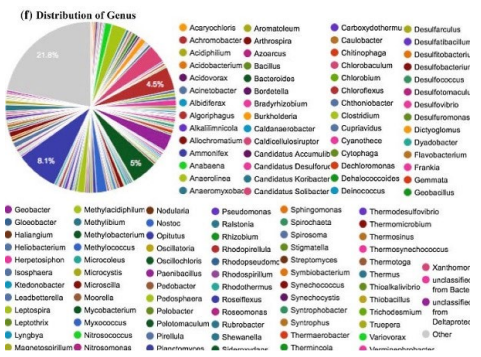
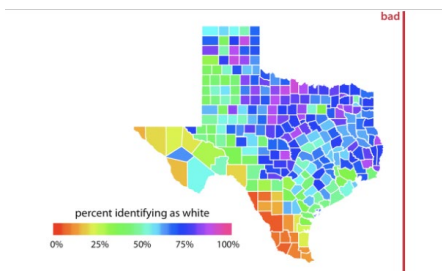
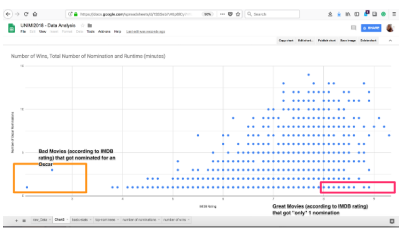
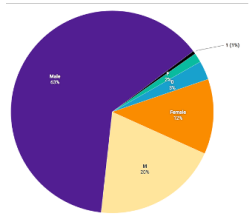
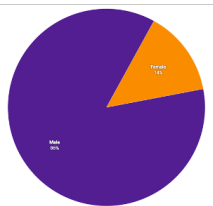
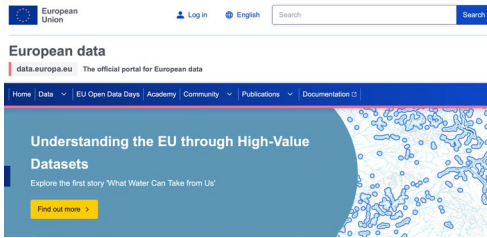


Figure 15.5: Percentage of people identifying as white in Texas counties. The rainbow color scale is not an appropriate scale to visualize continuous data values, because it tends to place emphasis on arbitrary features of the data. Here, it emphasizes counties in which approximately 75% of the population identify as white.

# Short and long term impact



## Universities

- Continuous refining process
- Inclusion of data literacy as cross-cutting subject
- Harmonizing learning paths
- Provide competences and know-how for future employees



## Enterprises

- Contributing to standardize data literacy educational
- Network with universities
- Contribute to tackle current skill mismatch
- Improving hiring strategy



## Citizen

- Fostering a culture of data and AI literacy among European citizens
- Acquiring data and AI skills to actively take part in the civil society
- Promoting a common understanding of what a data and AI literate person is supposed to know and is able to do

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