

**A. Course Title “International Virtual Societal Challenge” (IVSC), Interdisciplinary online course, Focus: Environment**

**Target group:** Students at Bachelor’s or Master’s level

**Lecturer:** Andrea Stammermann, English and American Studies

**Description:** The *Intercultural Virtual Societal Challenge e-course* (IVSC) seeks to empower students to address real world societal challenges through challenge-based learning and intercultural and digital upskilling. The IVSC e-course involves students in challenge-based learning in relation to one or all of the three thematic areas: environment, gender or race. For each thematic strand, students identify a specific related challenge that requires investigation and problem-solving, and it is on the basis of how they approach this challenge, and the learning and outcomes achieved, that the course is assessed.

You will work in a group with fellow students from EUF and our partner universities while developing a project that your group defined within the thematic focus “**environment**”. The scope of environmental issues is broad and encompasses a multitude of interconnected concerns, ranging from climate change and biodiversity loss to pollution, deforestation, and resource depletion.

Throughout the course, you will engage with a dynamic mix of resources while working on your project. The input in five sessions will be structured to support you to engage, investigate, act and evaluate your project.

NB: This course can be combined with the IVSC on Race and/or Gender in order to reach up to 3 ECTS.

**Assessment:**

Preparation and presentation of a video and a paper

**Objectives and Outcomes:**

- The aim of the TRIP *Intercultural Virtual Societal Challenge* (VSC) E-Course is to create opportunities for students at all levels to critically explore key societal challenges and to empower them to contribute to positive change by involving them in challenged-based learning with peers from different cultural backgrounds and digital upskilling.
- Throughout the e-course, students are also encouraged to actively investigate these challenges from cross-cultural perspectives drawing on a wide and diverse range of sources and data, and to engage in independent research that involves dialogue with relevant community-based organisations.
- You are encouraged to register for all three thematic areas by focussing on integrating all aspects in your project.

**Format and workload:**

- Virtual classes: 5 sessions of 2 hours each
- Group work: expected are about 2 hours per week of independent individual/group work
- Duration of challenge: 5 weeks within October/November 2023
- Language of instruction: English
- ECTS: 1

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