

A. International Virtual Societal Challenge (IVSC), Interdisciplinary online course, Focus: Environment

Target group: Students at Bachelor's or Master's level from TRIP partner institutions

Lecturer: NN

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 thematic area: environment, gender, race or inclusion. 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.

Assessment:

Task A: The design, production and launching of a video of three minutes duration on social media, to raise awareness and engage peers in the wider community in relation to the challenge, Participation in a 10-minute Q/A discussion

Task B: One-page summary of the key learnings, project approach taken, discussion of challenges the group experienced, how EDI is embedded and evaluate the potential of their project.

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 challenge-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.

Format and workload:

- Virtual classes: 5-8 sessions of 2 hours each, possibly one block session (Friday afternoon, all day Saturday), dates will be scheduled in consultation with the group.
- Group work: expected are about 2 hours per week of independent individual/group work
- Duration of challenge: 5-8 weeks (September-November)
- Language of instruction: English (please inquire, if you are interested in French or Spanish)
- Reward: you will receive a certificate of participation delivered by the University of Limerick (lead of the TRIP project) and 1 ECTS