

An inspiring autumn experience  
Connecting and working towards creating  
smart, resilient and happy communities

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# What is the “Smart, resilient and happy communities” programme ?



- A unique, **alternative international experience** during Fall 2020 for engaged learners with a vision to make a change in their communities
- Possibility to work on a **real-life challenge** and **co-develop solutions**
- Work on a challenge under the thematic of UN SDG 11 on resilient communities
- A flexible programme offering a **variety of educational micro-modules** and **skill-development workshops** to use as tools for the challenge
- Access to inspirational speakers, top academics, researchers and professionals from the University of Twente (UT) and ECIU universities
- **Engaging, connecting** and **collaborating** with other learners across Europe and the world as well as public stakeholders
- For learners who want to work on their personal development aside their regular studies

***We provide the tools, learners take the lead in their challenge-based learning journey!***

# Why this is an experience you cannot miss out



## Through this programme we aim to

- engage learners and take them “outside” of their regular classroom and “inside” the real world, with real challenges and projects offered by public and private stakeholders
- address the needs of students to interact with peers and other learners despite the physical mobility restrictions
- create an unconventional learning environment not bound by physical location and other constraints, with flexible education formats, extracurricular virtual activities and other informal formats of education
- support students, sustain their wellbeing and allow them to become agents of change by connecting to discuss and dive into important topics that have an impact on our communities, locally and globally

# What should learners expect



## The “Smart, resilient and happy communities” programme

- offers the opportunity to bring people from different locations **together** with the aim of co-creating **solutions to existing problems and challenges**
- group work in **Virtual Teams** on a pre-defined real-life challenge on the topic of resilient communities and smart cities
- Equips learners with tools:
  - a **combination** of online lectures, masterclasses, podcasts, workshops and webinars on topics related to social leadership, technology and society, smart cities, resilient communities and cities
  - **skills development** workshops and labs
  - variety of **extracurricular activities** to stimulate intercultural skills and knowledge of other cultures
- gives the opportunity for learners and students to become **actors and agents of change**

# A sneak peek to the schedule\*

## October 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 Participants test accessibility and connectivity with systems	29	30	1 Smart, resilient and happy communities introduction	2	3 Thematic weekend 1: Understanding & Tackling Grand Challenges (part 1)
4 Thematic weekend 1: Understanding & Tackling Grand Challenges (part 1)	5	6	7 Virtual Teams	8	9	10
11 Skills lab	12	13	14 Virtual Teams	15	16 Intercultural Competences Lab	17
18	19	20	21 Virtual Teams	22	23	24 Thematic weekend 2: Understanding & Tackling Grand Challenges (part 2)
25 Thematic weekend 2: Understanding & Tackling Grand Challenges (part 2)	26	27	28 Virtual Teams	29	30 Skills Lab	31

\* The schedule is an example and an indication to the activities that will be offered. The exact schedule will be communicated upon successful admission.

# Programme details



## Duration and schedule

- 1 October- 20 December 2020 (a total of 12 weeks)
- Scheduled activities take place during weekends and/or afternoons during weekdays (no 9-5 mentality)

## Certification & credits

- 5-7 ECTS (subject for recognition and approval by the respective home universities)
- Certification of participation with details on workload, modules followed and skills and competences acquired

## Additional learning & internationalising opportunities

- Participants will also be granted a fee waiver for the [CuriousU Summer School](#) in 2021.

# Admission & Registration



## Requirements

- Focus on Bachelor's students in their second to last or last year and entry level Master's students.
- The programme is open to enrolled UT students, students enrolled to ECIU partner universities and various strategic partner universities of the UT.
- Admitted learners from the UT, ECIU University and UT strategic partners will not pay a participation fee.
- External learners may also apply, however admitted external learners are subject to a participation fee of 150 EUR.
- All modules will be offered in English, therefore learners are expected to have a good command of the English language.

## Application process

- Learners may apply via our [online application form](#).
- Along with the application form, the below documentation must also be provided:
  - An English language proficiency certificate/diploma with B2 level (CEFR) minimum. IELTS, TOEFL and other similar tests are accepted.
  - A short CV
  - A motivation letter of 500 words max. explaining the reasons for applying to this programme and willingness to participate
- Applications can be submitted until 7 September 2020, 23:59 (CET).

## Acceptance

After submission of the application, the Admissions Committee will make a formal acceptance decision and admitted learners will be contacted by email.

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# More information & questions



For more information and questions about the programme and admission process, please contact us via [autumn-challenge@utwente.nl](mailto:autumn-challenge@utwente.nl) and visit our website [www.utwente.nl/en/autumn-challenges](http://www.utwente.nl/en/autumn-challenges).

