Invitation for Blended Intensive Programme 'Research in Practice; boost your Research Proposal'

What is a 'blended' International Intensive Programme (BIP)?

A Blended Intensive Programme is an educational programme in which you co-operate with students from different countries across Europe: Ireland (Dublin), Hungary (Budapest), Italy (Naples) and the Netherlands (Utrecht). The programme is funded by the EU through the Erasmus+ programme for higher education in Europe. Teaching staff come from these different universities as well. It is called 'intensive' because all of the learning activities take place in a relatively short period of time; some of it online and during the 5 days on the premises of HU in Utrecht (NL). Particularly during the 5 days that you will spend together with all other participants and staff, you can expect a rather intensive experience, which according to participants in past IIP's, is what makes it a unique and amazing journey. To many students (and staff members too) IIPs are ways to build international professional connections and friendships for life. 'Blended' refers to the fact that the programmes must include an online part, in alignment with the 5 days spent 'on-site'.

Facts & Figures on the BIP in Utrecht in January 2025

Multi-national cross-European learning - delivered by the four European universities and consortium partners in the HCAIM consortium.

- ➢ 5 Working days on location **(Utrecht, January 27th – January 31st , 2025)**. Arrival on the 26th, departure on the 1st + online (preparatory) study activities prior to the in-person programme in Utrecht:
  - o **Online session I: Friday afternoon 22 November 2024** (mandatory for all participants):
  - o **Online session II: Wednesday morning 4 December 2024** - live from Naples (mandatory for those who will not attend the Blended IP in Naples in that week)
- ➢ Study load of the Intensive Programme + online Learning Activities = 3 ECTS (84 hours);
- ➢ Approx. 40 students from 4 countries;
- ➢ You maybe eligible for an Erasmus+ grant (of 553 Euros) to cover the costs of the stay. Depending on your home university, there maybe additional (Erasmus+)grants to (partly) cover the travel costs. Please ask your home-coordinator for details;
- ➢ Fee for the programme is 390 Euros;
- ➢ **Registration deadline: Friday 15 November 2024**
  - o Final payment due 15 December

What does the programme look like?

This programme consists of a mix of study activities and didactic approaches, including knowledge-sharing by experts from across Europe, meetings with representatives of SME's and Research Centres, coaching sessions, peer review, and team work in international teams. It also contains social events to get to know each other in an informal atmosphere.

You will get intensive coaching during the week and will receive feedback in various ways, prior to the presentation of your final delivery. On successfully participation in the Intensive Programme, you will receive a certificate.

<u>What will you learn?</u>

Together with peer students from various countries, you will learn how to solve (real-life) AI challenges, considering both ethical and technical aspects, and how to apply these aspects in your research topic. You will also learn how to work effectively in an international context and in an international team. Another important facet during the programme is that you further develop a professional attitude regarding communication with relevant stakeholders as coaches/advisors, researchers, entrepreneurs, problem owners and peer students. And also strengthen relevant personal en professional skills, such as: analytical attitude, work ethos, planning competence, pro-activeness, and self-awareness.

And at the end of the week you will have decided on your definite research topic, and have drafted your first research proposal for it.

What is included in the programme?
- 5 days' programme and study material;
- Bed & Breakfast on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday;
- Lunch and Coffee Breaks on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday;
- Formal 'Diner Pensant' on Monday evening;
- Social activity on Wednesday evening organised by Dutch students (drinks/food at own expense);
- Excursion on Thursday;
- Farewell reception on Friday afternoon.

NOT included are the daily transfers from the hostel to the university at Utrecht Science Park and v.v.. This is a deliberate choice since it appears to be 50% cheaper if students buy (with their credit card/bankcard) daily tickets on the bus/tram (rather than HCAIM providing them a pre-bought bus card). In the setting of the fee we have taken this into account.

The programme fee is 390 Euros per student - to be paid through this Payment Link (deadline is 15 December). But please note: **you are eligible for an Erasmus+ Grant of 553 Euros to cover these costs**, as well as the diners (on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and the daily commuting), *if* you complete the programme fully and successfully, and also hand in the signed Erasmus+ documents to your home university after completion of the programme[1].

Accommodation
We have booked Bed & Breakfast in the StayOkay hostel City Center in Utrecht. Bed linen & towels are included. You can check in on Sunday 26 January (from 14.00 hrs). Check out is the next Saturday (latest 10.00 hrs.). Rooms are shared (4 to 6 people per room); females separated from males.[2]

Registration
Students can register for the Intensive International Programme through their local coordinator:
- Deadline Friday 15 November 2024;
- Payment due 15 December 2024.

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[1] BME students can take the Blended-IP as the course "Intensive International Programme - Research in Practice" from HU Utrecht, representing a study load of 3 ECTS, and will likewise receive a Transcript of Records after successful completion (as assessed by the programme leaders) of the entire online and intensive on-site programme on the premises of HU Utrecht.

[2] If you would have any special requests regarding accommodation arrangements, please inform us on registration; we will try to arrange for, but cannot guarantee that requests can be catered for

Provisional Programme

	Monday 27 January	Tuesday 28 January	Wednesday 29 January	Thursday 30 January	Friday 31 January
morning	8.45 Walk-in and registration 9.15 Welcome 9.45 Intercultural Warming-up 11.30 Lecture 'Ethical Aspects in Thesis Topics' (Prof. M Heder)	9.00 lecture on presenting a poster 10.30 Topic groups working on research question and pitch with staff and researchers	9.00 pitching thesis proposal ideas to counsel of SME and staff 11.00u topic groups working on posters	9.00 Finalizing and printing posters	11.00 Poster presentations session 1
	12.30 lunch break	12.30 lunch break	12.30 lunch break	12.30 lunch break	12.30 lunch break
afternoon	13.30 discussion with SME's/researchers about the thesis topics	13.00 lecture on writing a research proposal 14.00 students starting to work on the posters in international teams	13.00 -16.30 peer reviewing preliminary posters	13.30 excursion	13.00 Poster presentations session 2 16.00 Closing Event – Certificates - Farewell Reception 17.30 End of programme
evening	17.30 Depart for formal diner restaurant (Bus) 18.00 Diner pensant with students and faculty Approx. 20.45 Bus departs for City Center/Hostel. Dress code: smart casual		Student activity (organized by Dutch students)		Drinks in Hide-out cafe

Consortium Members