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Rethinking manufacturing, consumption, and globalization in the era of automation

September 9-13, 2019

Venice International University Isola di San Servolo, Venice

VIU Graduate Seminar

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Scientific coordinator: Prof. Stefano Micelli, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

This program is a VIU Global Challenges Initiative

Program

The VIU Graduate Seminar offers a training opportunity to present and discuss with international keynote speakers, professors and experts from different fields (innovation, technology management, global studies, marketing) the challenges and opportunities opened up by this new scenario, utilizing a framework to interpret the deep transformations that will occur at multiple levels – firms, countries, consumers / citizens, cities.

On the one hand, the success of new models of competitions rooted in technology and characterized by high levels of concentration i.e., platform economy - has overcome the promises of an open and multipolar economy foreseen during the 2000s (the new economy rooted in ICT and specifically the Web). On the other hand, an increasing process of automation in the production and consumption spheres (through robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning) is occurring. This calls for a better understanding of the future scenarios in the organization of activities within the value chain (taking into account design and innovation, manufacturing, and distribution), across actors (role of customers and firms in the process of value creation and sharing) and spaces (between developed and emerging economies, between the urban and rural areas).

This Graduate Seminar will be led by:

- VIU-TeDIS Program
- Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy
- Duke University, US
- University of Padua, Italy

In cooperation with:

- luav University, Italy
- Tshingua University, China
- Waseda University, Japan

Topics

The VIU Graduate Seminar will be organized in 3 sections to explore the following themes:

- Technologies, globalization and competitiveness The first two days will be focused on framing the scenario of new competitiveness for firms and countries related to the rise of new technologies (from digital technologies to automation, AI, 3D printing and the like) and the impacts on globalization processes and the organization of economic activities across space and actors.
- 2. Rethinking manufacturing and consumption The third day will be devoted to explore the implications of automation and the technological scenario more in general on how manufacturing and consumption take place. The production and consumption perspectives will be considered with special attention on the experience, trends, and insights related to Asian countries.
- 3. Rethinking territories, cities, and clusters the fourth day will be oriented to debate the transformation in the processes of agglomeration of economic activities and how the concept of space -– territories – changes due to new advanced technologies. Cities and clusters will receive special attention (focusing on the European and US experience), by also taking into account the environmental and social sustainability Implications of the emerging scenario.

During the fifth day a final session will summarize the results of the discussion developed throughout the Graduate Seminar and further outline emerging research paths and open issues concerning the relationship between technological innovation, globalization, social transformation, and value creation. During the first day participants will have the opportunity to present their own research related to the topics covered by the VIU Graduate Seminar and to discuss it with speakers and researchers as well as with their peers. Participants will also work in teams in order to further advance knowledge on selected themes, develop original ideas and proposals during the week and present their results at the end of the Graduate Seminar (Awards will be available).

Learning outcomes for participants:

By attending this seminar, participants will acquire:

- Knowledge on how automation and the new technological landscape (industry 4.0, digital manufacturing etc.) may affect the economic model of development and competitive advantage of firms, regions, and countries;
- Knowledge concerning the impacts of technological trends on the organization of economic activities at the geographical scale;
- Methods to analyze and assess emerging business models and strategies in the fourth industrial revolution;
- Competences related to the interpretation of the role of institutions and policies in the future scenario.

Level of students and suitable fields of study

This Graduate seminar is offered to young researchers early in their PhD as well as advanced Master's students interested in exploring the theoretical and empirical impacts of technological innovation in firms, economic systems, countries or cities. Main field of studies of students are as follows: management, economics, sociology, political science, economic geography, design, or engineering. Open to candidates from all the VIU Member Institutions.

Excellent candidates from non-member institutions will be also considered and evaluated, although these candidates will pay fees and are not eligible for financial support.

Fees & Grant Support

Students from the VIU member universities will pay <u>no</u> participation fees. Grant support is also available to support, partially or fully, the costs of international travel and accommodation.

The participation fee for students of non-member universities is Euro 1.150,00. The fee is inclusive of tuition, course materials, accommodation in double room, lunches, social events and taxes. Students from non-member institutions are not eligible for VIU grant support.

Credits

Participation in the Graduate Seminar is considered equivalent to 2 ECTS.

The final program will be available on the VIU website

Applications

March 1 – April 10, 2019 via the VIU website.

Applicants must submit the application form, a letter of motivation – which should include a brief description of the candidate's research project, a curriculum vitae and a photo. An optional short video of presentation will be also strongly encouraged (detailed information will be provided in the on-line application form).

Global Challenges Initiatives

The Graduate Seminar is part of the VIU Global Challenges Initiatives, a coordinated stream of activities, inspired by similar ambitions to contribute to the creation of knowledge, understanding, and skills, responding to current and future major societal challenges faced by humankind today: environmental, social, cultural and technological phenomena and their local impacts. Knowledge creation across the disciplines - the humanities, social sciences, and the sciences - can play a fundamental role in coping with these challenges. Within an evolving and unconstrained ensemble of topics addressed by VIU member institutions, the Initiatives identify core interests of global and local relevance with the aim to make VIU an innovator. Through these Initiatives VIU is committed to a critical exploration of what it means to envision a sustainable future. The Initiatives acknowledge the interconnected and intertwined relationships between human and natural systems and aim to be multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary.

Location





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