



VIU summer SCHOOL science DIPLOMACY In THE age OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Science Diplomacy in the age of Climate Change

July 15-20, 2024

**Venice International University
Isola di San Servolo, Venice**

VIU Summer School

Science Diplomacy in the age of Climate Change

Venice International
University

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Scientific Coordinator:

William Pan
Duke University

Humanity's greatest challenges – and some of its most promising opportunities – require effective partnerships between scientists, policymakers, and diplomats. Science Diplomacy is a tool that recognizes science as a process for pursuing evidence and diplomacy as a process for dialogue and cooperation between different stakeholders. In our increasingly interconnected world, there is a growing need for science diplomacy as we are confronted by issues concerning peace & security, cryptocurrencies, global health pandemics, and climate change, among many other complex challenges.

Our decision-making power is strengthened or weakened by the relevance, timeliness, reliability, and communication of information in a fast-paced changing environment. While academia includes specialties in translational science and policy-related fields, these programs do not address the needs of the vast matrix of other scientific disciplines to provide students with training and tools to effectively partner and communicate with non-scientists, whether they are policymakers, community leaders or the general public. This is Science Diplomacy at its core—partnerships to eliminate cultural, sectoral, and knowledge barriers.

As we move toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and adjust to social, political, and economic restructuring caused by COVID-19 and the climate crisis, it has become increasingly important for young professionals to be effective science diplomats. Recognizing this need for cross-disciplinary training, this summer school is designed by scientists and diplomats to introduce students to concepts, skills, and strategies to become more effective science diplomats in their fields of study.

Faculty

William Pan, Duke University, USA
Giulia Costa, Tor Vergata University of Rome, Italy
Kurt Straif, Boston College, USA
Sonia Silvestri, University of Bologna, Italy
Christian Lara, Duke University Rethinking
Diplomacy Fellow – United Nations
Peter McGrath, Coordinator of the Science
Diplomacy Unit, The World Academy of Sciences
and Secretariat, InterAcademy Partnership
Camilo De Los Rios Rueda, Duke University &
IAI Science Technology & Environment Fellow

Topics

- 1- Introduction to the concepts of science diplomacy;
- 2- Raise awareness among young scientists of the role of science diplomacy in building consensus and finding common interests among stakeholders (nations, regions, communities, industries, NGOs, universities, etc.) to address local and global challenges related to (for example) balancing economic development, environmental conservation, and human well-being;
- 3- Gain skills in stakeholder assessment, science communication and negotiation;
- 4- Review of case studies associated with local (or global) response and negotiations to complex problems such as air pollution (i.e., Padova), Sea Level Rise (e.g., Venice), gold mining and mercury pollution (e.g., Amazon), and emerging diseases (e.g., COVID-19).

Learning outcomes

Students will leave this workshop with the fundamental understanding of how to identify and communicate with stakeholders connected to their research.

Who is it for?

Graduate students (Master and PhD) from various disciplines: Global / Public Health, Environmental Science, Economics & Political Science, Anthropology, Sociology & Demography, Biology, Engineering, Clinical Medicine. Advanced Undergraduate students will be also considered.

Application procedure and cost

The Program will admit up to 25 participants.

Fees

Participants of VIU member universities:

€ 600 VAT included

Participants of other universities:

€ 1200 VAT included

VIU Alumni are eligible for a reduced fee.

The fees will cover tuition, course materials, lunches in the VIU cafeteria and social events.

Participants will be responsible for covering their own travel expenses to and from Venice and local transportation.

PhD candidates and post-docs from universities in EU universities may be eligible for Erasmus+ mobility grant support. Candidates should consult the International Office in their own university for information about the calls for applications for funding. VIU will provide any supporting documentation requested for such applications. Contact VIU Erasmus office: erasmus@univiu.org

Applications

Rolling admissions open until June 23, 2024

[via the VIU website](#) | Limited places available

Applicants must submit the application form, a letter of motivation – which should include a brief description of the candidate's research interests, a curriculum vitae and a photo.

Students will be notified of their application status shortly after receipt of their application and, if selected, asked to pay the tuition fee and accommodation fee (if requested) within seven days.

Accommodation costs on campus

The costs of accommodation on campus in shared room with other participants (triple or quadruple) is **€ 356 for 7 nights**. Further information is available in the Application form.

Applicants can ask for VIU assistance in booking accommodation. Please note that the facility is not managed by VIU and availability cannot be guaranteed for **rolling admission** candidates.

Credits

Number of ECTS equivalence: **3**

A certificate of attendance will be issued at the end of the course.

Venice International University is a consortium of 23 institutions, representing 15 countries throughout the world.

The mission of VIU is to foster cooperation among VIU member institutions while facilitating the exchange of knowledge and ideas, by developing, promoting and organizing joint academic, research and training/capacity-building program. Students from non-member universities may participate in selected academic programs.

The academic programs at VIU are distinguished by a markedly interdisciplinary approach to the topics, and by the international perspectives that the participants contribute to the discussions. The VIU campus is on the island of San Servolo in Venice, Italy.

Location



Venice International University

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