



**VIU
SUMMER
SCHOOL
organizing
FOR SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES: micro
and macro-
INSTITUTIONAL
CONDITIONS
OF TRANSFORMATION**

**Organizing for Sustainable Futures:
Micro and Macro-institutional Conditions
of Transformation**

June 27-30, 2022

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

VIU Summer School

Organizing for Sustainable Futures: Micro and Macro-institutional Conditions of Transformation

Venice International University

June 27-30, 2022

Scientific Coordinators:

Prof. Guido Palazzo
University of Lausanne
&
Prof. Francesco Zirpoli
Ca' Foscari University of Venice

In its sixth edition, the summer school aims at the development of ideas that promote a more sustainable future by bringing together young scholars from all over the world to discuss their ideas on the Grand Transition of our society from the micro level of individual decision making to the organizational and the societal level. It gives young scholars the opportunity to discuss with eminent scholars in management theory and to test their ideas and present their work.

Participants will become familiar with recent research from a broad set of disciplines. They will work on their ability to engage in the transdisciplinary discourse which is required for the development of innovative answers to grand sustainability challenges.

Who is it for?

The Summer School is addressed to mainly PhD students and young post-doc scholars in management, economics and finance, political science, philosophy, psychology and sociology. Moreover, high level policy makers and high level officials in public and private institutions will be admitted if their background is adequate.

Faculty

Giovanni Favero, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Elisa Giuliani, Università di Pisa
Guido Palazzo, University of Lausanne
Juliane Reinecke, King's Business School
Francesco Rullani, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Christine Vallaster, University of Applied Sciences in Salzburg
Francesco Zirpoli, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Keynote speakers (online)

Julie Battilana, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Business School
Tiziana Casciaro, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto

Program theme

Our society is facing a legitimacy crisis. The accelerating ecological crisis, the growing gap between the rich and the poor as well as the systemic risks provoked by disconnected financial markets make it necessary to profoundly rethink our routines of production and consumption. While there is a growing awareness for the importance and urgency of radical change, deep processes of transformation usually face numerous institutional and psychological barriers that have to be overcome. As Jared Diamond described in his book "Collapse", civilizations often react to a crisis of which they do not understand the causalities by reinforcing the routines that might have created the crisis in the

first place. The VIU Summer School in 2022 will go beyond those routines, to reimagine pathways for the Grand Transition on which we have embarked on a planetary scale, and to reflect upon the radical change, both in what economic actors do, and how organization scholars theorize about it. We look forward to engaging in discussion with the young scholars in the Summer School.

Topics

Storytelling and Societal Change (G. Palazzo)

This session will discuss the impact on language, discourse and storytelling on human behaviour. How does the way we make sense of the world influence ethical and unethical decisions and how can we use the insights on the narrativity of human existence as a leverage for societal change?

Keynote: Confronting today's multidimensional crisis: Leveraging power to transform our social and economic systems (J. Battilana, T. Casciaro) |

This talk will dive into what changemakers must know about power and must do with it to confront the multidimensional crisis we face today, fight the massive concentration of power, and change our social and economic systems to make them fairer, healthier, and greener. Leaning on their book)—Power, For All—this session will cover the fundamentals of power, debunk common misconceptions about power, and reveal the importance of power sharing and accountability to change the systems that perpetuate inequality and environmental destruction to protect our collective future.

Irresponsible decision making in the network firm (F. Zirpoli) | This session will give particular attention to the implication of the fact that decision makers are often “multiply embedded” in organizations, in places, in informal social networks, in more formal associations, and so on. Interdependent decisions and actions of multiple agents acting in a distributed environment are profoundly altering both decision-making and the strategy implementation processes in ways that demand some rethinking of the governance and management conceptual toolkit.

International business and human rights (E. Giuliani) | This session will discuss the link between business and human rights. Up to 10 years ago, the word “human rights” was rarely associated with “business”, while now human rights are becoming a core concept in the business & sustainability scholarship and practice. This lecture provides an overview of the

theoretical lenses through which the business and human rights phenomenon can be understood and predicted. We will review theories applied in the past to explain criminal or corrupt behaviour at the organizational level and discuss the complex predictability scenarios of business-related human rights harm.

Taming Wicked Problems? Understanding the Evolution of Transnational Governance and Social Movements Dynamics (J. Reinecke) | This session will critically examine the role of private power in developing transnational governance solutions to wicked problems, defined as the large scale social challenges caught in causal webs of interlinking variables spanning national boundaries that complicate both their diagnosis and prognosis, such as poverty, inequality, climate change, deforestation or conflict in global supply chains.

Circular Economy: A path towards real sustainability rather than greenwashing? (C. Vallaster)

For the good and for the bad: individual and organizational perspectives on networks with hybrid purposes (F. Rullani) | In this session we will focus on hybrid organizations, i.e., organizations striving to realize a positive social impact while generating economic gains at the same time, using the case of social cooperatives to show how networks of hybrid organizations may “lose sight” of their social goals in favor of the economic ones, and how they may gain them back by interacting within their network. The aim is to capture the micro-level mechanisms allowing “bad seeds” to flourish within a field characterized by “good deeds”.

Itinerant Workshop through Venice (G. Favero)

Walking through the city, we will discuss how Venice became Venice during the 20th century.

Methodology

During the Summer School, participants will present and discuss their own research projects in working groups to the professors and their fellow participants and will receive valuable feedbacks.

Credits

Number of **ECTS credits** allocated: **2**

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

Applications

December 6, 2021 – March 6, 2022
via the **VIU website**

Applicants must submit the application form, a letter of motivation – which should include a research statement (max.1500 words), a curriculum vitae and a photo.

Admitted candidates will be notified by March 15, and should pay the fee by March 22.

The Program will admit **15** student participants.

Fees

Students of VIU member universities: € 250 incl. VAT.

Students of other universities: € 500 incl. VAT.
VIU Alumni are eligible for a reduced fee.

The fee will cover tuition, teaching materials, lunches in the VIU cafeteria and social events. Student participants will be responsible for covering their own travel expenses to and from Venice, local transportation and accommodation. PhD Students in EU universities may be eligible for Erasmus+ funding. Refer to international offices in home universities or contact VIU Erasmus office: erasmus@univiu.org.

Accommodation costs on campus

The costs of accommodation on campus in shared room with other participants (triple or quadruple) is 260 € for 5 nights (b&b). Further information will be available in the Application form.

Venice International University is a consortium of 20 universities, representing 14 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.

As the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing, VIU will continue to monitor the situation; should it prevent international travel or the confirmation of the program on campus as scheduled, other practicable solutions will be evaluated. Applicants and confirmed participants will be informed of any changes.

Location



Venice International University

Isola di San Servolo

30133 Venice

Italy

T +39 041 2719511

F +39 041 2719510

E summerschools@univiu.org

www.univiu.org