

a GLOBAL experience

**Globalization Program**  
**August 3-28, 2026**

**summer  
session  
courses  
at Venice  
International  
University**

23 universities 4 continents  
14 countries 1 network

co-curricular activities

accommodation on campus



# Globalization Program

## Summer Session

August 3-28, 2026

## Venice International University

### **Multicultural, International & Interdisciplinary**

The Globalization Program is VIU's education program for Bachelor and Master's students from VIU's member institutions. It brings together motivated, talented students in a truly multicultural, international and interdisciplinary environment fostering collaboration across disciplines and the creative exploration of new ideas. Through this program students enhance their critical thinking, develop a global perspective, and cultivate the skills to become thoughtful, socially responsible and globally minded citizens of an interconnected world.

The Summer Session of the Globalization Program aims to extend the opportunity to study and teach at VIU to those who otherwise face barriers to participation during the semester-long programs.

### **Eligibility**

Students registered in any Bachelor's or Master's degree program at one of VIU's Member Universities are eligible to apply.

### **Tuition & Fees**

Summer Session courses are open to students regularly enrolled in any Bachelor or Master's degree programs at one of VIU's Member Universities.

Students will pay an administration fee only: €50. Students will however sustain the cost of their travel and accommodation. The administration fee is waived for students who book accommodation on campus.

### **Credits**

The Summer Session is a credit-only program. Auditors are not admitted to the courses. Students can register for up to two courses. VIU Summer Session courses are equivalent to 6 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Students who successfully complete courses in the Summer Session will receive a certificate of participation and a grade transcript.

## Courses

- **Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence in a Globalized World: Ethics, Governance, Sustainability, and Human-Centered Design** *Goktas Polat, Sabancı University*

This course explores the design, evaluation, and governance of AI systems in a global context, emphasizing transparency, fairness, and alignment with human values. Drawing on computer science, ethics, law, public policy, and sustainability studies, students examine societal implications of algorithmic decision-making, including bias, accountability, and environmental impact.
- **Microbes in Human History: From Fermentation to Synthetic Biology** *Adrien Birot, Université de Bordeaux*

This course examines the pivotal role of microbes in human history, from traditional fermentation and agriculture to modern biotechnology and environmental applications. Students explore microbial diversity, genome editing, and synthetic biology through a combination of historical perspectives, virtual laboratory exercises, and project-based learning. Ethical, regulatory, and societal dimensions are integrated throughout, encouraging students to design responsible solutions to real-world challenges, such as environmental detoxification.
- **Rethinking Social Worlds through Bodies: An Anthropological Approach** *Isabelle Gobatto, University of Bordeaux*

This course examines how bodies both reflect and shape cultural, social, and political dynamics in contemporary societies. Students explore the historical, identity-based, and biopolitical forces that influence bodies, while developing critical perspectives on how they can inform new ways of inhabiting the world. Through theoretical analysis and reflective inquiry, the course encourages students to consider bodies as instruments, witnesses, and sites of cultural meaning across diverse contexts.
- **Human Movement and Connection** *Emma Lucy Figures, University of Exeter*

In a world shaped by accelerating climate change, political instability and social fragmentation, understanding human movement and connection has never been more urgent. This course invites students to consider not only why populations migrate, but also how individuals sustain their physical and mental health in the context of uncertainty, sedentary lifestyles and social media. At its core, the course argues that kindness, connection and informed action are essential tools for navigating an increasingly complex world.
- **One Health in a Globalized World: Humans, Animals, and the Environment** *Iveren Winifred Nyinoh & Mukaremera Liliane, University of Exeter*

This course explores the interconnected health of humans, animals, and the environment in a global context. Students examine how local outbreaks, antimicrobial use, and environmental change can have worldwide consequences, using interdisciplinary approaches from medicine, ecology, policy, and economics. Through hands-on exercises, case studies, and interactive games, participants develop systems thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills to design sustainable, equitable, and scientifically informed health interventions.
- **Venue in the Metaverse Human Behavior, Technology and User Experience** *Sarune Savickaite, University of Exeter*

Digital technologies are now deeply embedded in contemporary social, cultural, and educational life, with wide-ranging consequences for how we perceive the world, interact with others, and make decisions. With a central focus on global and societal implications, this course explores the relationship between human behavior and the design of user experience, will examine how digital systems may privilege certain users while excluding others, and how assumptions about culture, ability, and normativity are embedded within technological environments.

### **Course organization**

Courses will be delivered through interactive forms of tuition (seminars, discussions, presentations, etc.), to foster group work and to mix nationalities and students from different disciplines. The number of students per class may vary from 10-20.

Each course consists of 40-hours of tuition including a virtual component that will be held before the beginning of the program (July 1-August 2, 2026).

The aim of the virtual component is to facilitate interaction before and after the program and strengthen the network among the participants. The virtual component may include online classes/presentations/discussions and asynchronous activities, facilitating collaborative online learning exchange and teamwork.

The in-class teaching during the 4-week program at the VIU campus will be 9 hours per week per course for a total of 36 hours. The remaining 4 hours will be scheduled at the professors' discretion (the virtual component, field trips, seminars, lectures, workshops, etc.).

Classes will be held Monday to Friday. The weekly schedule of classes will be published on the VIU website.

### **Co-curricular activities**

The co-curricular activities are an integral part of the learning experience at VIU as they offer students the opportunity to discover and relate to the city of Venice, its lagoon and hinterland. Some examples of activities that may be organized:

- Visit to Palazzo Ducale
- Visit to La Biennale di Venezia
- Visit to the Lagoon by boat
- Rowing classes
- Visit to the Lazzaretto Nuovo island
- Visit to La Fenice opera theater

Co-curricular activities may be scheduled also on Saturdays.

### **Accommodation**

Students who will attend the Summer Sessions can apply for accommodation on VIU campus, San Servolo Island, for the entire duration of the activity.

Places in single, double, 3-bed and 4-bed rooms are available in the residential halls on the island of San Servolo. All options in shared rooms (divided by gender), will mix nationalities and universities of origin.

Accommodation on campus is managed by a services company called San Servolo Servizi Metropolitan.

Students in the accommodation on campus will have the use of a common room equipped with a refrigerator and microwave. There are no kitchen facilities.

Cost per person, August 2 – August 30:

In a 4-bed room:	€343
In a 3-bed room:	€343
In a double room:	€410
In a single room:	€570

### **Applications and Registration**

Applications will be via the VIU website.  
April 15-May 15, 2026

Students will be notified by the end of May if they have been admitted.

<https://www.univiu.org/study/globalization-program/summer-sessions>



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