

International Summer School “AGRIFOOD – THE HEARTBEAT OF RURAL AREAS”

**University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, Zagreb, Croatia
September 01 - 08, 2014**

OVERVIEW

Understanding the intercultural and regional aspects of sustainable agriculture and food technology is crucial in finding viable pathways to long-term success in Central and Eastern European agriculture. This International Summer School will give students the opportunity to improve their knowledge and grow their skill set with regard to the intercultural and social aspects, anthropic landscape and natural resources of sustainability in agriculture and the food industry in the Danube region.

The main focus of the programme will be on self-development in a multicultural European region. At the end Summer School, students should be able to identify some of their own culturally-biased assumptions and behaviour, and begin to objectively address the benefits of EU multiculturalism for regional agriculture and food industry.

COURSE CONTENT

Intercultural aspects, sustainable development, climate change and protection, food security, technology and quality, sustainable food production, biotechnology and sustainable energy make up the core content of the summer school programme.

COURSE FORMAT

The course will be provided on the basis of a combination of lectures, round tables and practical sessions that reinforce the previously presented theoretical notions. The participants are expected to be final year undergraduate students, graduate students or PhD students with excellent skills. Lectures will be in English, and participants are therefore required to have a good comprehension of written and spoken English. Students will earn 4 ECTS credits upon successful completion of the course.

AIMS

The general aims of this course are:

- to develop a good understanding of agriculture, food production and technology in the aspect of sustainability in the Danube region, and
- to improve student mobility and multilateral cooperation between higher education institutions in the area of agriculture, resource management, food production and technology and sustainable development

TARGET STUDENTS

The target groups are final year undergraduate students, graduate students or PhD students from a life science disciplines.

Certificate awarded in terms of EU recognized credits: 4 ECTS. Courses have compulsory coursework elements.

PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR

University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, Zagreb, Croatia

PARTNERS

The International Summer School is led by university lecturers from different countries. Several phases of group work, short presentations, discussion, and problem solving sessions give a well-rounded learning experience.

- University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, Zagreb, Croatia
- University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), Austria
- Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Prague, Czech Republic
- Szent Istvan University, Gödöllő, Hungary
- Corvinus University of Budapest, Budapest, Hungary
- The Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra, Nitra, Slovakia
- University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- USAMVBT - Banat University Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Timișoara, Timișoara, Romania

VENUE

University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, Svetosimunska cesta 25, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

COST

The course fee will be **1.300 HRK** or **170 Euro** per student. The fee will cover course attendance, morning tea/coffee, lunch, field-trips (accommodation and food), as well as handout material, but no accommodation and transport to the course venue.

ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS

Ravnice Youth Hostel (<http://www.ravnice-zagreb-hostel.com/index.php>)

I. Ravnice 38d (walking distance from Faculty of Agriculture)

Price - multiple bedroom: 12 € / night / person

Price - double bedroom (limited number): 14 € / night / person

Palmers Lodge Hostel (<http://www.palmerslodge.com.hr/>)

Kneza Branimira 25, Zagreb (down town)

Price - multiple bedroom: 15 € / night / person

Price - double bedroom: 20 € / night / person

APPLICATION

Deadline: **July 10, 2014**

Maximum number of participants: 30

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

31. 08. Sunday	01.09. Monday	02.09. Tuesday	03.09. Wednesday	04.09. Thursday
Arrival of participants	Lectures & Welcome party	Lectures	Field trip	Lectures
05.09. Friday	06.09. Saturday	07.09. Sunday	08.09. Monday	09.09. Tuesday
Lectures	Field trip	Intercultural Learning - sightseeing of Zagreb	Video conference – presentation of students Closing ceremony & certificate award	Departure of participants

LECTURES

- Croatia: History & Culture at the Crossroads of Europe
- Food safety & food quality & healthy diet
- Adaptation and development of rural areas
- Croatian Eno-Gastronomy / "Íce & piće" Hrvatske
- Climate change & agriculture
- Sustainable soil & water management under climate change
- Use & conservation of environmental resources in agriculture
- Waste management, energetic utilization of biomass
- The EU Agri-environmental scheme
- Risk management in agriculture
- Advanced decision making for sustainable agriculture
- Agriculture and cultivated landscapes
- Less favoured areas and areas with environmental restrictions
- Mycotoxins and their producers in food
- Assessment of beneficial and toxic effects of natural substances on ovarian functions
- Agrobiotechnology of plant production

ROUND TABLE THEMES

- Renewable energy, pro & contra
- Preservation of rural landscapes and environment
- Microbial contamination of animal origin foodstuffs

FIELD TRIPS

As a part of summer school following field trips will be organised:

- field trip to State-owned hunting ground, Prolom, Buzeta (experimental station established to perform internship and teaching in hunting, beekeeping, phytocenology, botany, soil science, etc.) and preparation of national wild game dishes will be organized on Wednesday, September 3

- field trip to Istria peninsula will be organized from Friday, September 5 to Saturday, September 6

CONTACT PERSONS

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Logistic

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<http://www.agr.unizg.hr/en/category/events/17>