



Summer School in Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SEI)

Overview

The ENHANCE Summer School in sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation (SEI) is a training that spans June to August, involving digital sessions, independent work, and culminating in a one-week intensive education organised on campus at the Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden, as part of the ENHANCE alliance. The ENHANCE alliance is supported and funded by the EU Erasmus+ initiative. Before and after the intensive week, students carry out academic research individually and in teams to create value for others. The Summer School aims to increase students' awareness and ability to consider, reflect, and act upon entrepreneurship and innovation through sustainability. This provides the students with knowledge and decision-making logic that facilitate translating innovative ideas into viable, sustainable entrepreneurial initiatives and bringing sustainability to their practices.

The Summer School addresses sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation from a technical university perspective, considering research, policy and practice perspectives and impact across disciplines. The main emphasis will be on tackling the challenges of engaging in sustainable activities related to developing ideas, strategies that can alleviate some of these challenges, and the tools and methods that can be used to facilitate the process. A blend of lectures and project works provides a complete and varied program. Students will participate in a class-wide academic research endeavour involving interviews with sustainable entrepreneurs around Europe, peer-to-peer exchange, and classroom exercises and discussions. After completing and evaluating the course, participants receive a certificate worth 6 ECTS credits.

Learning outcomes

On completing the Summer School, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the intersection of entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainability, including increased ability to interpret how businesses react to sustainability in their respective economic and political environments.
- Develop the ability to determine prioritised action towards tackling sustainability concerns in the consequent stages of innovation and entrepreneurial development relative to contextual specificity.
- Demonstrate ability to assess and analyse global and systemic sustainability challenges and trade-offs in economic, social, and environmental domains that affect businesses.
- Demonstrate understanding of critical challenges and opportunities regarding stakeholder engagement and sustainable strategy development.
- Demonstrate awareness of greenwashing and determine how to differentiate between viable and non-viable sustainable action.

Content

- Sustainability tools and theories to address economic, social, and environmental issues, both independently and collaboratively
- Stages of value creation for others, incorporating technical components
- Organizing innovative processes in line with sustainable goals
- Contextual analysis of sustainability concerns
- Cultural and political impact of sustainability

Time and place

The Summer School comprises three periods:

- **Preparation (15 June to 18 August 2023):** students will interview a sustainable entrepreneur, following an interview guide. Students are paired with another student to discuss their insights. They then join the pre-assigned groups and synthesise their learning. There will be two online sessions during this period.
- **In-person sessions (21 August to 25 August 2023):** Monday to Thursday from 9-16, lectures in the morning and workshops in the afternoon on campus in Gothenburg. A field trip is organised on Friday, and the second period concludes with some social activity.
- **Final assignment (28 August to 29 September 2023):** students will put together the insights they gathered from readings, lectures, student-led workshops, the synthesis of their interviews, and their group work to form their final assignment. The final assignment can be a website, a wiki, a traditional hand-in, a video, a podcast, an Instagram page, a Twitter thread, a practical guide, or even a plan for consultancy.

Forms of assessment

Oral presentations, written reports, peer-to-peer feedback, and self-reflection assignments.

General requirements

Minimum requirements to apply:

- Have completed at least one semester and have at least one semester left of your studies at UPV.
- To be a master's student.
- CEFR B2 English proficiency level. Although no formal test is required, it will be evaluated at the face-to-face interview, discarding its application if it does not meet the minimum level required.

How to apply

The first step in the selection process is to fill out this [application form](#), which consists of 3 parts:

- Contact details
- Motivation Letter
- CV Europass

Motivational letter:

Formal document with 300-500 words, as straightforward as possible, where the applicants describe:

- 1) A quick personal background
- 2) Why do they want to participate in this Summer School
- 3) What they will plan to do with their newly acquired knowledge.

Criteria to be assessed:

- Experience, courses or degrees that reflect the level of English.
- Experience or courses related to the SEI (Sustainable Entrepreneurship & Innovation) subject.

Applicants must connect their studies with entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainability.

The ENHANCE team will pre-select 10 candidates regarding the quality of their motivation letters. Those preselected will have an interview with the ENHANCE team to evaluate their level of English and motivation. Interviews will take place at UPV (Universitat Politècnica de València) on May 2nd.

Finally, we will select 5 candidates who will be part of the ENHANCE Summer School in Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SEI) and can travel to Chalmers University in August 2023; the rest will be part of the waiting list.

Cost

There is no cost for participation. The ENHANCE Alliance will pay the costs of transfers, hotel and daily subsistence by presenting the corresponding tickets and justification invoices. No other expense will be recognisable if it is not duly justified.

Deadline for application: 24 April 2023.

Interviews: 2 May 2023.

Application form: [CLICK HERE](#)