

Introduction to Virtual Exchange in the Social Sciences

SVJS.TK.056

23.10.2023 -24.10.2023 • 10 ac h • 0.5 ECTS • Face-to-face learning

General info

Target group

The seminar is designed for the teaching staff of EnVision (Nordplus) consortium, which includes University of Tartu (J. Skytte Institute of Political Studies), University of Helsinki, Vilnius University and Uppsala University.

Programme objective

Virtual exchange (VE) programs have been rapidly expanding in recent years. More and more universities are providing VE programs to their learners to enhance their digital competences and transferable skills as well as to offer an intercultural environment in the study process. Setting up a course using collaborative online learning requires knowledge on task design, choice of digital technologies and online coordination with co-teachers and this is exactly what this workshop is offering. It also enables participants to network with others in order to establish potential virtual exchange courses in the field of social sciences with a particular attention to political science curricula. The two-day workshop is targeted to the academics or programme developers in the field of Social Sciences looking for opportunities to internationalize their courses and give students first-hand experience of intercultural communication. The participants are expected and encouraged to share their knowledge within their institutions to increase the universities' readiness to engage in virtual exchange.

The training is part of the Nordplus funded project "Building virtual exchange capacities in the Baltic Sea Region (NPHE-2023/10034).

Venue

Tartu linn

Venue information

October 23 - Jakobi 5, room A207

October 24 - Liivi 2, room 523

Training schedule and additional information

The two-day intensive training will introduce teaching staff to the main components and didactics of setting up virtual exchange opportunities in the social science curriculum. During the first day, the seminar will cover such questions as what is Virtual exchange, and how does it differ from Virtual Mobility; and how to design and integrate Virtual Exchange into your course and curriculum? During the second day of the training, the program will concentrate on the questions such as what digital and communication tools to use in your Virtual Exchange; and how to address intercultural problems in online intercultural collaboration.

Additional info

Language of instruction

English

Study programme group

study programme group

Political sciences and civics

Teaching volume in academic hours

Classroom work: 8 ac h

Independent work: 2 ac h

Lecturers

Name	Description of lecturer
AB Anna Beitane	Manager of Online Learning Projects, Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies
AB Ana Maria Gabriela Beaven	Ana Beaven holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from the University of Warwick (UK). She has trained as a dialogue facilitator with Soliya. She took part in the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange initiative as a member of UNICollaboration and is trainer and facilitator in virtual exchange projects.

Content

Pre-conditions for the commencement of studies

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Learning outcomes

Upon completing the training, a lecturer will be able to:

- identify the main features of virtual exchange programs;
- discuss and argue about didactic approaches of integrating virtual exchange in a course and curriculum;
- identify and select appropriate assessment methods for virtual exchange in a course;
- discuss and distinguish different communication technologies appropriate for virtual exchange;
- discuss the issues related to intercultural communication and collaboration;
- collaborate with a colleague on preliminary ideas related to implementation of virtual exchange.

Topics

Topic	Volume in hours	Lecturers
1. What is Virtual Exchange, and how does it differ from Virtual Mobility? Practical examples of projects and initiatives in the field of Social Sciences.	2	Ana Maria Gabriela Beaven
2. Designing and integrating Virtual Exchange into your course and curriculum: approaches to assessment in Virtual Exchange. What is an effective task in online collaborative learning?	2	Ana Maria Gabriela Beaven
3. What digital and communication tools to use in your Virtual Exchange?	1	Anna Beitane
4. How to address intercultural problems in online intercultural	1	Ana Maria

collaboration.

Gabriela Beaven

5. Introduction to EnVision Virtual Exchange Scenario template.
 Finding team members for your Virtual Exchange project. Working in groups

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Anna Beitane

Study materials

- Helm, F. and Beaven, A. (2020) Designing and implementing virtual exchange – a collection of case studies. [Research-publishing.net](https://www.research-publishing.net).
- O'Dowd , R (2022). Introducing Virtual Student Exchange in international university education. DAAD Research Brief.

Assessment and documents

Requirements for passing the training

Participation in the lectures, seminars and completing all tasks during the training.

Document issued on completion

Certificate of attendance

Mode of assessment of achieving the learning outcomes

No assessment

Registration info

Deadline for registration

Can registered persons be put on a waiting list?

No

Price info

Price

Free of charge

Price information

The training is free of charge to the selected participants.

Contact person

AB Anna Beitane

✉ anna.beitane@ut.ee ☎ +372 737 5198