Title of BIP: International Data Cycle project

General information

Objectives and Description:

This Blended Intensive Programme combines virtual teamwork and an on-site intensive module to immerse students in a real-world data project. Through cross-cultural virtual teams, participants will design and implement an end-to-end data solution—covering data flow, database design, BI, ETL, and data science—culminating with a one-week face-to-face workshop. At module end, students deliver working code, a written report, and an online oral presentation, having developed technical, managerial, intercultural, and hybrid-team competencies.

At the end of the module, students should be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Understanding & Modelling Data – Explore the data cycle, categorize data types, create analytical models, and ensure data quality, privacy, and security.
- Tool Selection & Implementation – Evaluate and apply tools for data extraction, transformation, storage, and processing to design an end-to-end data flow.
- Data Visualization & Communication – Select effective visualization techniques, build data-driven presentations, and communicate insights to target audiences.
- Virtual & International Collaboration – Develop skills for remote teamwork, project management, and cross-cultural communication in global teams.
- On-Site Team Building & Reflection – Strengthen team cohesion through intensive in-person collaboration, cultural exchange, and best practices for hybrid teamwork.

Methods and outcomes:

Methods:

- **Virtual phase:** mixed teams from all partners collaborate entirely online using English; they progress through data modelling, tool selection, implementation and visualization.

- **Physical phase:** a five-day in-person workshop at UVT where teams refine their solutions, engage in team-building and cultural exchange.

- **Assessment:** continuous deliverables during virtual phase; final submission of code + report and online presentation.

Outcomes: students will demonstrate skills in data understanding and modelling, tool selection and implementation, data visualization and communication, virtual and international collaboration, on-site team building, and reflection.

Field of Education:
0688 Interdisciplinary programs and qualifications related to information and communication technology (ICT)
0488 Business, administration and law, interdisciplinary programmes.
Target audience / Participants profile:
2nd and 3rd year Bachelor students: Business IT/ Economics Informatics / Data engineer
No of ECTS issued:
5 ECTS
Language of instruction and requirements:
English
Dates for physical activity:
16 March 2026 to 20 March 2026 in WUT, Timisoara, Romania (Travel on 15.03 and 21.03) – 7 days including travel (5 days on-site)
Location of physical activity:
West University of Timisoara (WUT), Timisoara, Romania
Dates for virtual component:
VIRTUAL COMPONENT (PART 1)

VIRTUAL COMPONENT (PART 1)
Thursday   19.02.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                                  Introduction CH&ES&PT (Sebastien)
Friday   20.02.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                                  Cross-cultural teams, international projects & Intensive week planning
                                  Use case - 13h30
                                  Work on project
Thursday   26.02.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                                  Introduction RO (Sebastien)
Friday   27.02.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                                  Data visualization & modeling
                                  Use case - 13h30
                                  Review/planning meeting
Thursday   5.03.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                                  Data Security
Friday   06.03.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                                  Work on project

Review/planning meeting
Thursday   12.03.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  SAC/PowerBI (Cosette & Sebastien)
Friday   13.03.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting

INTENSIVE WEEK IN TIMISOARA/ROMANIA: MONDAY 16.03.2026 to FRIDAY 20.03.2026

VIRTUAL COMPONENT (PART 2)
Thursday   26.03.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Work on project
Friday   27.03.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Afternoon: ML - Prediction Time Series (Michael)
                  Review/planning meeting
Thursday   02.04.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project

EASTER HOLIDAY FROM Friday 03.04.2026 TO Wednesday 15.04.2025

Thursday   16.04.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Friday   17.04.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Thursday   23.04.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Friday   24.04.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Thursday   30.04.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Friday   01.05.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Thursday   07.05.2026   2.30pm-5.45pm CET
                  Review/planning meeting & Work on project
Friday   08.05.2026   8.30am-11.50am CET & 1pm-4.15pm CET
                  Final presentation Project

Virtual Component Description:

Students are organised into mixed, cross-cultural teams and collaborate online to:

- Explore the data cycle and categorise data types;

- Create analytical models ensuring data quality, privacy and security;

- Select and implement tools for data extraction, transformation, storage and processing;
- Develop data visualisations and prepare presentations;

Manage project workflows remotely, applying intercultural communication and hybrid-team skills.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

Universitatea de Vest din Timişoara, Romania *(Claudiu Brândaş, claudiu.brandas@e-uvt.ro; Gabriela Mariuţac, gabriela.mariutac@e-uvt.ro, Andrei Albu, andrei.albu@e-uvt.ro, Otniel Didraga, otniel.didraga@e-uvt.ro)*

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. HES-SO Valais-Wallis, ***Switzerland*** (Nicolas Debons, nicolas.debons@hevs.ch, Sebastien Gard, sebastien.gard@hevs.ch)

P2. STUCOM, Barcelona, ***Spain*** (Charo Cuart, charo.cuart@stucom.com)

P3. Universidade da Beira Interior, Portugal (João Dias, joao.fernandes.dias@ubi.pt)

Detailed programme

1. Planned Activities During the Virtual Component:

- Online Launch Meeting
- Online Lectures
- Student Project Development & Collaboration in Virtual Teams
- Regular Team Meetings
- Final Online Presentations

On the opening day, there will be a virtual kickoff with faculty and participants, during which students will receive an overview of the project briefs, assessment criteria, stakeholders, team roles and expected deliverables. This session will also include introductory modules on:

- Intercultural teamwork and best practices for virtual collaboration
- Fundamentals of project management
- Technical primer on the chosen technologies for each project

At the start of the course, students from all partner institutions will be assigned to mixed teams of 3–5 members, ensuring representation from each university. English will be the sole language for instruction and teamwork, mirroring professional IT environments.

Each team will be tasked with designing and implementing a data-centric Information System. At project launch, the product owner, an industry partner, or a faculty member will provide the system requirements. During the virtual phase, teams will work entirely online to develop their solutions.

Throughout this period, every one to two weeks, a two-hour online Scrum-style meeting will take place with students and their Product Owner/Coach to cover:

- Progress review (Sprint Review)
- Planning for the next development cycle (Sprint Planning)
- Team performance reflection and process improvements (Sprint Retrospective)

Although the project begins entirely online, a midway intensive in-person week is scheduled to accelerate progress and strengthen team cohesion. The module concludes with the submission of the codebase and project report, followed by an online oral defense.

2. Planned Activities During the Physical Component:

1st Day

- **Morning:** Welcome to the project room; introductory meeting with professors and, if available, the Product Owner. Sprint Planning for the week.
- **Afternoon:** Team-building exercises.

2nd Day

- Full day dedicated to collaborative project work.

3rd Day

- **Morning & Afternoon:** Continued team development, followed by an external site visit (e.g., regional facility or IT company).

4th Day

- Uninterrupted project work in teams (morning and afternoon sessions).

5th Day

- Final meeting with the Product Owner: Sprint Review, Retrospective and next Sprint Planning.

Closing reception (apéritif) to celebrate completion.

Application procedure

fill in application form available here: *to be generated later*