### **BIP General presentation**

### **General Information**

Dates for physical activity:

12-16.June.2023

Proposed period for virtual component:

March – July 2023

Location of physical activity:

Timişoara, Romania

Target audience / Participant profile:

The program is open to BA, Ma and PhD students of any specialty or discipline, but the program may be especially interesting for students of social sciences, education, social work as well as students in computer science wishing to expand into the social sciences.

No. of ECTS issued:

6 ECTS

Language of instruction and requirements:

English, attend virtual and physical mobility, sketch the design of a research project, engage in reading a recommended bibliography in advance and in discussions and activities during virtual and physical mobilities

Organizing board:

**Host university** 

partner 1

partner 2

partner 3

West University of Timişoara (Leyla Safta-Zecheria; leyla.safta@eUniversity of Beira Interior (Kelly O'hara)

University of Torino (Viviana Patti)

Central European
University (Zsuzsanna

Arendas)

uvt.ro)

### Program

Title: Conducting Hybrid Research with Marginalized Groups (COH)

**Short description:** 

The Covid-19 pandemic has increased the marginalization that people facing poverty, mental illness, homeless or discrimination are confronted with. At the same time, engaged social and educational research has been forced into relying heavily on remote research methods in order to protect research participants and researchers' health. These research methodologies have brought both new insights, as well as challenges to immersive research processes that qualitative and participatory researchers engage in. This *blended intensive program* (responding to the Erasmus + Call) is aimed at taking stalk of recent developments in hybrid and remote research methodologies with marginalized groups and to pass on this knowledge to students. Students will gain a thorough understanding of how to conduct hybrid research with marginalized groups from design to implementation, as well as of the practical and ethical challenges of hybrid research with marginalized groups. Moreover, students will be capacitated in writing-up research results for academic and non-academic audiences. The program entails both virtual and face-to-face training and mentoring activities. Face-to-face activities will be conducted at UVT, in Timişoara, Romania.

The program will be structured across four thematic clusters: Digitalization as bridging barriers and/or as an exclusive process that reproduces marginalization? / Heritage marginalization and digitalization / Thematic clusters Social justice approaches to data / Data feminism and social justice / Disability, inclusion and digitalization. Each thematic cluster will bring together relevant program faculty teaching the associated modules during the face to face mobility and students that want to design their collaborative or individual research project within the thematic cluster. Thematic clusters should meet for mentoring sessions during the face to face program.

The program will contribute to the following outcomes:

Learning outcomes:

- Participants will gain an overview of recent developments in hybrid and remote research methodologies with marginalized groups.
- Participants will gain a thorough understanding of how to conduct hybrid research with marginalized groups from design to implementation.
- Participants will gain a thorough understanding of the practical and ethical challenges of conducting hybrid research with marginalized groups.
- Participants will be capacitated in writing-up research results for academic and non-academic audiences.

Program outcomes:

- The program aims to create a network between students and faculty members of participating institutions that can enable developing both international shared courses and intensive programs, as well as joint research activities.

# **Proposed schedule:**

January & February 2023 - Call for Participants is launched, deadline for submitting applications

End of February 2023 – selection of students is completed, students are notified

February 2023 - Students and faculty start applying for Erasmus - short term learning or teaching mobilities

March 2023 – first online meeting of the faculty and students of the Blended Intensive program 180 minutes online via Zoom.

Presentation of the program, faculty and participants. Participants choose thematic – methodological cluster of interest and have a first meeting with the cluster.

March- April 2023 – Student clusters can meet online to prepare the work on their projects.

May 2023 – Preparatory online meeting (120 minutes via Zoom): student clusters present their mini-project sketches to other student participants and the BIP program faculty.

12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2023: Physical mobilities to Timişoara happen, 5 days of intensive program activities together (see below).

 $1^{\text{st}} - 15^{\text{th}}$  of July 2023 - 8 Students submit final research design and present in a video conference via Zoom to faculty and students.

 $15^{th} - 22^{nd}$  of July 2023 – Evaluation of students results based on presentation + research design, awarding 6 ECTS to successful students. Students are encouraged to apply the research designs and work on the results.

Invited guests/speakers/experts (if any):

Theofild Andrei Lazăr (WUT)

Kelly O'hara (UBI)

Viviana Patti (Unito)

Georgiana Turculet (Marie Curie Fellow, Pompeu Fabra University Barcelona)

Zsuzsanna Arendas (Central European University Vienna)

Gabor Petri (Democracy Institute, Central European University Budapest)

## Application procedure

Interested students will apply via google forms. A committee from participating institutions will review the applications and select participants according to the following criteria:

- (1) motivation to participate
- (2) ways in which the student aims to use with experience of participating in the program in the future
- (3) previous relevant experience and fit with the thematic clusters and program aims
- (4) overall balance between the thematic clusters and disciplines
- (5) self-assessed level of English

We will select 30 mobile students + 5 students from UVT. If more students are interested, they may be waitlisted and will be notified on a short term basis of the possibility to participate if other students withdraw.

## **Requirements:**

- English language skills necessary to follow the lectures and work independently in English.
- No prerequisites are necessary to follow the course, but previous experience in research with marginalized groups or interest in conducting such research is an advantage.