

International Summer school on Global Challenges

University of Trento

Period

July 2nd to July, 15th 2017

Location

Trento, UniTrento [Dept. of Sociology and Social Research](#) (historical building, located in the city centre, that has hosted the first Italian faculty of sociology).

Contents

To say that contemporary states are beset by major challenges to their economic, social and political foundations is a truism. Understanding the nature of those challenges, their sources and possible solutions is central to understanding the contemporary world. This is especially true in the European Union, which is having to confront questions such as migration, a rapidly changing geo-political environment, the lingering effects of economic crisis and even the future development of democracy. The EU is a perfect laboratory to understand the causes and consequences of many of the global challenges in the contemporary world. This is why the University of Trento is proud to host an international summer school on global challenges, right from the heart of Europe.

The academic part of the Summer School will tackle issues ranging from refugees to terrorism and from international commerce to climate change, with eight classes and the presence of international lecturers. Debate will be encouraged by addressing specific case studies on the issues presented in class. Participants who require it will also present a paper on the issues tackled during the Summer School and will receive advice from their peers and the instructor on how to write a strong paper, both methodologically and content wise.

Participants will be introduced to the business excellences of Trentino. Meetings with the CEOs of territory-rooted companies that have expanded globally on the market are planned (e.g. *Ferrari winery* and *La Sportiva* sport equipment, to be confirmed). Other experiences of global market competitions will be visited. [Tecnoclima](#) is a local industry recently investing on the Russian market and challenging the impacts of the EU economic sanctions to Russia. Can a company invest in Putin's Russia? Located close to Trento, [PoloMeccatronica](#) is an example of business hub. The meeting with this reality will open discussion about how to create industry-territory relations.

The region Trentino Alto Adige has become one of the richest regions in Italy, one with highest standards of living. The leisure part of the Summer School will bring participants to explore the amazing landscapes of this mountain region, where Italian and German language and culture live side by side. A daily excursion to [Val di Fiemme](#), with its amazing Dolomites, is part of the programme.

Participants' background

European Studies, Political Science, Sociology, International Relations, Law, Economics, Contemporary History (or similar)

Participation costs

Reduced fee reserved to students from UniTrento partners universities: 350 Euros. Fee for external students: 550 Euros. Travel costs to be covered individually by participants.

Accommodation

All participants will be accommodated in single rooms at the UniTrento [San Bartolameo Campus](#).

Workload and credits

The Summer school foresees 8 class hours per day plus preparation hours. At the end of the summer school participants will receive an official UniTrento transcript of records certifying 8 ECTS.

Assessment

About 2 months before, participants will receive papers recommended by the lecturers in preparation to the class activity. The participants who are already interested in one of the topics of the Summer School will be asked to prepare a poster/presentation of the chosen topic, or of a paper they are writing and need help with, which will then be shared during the summer school for class discussion. The scientific tutor, in charge of organising the academic contents of the SS, and coordinating the methodologic workshops and debates, will be constantly present in class and will act as a mediator, also stimulating students' participation and class confrontation. In the light of the above, the assessment will then be based on:

- class participation (everyone)
- students' posters/presentations (volunteers)
- evaluation of a paper written by students on a topic discussed during the SS after its conclusion (only for those who did not prepare a presentation/poster).

Application Deadline: April, 10th

Participants coming from UniTrento partner universities must be nominated by their home university upon a check of their suitability (according to academic/language/motivation criteria).

External participants can apply writing directly to the management office (international [at] unitn.it).

All participants will be contacted by the management office and will receive indications on how to apply online formally (ToR, proof of English proficiency and motivation letter will be requested).

Please note: applications arriving until 18 April 2017 will also be considered.