

Joint Call for European BAUHAUS Courses 2026

Challenge-based interdisciplinary Courses
within the BAUHAUS4EU Alliance



**Co-funded by
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JOINT CALL FOR EUROPEAN BAUHAUS COURSES (EBC) 2026

Challenge-based Interdisciplinary Courses within the BAUHAUS4EU Alliance

BAUHAUS4EU is a European University Alliance funded under the Erasmus+ “European Universities” initiative. It brings together partner institutions across Europe to develop a shared campus and to advance innovative, challenge-based and interdisciplinary education inspired by the values of the **New European Bauhaus**. Through joint teaching formats, mobility opportunities and collaboration with regional ecosystems, BAUHAUS4EU aims to empower students and staff to contribute to a sustainable, inclusive and beautiful future.

The BAUHAUS4EU European University Alliance invites academic staff from all partner institutions to submit proposals for European BAUHAUS Courses (EBC) – innovative, interdisciplinary and challenge-based learning formats inspired by the principles of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) Initiative.

Why apply?

European BAUHAUS Courses enable teaching staff to develop innovative joint courses with European partners, increase the international visibility of their discipline, collaborate with external stakeholders, and contribute to transformative learning connected to the growing New European Bauhaus community.

European BAUHAUS Courses offer teaching staff a unique opportunity to:

- develop innovative, challenge-based and interdisciplinary teaching formats in collaboration with European partner universities,
- make their fields of study visible and attractive to an international student audience,
- engage with real-world transformation challenges,
- build lasting academic and practice-oriented partnerships across the Alliance,
- benefit from organisational support, mobility opportunities (BIP), and alliance-wide dissemination,
- benefit from a growing interdisciplinary New European Bauhaus community and links to the NEB Facility,
- contribute to the long-term integration of joint European teaching formats into institutional curricula.

By participating in the European BAUHAUS Courses, teaching staff is becoming part of a shared learning community shaping the future of interdisciplinary education across Europe.

Objective of the Call

European BAUHAUS Courses aim to foster interdisciplinary and international collaboration in teaching and learning, provide students with transformative learning experiences rooted in societal challenges, strengthen the educational dimension of the New European Bauhaus, connect universities with regional ecosystems and partners, and contribute to a shared European campus within BAUHAUS4EU. A key element of the courses is the connection of universities with local and regional ecosystems, through the active involvement of external partners from practice, culture, administration, civil society or industry.

European BAUHAUS Courses are inspired by the core values of the New European Bauhaus Initiative – sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics / quality of experience. The [NEB Compass](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/use-compass_en) [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/tools-and-resources/use-compass_en] serves as a guiding framework for teaching teams in translating these values into meaningful challenge-based course concepts. Applicants are encouraged to engage with transformation challenges, such as:

- I. **Reconnecting with nature** – exploring how human habitats and natural ecosystems can be brought into balance,
- II. **Regaining a sense of belonging** – strengthening community, cultural identity and shared spaces,
- III. **Prioritising the places and people that need it most** – addressing urgent social and spatial needs through inclusive approaches,
- IV. **Shaping circular and life-cycle thinking** – promoting regenerative practices and sustainable value chains.

Building on these overarching NEB themes, course proposals must address one of the following thematic areas:

A. Climate, Energy, Mobility - Innovative approaches to climate-neutral futures, sustainable mobility, circular systems and resilient environments.

B. Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society - Cultural practices, heritage, creativity and social inclusion as drivers of transformation.

C. Digital Transformation and AI - Exploring the impact of digitalisation and artificial intelligence on society, learning and sustainable development.

Course activities may include small-scale, locally embedded interventions, pilot actions, or prototypical implementations developed in collaboration with regional partners. Such interventions should be conceived as experimental learning formats

that connect theory and practice, contribute to local transformation processes, and generate transferable insights for the wider European BAUHAUS4EU community.

Course Strands and Support Framework

European BAUHAUS Courses can be implemented through different course formats in order to support flexible, inclusive and innovative approaches to interdisciplinary teaching across the BAUHAUS4EU Alliance. Depending on the pedagogical design and level of mobility involved, proposals may follow one of three complementary strands. Each strand offers a distinct framework for collaboration and comes with specific forms of financial, organisational or technical support provided by the Alliance.

1. BAUHAUS4EU BIP

A Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) is an Erasmus+ format that combines a virtual learning phase with a short-term physical mobility component of 7–14 days. It brings together students and teaching staff from multiple partner universities to collaborate intensively on a shared interdisciplinary challenge.

BAUHAUS4EU BIPs may take the form of interdisciplinary workshops, field-based summer or winter schools, compact lecture series combined with project work, or other challenge-driven formats. They may be organised as stand-alone courses or embedded within existing study programmes, thereby strengthening curricula through structured international collaboration and mobility. BIPs are encouraged to involve regional partners from practice, administration, culture, civil society or industry in order to ensure relevance to real-world transformation challenges.

BAUHAUS4EU BIPs enable hands-on transnational learning, strengthen cooperation across the Alliance, and support the development of joint course formats.

To support their implementation, BAUHAUS4EU provides:

- financial support for course development and delivery,
- Erasmus+ mobility funding for participating students and staff,
- organisational assistance through the Alliance coordination structures,
- active partner matchmaking and support in building international teaching teams,
- additional institutional support measures may be available at individual partner universities. Applicants are encouraged to consult their local BAUHAUS4EU contact point regarding possible complementary local support (e.g. teaching development funds).

Together, these measures enable intensive international learning experiences that connect students, staff, and regions across Europe.

2. BAUHAUS4EU COIL

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) refers to internationally co-taught courses in which students from different countries work together through digital collaboration, typically over a period of 4–6 weeks. COIL formats may include joint seminar modules, virtual lecture series with integrated group work, collaborative research-based assignments, digital workshops, or shared case-study projects addressing common transformation challenges. They can be newly developed formats or integrated into already existing courses, which are thereby enhanced through structured international collaboration.

COIL proposals must be developed in collaboration with at least one partner institution within the BAUHAUS4EU Alliance. Teachers who do not yet have an identified partner are encouraged to express their interest, as the Alliance provides active support in partner matchmaking and the development of suitable collaborations.

COIL formats create inclusive and accessible international learning experiences without the need for physical mobility, fostering intercultural competence, teamwork, and joint knowledge production across institutional and disciplinary boundaries.

To support their implementation, **BAUHAUS4EU provides:**

- active partner matchmaking and support in building international teaching teams,
- technical and organisational assistance for setting up the COIL cooperation,
- guidance on digital tools, pedagogical approaches and partner matchmaking,
- access to the B4EU-Teleporter system (if available at your institution)
- additional institutional support measures may be available at individual partner universities: applicants are encouraged to consult their local BAUHAUS4EU contact point regarding complementary local support (e.g. teaching development funds).

Altogether, these support measures aim to facilitate low-barrier international teaching formats that can be scaled across the Alliance.

3. BAUHAUS4EU Hackathons

A Hackathon is a short (48–72 hours), intensive learning format in which interdisciplinary student teams develop innovative responses to real-world challenges within a limited timeframe. Supported by academic staff and involving external partners, hackathons encourage creativity, rapid prototyping, and solution-oriented collaboration.

BAUHAUS4EU Hackathons may be organised as stand-alone formats or embedded within existing courses, study programmes, or project modules, thereby enriching them through an intensive, challenge-based and international dimension. They should ideally involve regional partners from practice, administration, culture, civil society or industry in order to ensure relevance to real-world transformation challenges. They can serve as experimental pilot formats and may feed into longer-term European BAUHAUS Course development.

To support their implementation, BAUHAUS4EU provides:

- organisational support and coordination through the Alliance structures,
- facilitation of partner and stakeholder involvement,
- visibility through BAUHAUS4EU communication and dissemination channels,
- additional institutional support measures may be available at individual partner universities. Applicants are encouraged to consult their local BAUHAUS4EU contact point regarding possible complementary local support (e.g. teaching development funds).

These support measures aim at helping to create dynamic, high-energy learning experiences that bring students and partners together in an intensive setting.

ECTS and Academic Recognition

European BAUHAUS Courses must be credit-bearing learning offers recognised at the participating partner institutions. BIP and COIL course formats should award 3–6 ECTS. Short intensive formats such as Hackathons may award 2 ECTS. One ECTS credit is equivalent to around 25–30 hours of learning effort or student work load, including contact time and independent work.

Key Features

To contribute meaningfully to the shared educational vision of BAUHAUS4EU, selected European BAUHAUS Courses should meet the following key criteria:

- be jointly developed and implemented by at least two BAUHAUS4EU partner universities,
- follow a clearly articulated challenge-based learning approach linked to the transformation themes of the New European Bauhaus,
- implement a coherent interdisciplinary teaching and learning design (see section “Interdisciplinary Approach” below),

- address real-world transformation challenges and, wherever possible, engage with concrete local or regional contexts,
- involve external partners from practice, administration, culture, civil society or industry.

Proposals that demonstrate strong collaboration with regional partners and a clear contribution to local or regional transformation processes will be given particular consideration, as this reflects the core mission of BAUHAUS4EU to connect universities with their surrounding ecosystems.

Interdisciplinary Approach

European BAUHAUS Courses form part of the interdisciplinary course programme of the Alliance. Proposals must therefore clearly articulate their interdisciplinary approach.

Our understanding of interdisciplinarity builds on four interrelated dimensions:

1. Interdisciplinary relevance of the topic

The selected topic should be accessible and meaningful to students from different faculties and degree programmes. Proposals should demonstrate the added value generated through the collaboration of diverse disciplinary perspectives in addressing the chosen challenge.

2. Interdisciplinary teaching team

Courses are encouraged to be developed and delivered by lecturers from different disciplinary backgrounds, contributing complementary expertise and methodological approaches to a shared course design.

3. Interdisciplinary student group

The course should address students from different faculties or study programmes. The concept should explain how diverse forms of disciplinary knowledge are activated, integrated, and further developed within collaborative learning settings.

4. Interdisciplinary didactic design

The pedagogical concept should take into account heterogeneous prior knowledge and competencies. Proposals should outline how a common foundation of knowledge is established and how disciplinary differences are productively integrated into the learning process.

Not all four dimensions need to be equally pronounced in every course. Applicants are invited to clarify which dimensions are prioritised and how these are meaningfully connected within their course design.

Eligibility and Submission

Proposals may be submitted by teaching staff from all full partner institutions of BAUHAUS4EU. Each proposal should include the selected transformation challenge (I.-IV.) and thematic area (A.- C.), the participating partner institutions and teaching teams, the involved local or regional partners, the proposed course format, the intended learning outcomes, the number of ECTS awarded, and the expected outputs. All required information must be submitted through the designated online application form (LimeSurvey), which will guide applicants through the necessary sections.

Timeline

Deadline for submission is 3 June 2026, selection results, and the implementation period will be announced on the alliance website. The following timeline provides an indicative overview of the call and implementation process.

- **4 March – 3 June 2026:** Open Call for course proposals
- **June 2026:** Selection results communicated to applicants
- **September 2026:** Publication of selected courses in the BAUHAUS4EU course catalogue
- **September 2026 – November 2026:** Student Applications to newly created courses
- **January – December 2027:** Course implementation period (depending on institutional schedules)

Further updates and details will be provided on the BAUHAUS4EU alliance website.

Contact and Support

For questions, partner search or guidance, please contact the BAUHAUS4EU contact at your university. Please indicate “European Bauhaus Course” in the subject line of your email.

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