

**2023/24****A. Objectives**

The course "Ethics in the Food Ecosystem" is a comprehensive program aimed at participants involvement in the different aspects of the food system. The central theme of the course is to explore the ethical issues related to the production, distribution, and consumption of food. Participants will have the opportunity to examine ethical challenges in the food ecosystem, considering issues such as environmental sustainability and food security. The course also addresses the ethical implications of agricultural practices, food production methods, global trade, food waste and individual food choices.

The relevance of the course lies in the growing awareness of the impact of the food system on human health, the environment and social equity. With the increase in global demand for food, it is imperative to address the ethical complexities involved in food production and distribution.

The course also aims to explore these aspects, thus equipping participants to make informed and ethical decisions in the context of their respective roles in the food ecosystem.

Understanding the ethical ramifications in the food ecosystem not only benefits individual health, but also contributes to building more just, equitable and ecologically sustainable food systems.

Therefore, this course is an excellent educational opportunity for everyone involved in the food process, driving a positive transformation towards a more ethical and resilient food system.

**B. Characteristics of the course****1. Participant profile**

Students from partner institutions are expected for this BIP.

**2. European higher education institutions involve as co-organisers**

Lider: Instituto Politécnico de Viseu (EUNICE)  
- Savonia University- Finland  
- University of Peloponnese (EUNICE)- Greece  
- Lithuanian University of Health Science- Lithuanian  
- Università Degli Studi di Catania- Italy (EUNICE)- Italy

**3. Number of participants planned/ per institution (minimum of 15 participants in total)**

Five students per institution are expected to contribute to a total of 20 participants.

#### 4. Course information and structure

The course "Ethics in the Food Ecosystem" covers the following topics, among others:

- 1- The impact and the need of Ethical Food** (What it is?; Food choices and challenges; Food waste; food and health; food consumption)
- 2- Exploring the world of innovation** (Opportunities in innovation; circular economy; Innovating for people- planet-profit; Design thinking process; Innovation & Functionality in food business)
- 3- Ethical Food operation** (food production; GMO; Food handling; Food authenticity; Food adulterations)
- 4- Sustainability for the future** (Power of the ethic food ecosystem; Food security & hunger relief; Animal welfare; Developing sustainable food systems; potential social impact of food enterprises)

Total hours: 100 (equivalent to 4 ECTS):

- Online 20H
- Onsite/ in person: 40 H
- Autonomous work: 40 H

Here is a brief description:

**Online classes (20 hours):** Distributed by all the partners involved in the course.

The main aim of the online classes is to provide theoretical and conceptual content related to ethics in the food ecosystem. These include lectures, slideshows, educational videos, and digital resources that address ethical principles, challenges in the food system and best practices. Interactive activities will also be incorporated to promote the active participation of participants, allowing them to exchange ideas and perspectives on the ethical issues presented. It is also worth highlighting the fact that this online component allows flexible access to the content, making it easier for students with different schedules to take part.

**On-site classes (40 hours):** In IPV

Face-to-face classes will be dedicated to practical activities, case studies and more in-depth discussions on the application of ethical principles in the context of the food ecosystem. These classes aim to strengthen participants' practical understanding and promote face-to-face interactions. They are intended to include study visits, practical workshops, simulations, collaborative case studies and group activities that encourage the application of concepts learnt during online classes. It should also be noted that these classes allow participants to interact directly with each other and with the teachers, clarify doubts and obtain more personalised guidance.

**Autonomous Work (40 hours).**

This component includes individual activities, such as additional reading, research, bibliographical reviews, and in-depth study of the topics covered in class. It may also include the development of individual or group work in which the ethical concepts learnt will be applied. This component fundamentally aims to promote autonomy and the practical application of knowledge.

#### 5. Planned timetable:

On-line lessons: start 15/04/2024,  
end 19/04/2024

On-site classes: 22/04/2024 – 26/04/2024

Delivery of works: 11/05/2024

Other important deadlines:

1. Detailed design of proposals and submission to management bodies – Finish at 19<sup>th</sup> February
2. Publicising, receiving, and sorting participant applications- 21<sup>st</sup> February to 13<sup>th</sup> March

3. Organisation of the 1st component (online)- 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April
4. 2nd component (face-to-face)- 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April
5. Evaluation and report- 31<sup>th</sup> July

## **6. Other importante informations**

BIP enlarges the mobility dimension by receiving participants who stay at a home institution (except during the short-term physical mobility at IPV) and allows the participation of IPV students (internationalization at home).

Students can maintain their study plan at their home institution and include the BIP training as a parallel activity. The short-term physical mobility will constitute the only period outside their home institution (5 days). Students will credit the BIP to their study plans.

**Physical mobility support:** The sending organization should provide individual support to students and teaching staff for physical mobility. For that, they can use their own regular Erasmus funds for mobility. Short-term student mobility grants are now allowed for BIP within the new Erasmus+ program.