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CLIMATE JUSTICE: FROM INEQUALITY TO INCLUSION

*A Virtual Exchange on one of
humanity's biggest challenges.*



2024



CLiVEx: Enhancing Climate Awareness In Europe And The Southern Mediterranean Area

Climate Justice: From inequality to Inclusion is part of CLiVEx. CLiVEx is an EU-funded international project that aims to enhance intercultural dialogue between students from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean area on the topic of climate change.

This three-year project is implemented by a consortium of the following organizations:

- UNIMED Mediterranean University Union, Italy
- Sharing Perspectives Foundation, Netherlands
- Soliya, Tunisia
- Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy
- An-Najah National University, Palestine
- Lebanese International University, Lebanon

More at <https://clivex.eu>



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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Climate Justice: From Inequality to Inclusion!* This course offers an interactive and international online learning experience focused on one of our planet's most pressing challenges: finding fair and inclusive approaches to tackle the climate crisis. Through Virtual Exchange, students coming from diverse national and cultural backgrounds will embark on a shared journey of learning and discovery.

Over the 10 weeks of this course, you will meet online every week for a two-hour group session with fellow group members and guided by experienced facilitators. During these sessions, you'll have the opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss the week's topics, and dive into the course content.

You will learn with, and from, fellow students about the climate crisis, climate justice, and inclusive climate action. Together you will explore the complex connections between climate change, societal identities, environmental equity, and meaningful solutions.

In short:

- You'll embark on a 10-week Virtual Exchange journey, from October 14 to December 20, 2024.
- You can expect to invest a total of 90 hours in this course, equivalent to earning 3 ECTS credits.
- You'll participate in a unique transnational group project that will challenge and inspire you.
- This course offers innovative learning elements. You will enhance your intercultural and transversal skills through engaging with students from 15+ different countries.
- Our curriculum includes thought-provoking audiovisual materials to enrich your learning experience.
- You can get certified with a badge & certificate upon successfully completing this programme.

Important Note: This syllabus, along with course assignments, are subject to change

2. COURSE INFORMATION

Overview

- Dates: October 14 to December 20, 2024.
- Language: English
- Format: Online

- Workload: 90 hours (3 ECTS)
- Lead instructors: Rachel Malmborg

Course Structure

This is a fully-online course. All course activities and resources will be shared through our course platform. Below are the main components of this course. You can find more detailed descriptions, instructions and scoring under [6. Assignments and Scoring](#).

Weekly Online Dialogue Sessions

Each week, at your scheduled group meeting time, log in to your session through the link provided to you via email at the start of the course. The dialogue sessions are where you discuss the week's topics with your fellow participants and do activities to get to know each other better. A facilitator will be there to guide the two-hour session.

Weekly Learning Materials and Assignments

Prior to your online dialogue session, you need to review the week's learning materials and submit a short written response to them as homework. This will help you prepare for the group discussion and think about the learning materials.

After the online session, you need to share your thoughts about the dialogue in an individual, private reflection journal. Your submissions will create a personal record of your experience and development through the 10-week learning process.

Group Project

You will collaborate in international teams on a 'Climate Action Project' to bring your online experience to your offline realities. These Climate Action Projects are collaborative projects that are designed collectively by your team and then implemented locally by you. Empowered by newfound knowledge and intercultural competencies, you will work together to design innovative climate actions and bring them into your everyday life. Part of this group project is to submit a project plan, a report on the progress of the project, present your project in your dialogue groups and to write a blog post on the project.

Infographic weekly participation

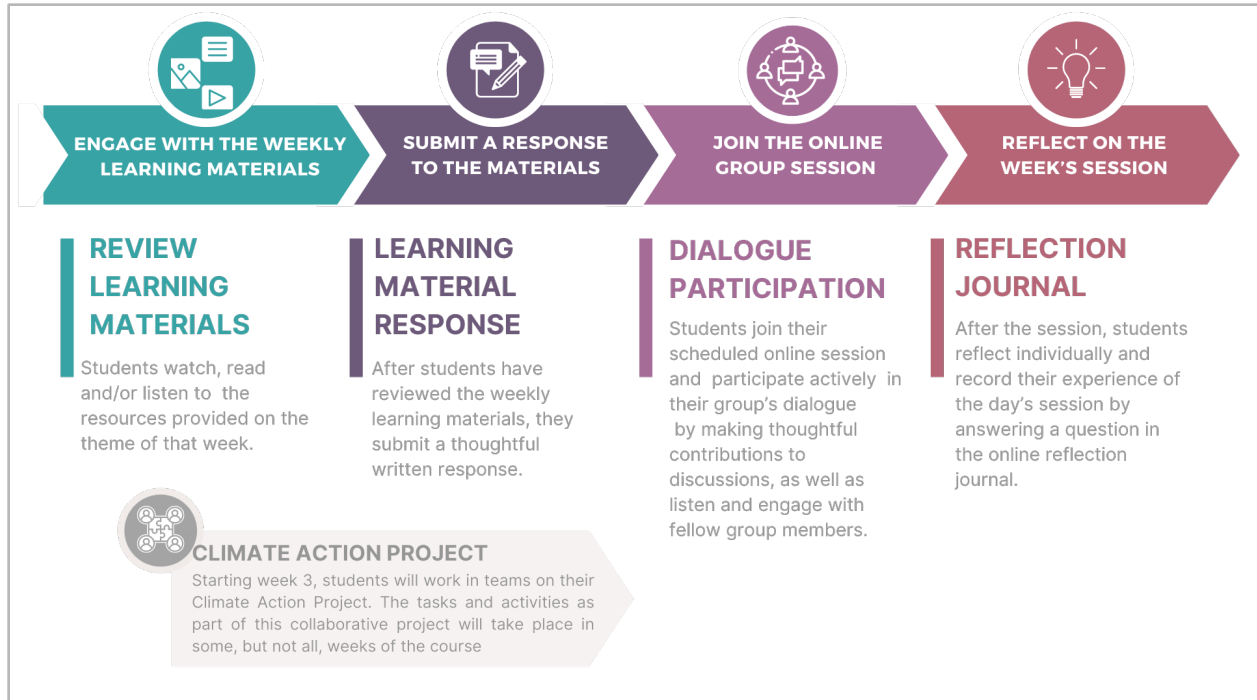


Fig. 1 Weekly learner journey 'Climate Justice: From Inequality to Inclusion'

Workload and Expected Time Investment

This course entails a total workload of 90 hours, equivalent to earning 3 ECTS credits. Your expected weekly time commitment is approximately 9 hours, which can be broken down as follows:

- 2 hours: Online group sessions.
- Max. 3 hours: Engaging with course materials and completing assignments.
- 4 hours: Collaborative group project work (starting in week 3)

You will have 2 hours of scheduled weekly contact time during the dialogue sessions, which will be scheduled to fit your availability. The remaining tasks, including assignments and reviewing weekly content, can be completed at your own convenience throughout the course week.

3. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES

You will get access to audiovisual learning materials on a weekly basis. This curriculum focuses on materials about inequality and power in the context of the climate crisis, as well as different approaches to responding to the climate crisis, ranging from inclusive climate action to global politics and policy. The resources also provide insights into the media landscape related to climate change, the ways climate stories are communicated, and how this translates into action. You can find an overview of the topics under [4. Topic Outline](#)

Generally speaking, the learning materials that comprise this audiovisual curriculum are selected to:

- ✓ Provide key information in accessible vocabulary.
- ✓ Spotlight diverse experiences and voices.
- ✓ Present creative and thought-provoking ideas.
- ✓ Inspire and activate.

By combining different elements, (dialogue sessions, assignments, activities, and the group project) you will gain valuable transversal skills and competencies, including:

Global Awareness and Systems Thinking: You will develop a comprehensive understanding of global climate challenges, sociopolitical issues, and the interconnectedness of various systems to understand the complexity and nuances of local issues.

Digital Literacy: You will improve your competency in utilizing tech platforms, building multimedia products, and engaging in digital communication effectively.

Effective Communication: You will enhance your verbal communication and active listening skills, resulting in higher confidence and effectiveness in communication and collaboration in culturally diverse groups.

Leadership and Collaboration: You will develop leadership qualities and the ability to work collaboratively in diverse and remote teams to achieve common goals.

Intercultural competence and intercultural sensitivity: You will learn to reflect on personal biases and value diverse perspectives, experiences and backgrounds.

Creativity and Innovation: You will be encouraged to think creatively and adopt innovative approaches to addressing challenges.

Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility: You will foster a sense of civic responsibility and active engagement in addressing societal issues.

Sustainability Competences: You will gain values, such as valuing sustainability and supporting fairness. You will improve your critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and act towards sustainability through collective action and individual initiatives.

4. WEEKLY THEMES

The main theme of this course is climate justice, with a focus on inclusive climate action. The proposed curriculum aims to inform you on this large theme by addressing sub-themes in a manner that allows you to comprehend its

complexity and intersections with other social issues, reflect on power dynamics and global politics, and ultimately empower you to engage in civic action to contribute towards inclusive climate action.

Week 1: Introduction to the Climate Crisis and the Concept of Climate Justice

An introduction to the course and the concept of climate justice, as well as a preview of the content you will engage with. You will discuss what experience and knowledge you are bringing into the course, what you hope to learn, and what aspects of climate justice you are eager to discuss with your Virtual Exchange group.

Week 2: Climate Change and Inequality (Part I)

Climate change does not impact everyone the same way or to the same extent. This week you will look at the inequality of vulnerability, the concept of environmental racism, and how social identities can play a key role in how climate change affects people's lives.

Week 3: Climate Change and Inequality (Part II)

What is intersectionality, how is one intersectional, and what does this have to do with climate change? This week you will look at how social identities combine and shape a person's perspectives and circumstances, and explore how understanding this is important to taking inclusive climate actions.

Week 4: Power and Climate Action

Who has the power to make impactful decisions about climate action? How or where are these decisions being made? This week you will look at examples of inclusive action and responses to climate change, identify stakeholders at different levels, and analyse what your own role can be.

Week 5: Climate Justice Through a Personal Lens

This week you will turn the focus to personal experiences. You will reflect on your identities, your lived experiences, and your participation in change-making. You will get to hear the personal climate stories of individuals from around the world, and share your personal stories as well.

Week 6: Global Politics and Climate Policy

How do politics affect (and are affected by) sustainability efforts worldwide? This week you will look at the politics and economics of climate change, including the key actions and debates taking place on the international level.

Week 7: Critical Lens on Climate Initiatives

The world is seeing a rapid rise in initiatives, policies and products that are carbon-neutral, environmentally friendly, and explicitly taking climate change into consideration - but are these initiatives authentic, or might they be too good to be true? This week, you will take a critical look at some of the most popular climate 'solutions,' their outcomes, and where to most effectively direct our support.

Week 8: Climate Crisis Strategies: Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience

What powers do technology, nature, and our creativity have to mitigate climate change? This week you will explore how nations, cities and people are rising to meet the challenges posed by their changing environments.

Week 9: Climate Communication and Advocacy

What stories do we hear about climate change, and what narratives and frames are used to tell them? This week you will look at the media landscape, ways climate stories are communicated, and how this translates into action.

Week 10: Your Climate Actions

In your final week, you will reflect on your journey together and the road ahead. You will look back on your personal and collective accomplishments throughout the course, and look ahead to the role you want to play in

your future and the future of our planet.

5. ASSESSMENT

We work with a point system of attendance and assignment submission / completion. You can score a total of **100 points**.

You can earn 35 points through full participation in the online group sessions; 10 points through your weekly material review and response; 10 points through your reflection journal submissions; and 45 points through completing your Climate Action Project.

Depending on the points reached at the end of the course, you will be awarded **badges** as a form of certification.

Meet the requirements = earn a badge & certificate!

□

Badge of Completion

+ Earned 40-59 points
+ Attended a minimum of 8 sessions

You will have attended most of the dialogue sessions and submitted some or all of your weekly assignments.

□□

Badge of Completion with Merit

+ Earned 60-79 points
+ Attended a minimum of 8 sessions

You will have attended most of the dialogue sessions and submitted the Climate Action Project assignment.

□□□

Badge of Completion with Distinction

+ Earned 80-100 points
+ Attended a minimum of 8 sessions

You will have attended most of the dialogue sessions and submitted the Climate Action Project assignment and some or all of the weekly assignments.

6. ASSIGNMENTS AND SCORING

□ Weekly Online Dialogue Participation

Each week, at your scheduled group meeting time, log in to your session through the link provided to you via email. You are required to actively participate in your group's dialogue.

- Think about what your response is to the weekly learning materials and come prepared.
- Make thoughtful contributions to the group discussions based on the weekly resources and your own experiences.
- Think about how you engage with your fellow group members. Listen, ask questions, and encourage all other members to contribute their thoughts.

Points:

Each week, you can earn a **maximum score of 3.5 points** for actively participating in your group session. If you come late or miss parts of the session, you will score fewer points.

- High score: 3.5 out of 3.5 points - present and on time.
- Half score: 2.5 out of 3.5 points - present but more than 10 minutes late.
- Low score: 1 out of 3.5 points - present but more than 30 minutes late.
- No score: 0 out of 3.5 points - absent.

Maximum points: 35 (of 100)

Important note on attendance:

- ◆ **You need to have actively participated in at least 8 (out of the 10) online dialogue sessions in this course.**
- ◆ Always inform your facilitator, in a timely manner, about the reasons for your inability to attend the online dialogue session.
- ◆ Under critical unforeseen circumstances, the facilitator, together with the course team, might be able to make an exception to these attendance requirements.

□ Weekly Material Response

Prior to your online dialogue session each week, review the learning materials on the week's topic and then submit a response. Good responses will reference **at least 2-3 resources**.

→ Your responses should be **1-2 paragraphs in length**. They should not be a summary, but rather a thoughtful reaction to the material that demonstrates you are fully engaging with its concepts, questions and implications.

A paragraph usually has about 5 sentences with a minimum of 75 words.

→ You are encouraged to include questions of your own that you would like to discuss further with your group.

→ Examples of good responses are:

- ◆ A response comparing the content of different resources, for example pointing out their similarities and dissimilarities.
- ◆ A response reflecting on what you think the authors/speakers of multiple resources would say to one another if they were in a debate.
- ◆ A response reflecting on your personal reactions and thoughts to the content of specific resources.

Points:

Each week, this assignment has a maximum score of **1 point**.

- Full score: 1 point - submission of a response at least 75 words in length.
- No score: 0 points - no submission, or a submission under 75 words.

Maximum points: 10 (of 100)

□ Weekly Reflection Journal

Each week, reflect and record your experience of the day's session by answering the question in the online form. This will create a personal record of your experience and development through the 10-week Virtual Exchange process. When read together, they will showcase what you have learnt.

→ Answer the weekly question in the online form on the learning platform.

→ Your reflections should be **1-2 paragraphs in length**. **A paragraph usually has about 5 sentences with a minimum of 75 words.**

→ Use this opportunity to reflect honestly on valuable insights, strong feelings towards an issue, significant moments in the group process, or key turning points in your thinking.

Points:

Each week, this assignment has a maximum score of 1 point.

- Full score: 1 point - submission of a reflection journal *at least* 75 words in length.

- No score: 0 points - no submission, or a submission under 75 words.

Maximum points: 10 (of 100)

Climate Action Project

Climate change is one of the most urgent problems faced by humanity, and its damaging consequences have already begun to affect every part of the world. To take action, you will form a team with fellow students to create a Climate Action Project (CAP). This is a collaborative project that will be done collectively and then implemented locally. It should be inclusive and have a lasting impact beyond the end of the course. To create a successful project, you and your team will combine the knowledge you gain from the course with your individual talents, creativity, areas of expertise, and the capacity generated by being part of a multicultural team.

The Climate Action Project should take up to a maximum of 40 hours of individual and group work outside your online group sessions, and the assignment is worth 45% of your overall grade in the course.

This assignment is graded by a pass/fail system and there are four milestones that you need to reach:

1. Climate Action Project Plan
2. Progress Report
3. Presentation
4. Blog Post

Throughout this course, you will be guided by your facilitator and the course team.

To help you come up with suitable ideas for your CAP, we have created three ‘tracks’ to choose from with your team: social action, environmental action, or political action.

Social Action Track

Projects within the Social Action Track should aim to engage people at the community or popular level. They should assess what ‘people power’ looks like in local contexts, and work to harness it for the good of the community and the climate. They are concerned with educating, influencing, promoting understanding, motivating, or building relationships.

Environmental Action Track

Projects within the Environmental Action Track should aim to engage at the level of the local environment and physical space. They should assess what issues are most affecting local natural spaces, urban spaces, plants and animals, and carry out an intervention that has the potential for long-term impact. They combine knowledge gained from local experts with creativity and innovation. They are concerned with making observable differences in community or natural space, and encouraging people in the community to care about their local environment or city and get involved with taking care of them.

Political Action Track

Projects within the Political Action Track should aim to engage people at the level of politics, institutions, and law. They should assess what sources of power are the biggest contributors to the environmental issues in your community/nation, or which local sources of power have the most influence on your environment or the state of earth's climate. They should identify which ones would be the most achievable to influence, which would be most likely to work with you, or which you could gain the most widespread popular support by addressing publicly. They are concerned with leveraging institutions and authorities to make concrete action in terms of political leadership, laws, policies, or institutional norms.

Assignment Milestones / Timeline

- Prior to the Week 3 session: Read the CAP assignment instructions and track documents. Brainstorm ideas for potential topics or projects within your preferred track.
- During the Week 3 session: Choose your team and track.
- Prior to the Week 4 session: Use the worksheet provided to conduct an individual community assessment for your Climate Action Project.
- Prior to the Week 5 session: Submit a detailed CAP project plan with your team.
- Prior to the Week 6 session: Review feedback from your coach as a team, and begin the implementation phase of your project.
- Prior to the Week 7 session: Submit an update on the progress you have made as a team. You will also submit a short individual survey.
- Prior to the Week 9 session: Complete your project, and assess its impacts. With your team, create a presentation on your project and the impacts it has achieved.
- During the Week 9 session: Deliver your presentation to your group.
- Before the Week 10 session: Submit a blog post about your project with your group, as well as an individual reflection.

Points:

To successfully pass this assignment requirement, you will need to submit all the 4 deliverables. The project is pass/fail.

Each deliverable is graded as pass/fail. Make sure you hand everything in before the deadline.

Climate Action Project Plan:

- Pass - submission of the Climate Action Project Plan before the deadline.
- Fail - no submission, or a submission that does not satisfy the conditions of the assignment.

Progress Report:

- Pass - submission of the Progress Report before the deadline.

- Fail - no submission, or a submission that does not satisfy the conditions of the assignment.

Presentation:

- Pass - the presentation is ready to be presented before the deadline.
- Fail - the presentation is not ready to present, or the presentation does not satisfy the conditions of the assignment.