

YUFE Challenge: Democratic Participation in Decision Making Process

Study programme	YUFE's Joint Bachelor in Urban Sustainability Studies
Academic year	2026/2027
Curriculum component	Minor: Urban Inequality
Year and semester	2nd year, winter semester
Course type	Compulsory
ECTS credits	8
Contact hours (L+S+E)	15 hours of lectures and 15 hours of practical classes
Language of instruction	English

Contact

Course coordinators

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Prerequisites

None.

Course objectives

This compulsory course begins with an introductory part in which students gain practical exposure to four interdisciplinary areas: economics, law, philosophy and health sciences. These areas provide the foundation for participation in the practical part of the Challenge.

Students work individually and in groups to analyse urban inequalities in Croatia, in their home countries and at the EU level. The central theme is democratic participation in decision-making processes. Students explore how decisions concerning issues relevant to young people, including health-related issues, are made at the local and EU levels and examine their legal, political and economic foundations and implications.

The course helps students understand the complexity of decision-making processes and develop a better understanding of their role in civil society.

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- interlink different disciplines within a multidisciplinary perspective on urban inequality;
- analyze applied problems related to urban inequality using interdisciplinary approaches, tools and methods;
- apply multidisciplinary research methods to public-policy issues in the field of urban sustainability;

- develop models that contribute to addressing identified societal issues related to urban inequality;
- communicate developed models and proposals clearly and coherently to expert and general audiences;
- work effectively in an intercultural and international team.

Course content

Lectures

1. Introduction to the course
2. Legal aspects of urban inequalities as a challenge
3. Economic development and urban inequality as a challenge
4. Health and urban inequality as a challenge
5. Political ideas and public policies as a challenge
6. The Challenge in practice at the local, regional, national and EU levels

Practical classes

1. Legal aspects of urban inequalities as a challenge
2. Economic development and urban inequality as a challenge
3. Health and urban inequality as a challenge
4. Political ideas and public policies as a challenge
5. The Challenge in practice at the local, regional, national and EU levels
6. Development of the final Challenge project

Teaching and learning methods

Lectures, practical classes, individual work and group project work.

Assessment and grading

Students' work is assessed continuously throughout the semester. Students work individually and in groups to connect the perspectives introduced through the four compulsory courses and develop a final student project.

The assessment comprises:

- class attendance – 1 ECTS;
- participation in class – 0.5 ECTS;
- research – 2.5 ECTS;
- project – 4 ECTS.

To complete the course successfully, students must achieve at least 50% in each assessed learning outcome and at least 50% on the final student project.

Grading scale

Grade	Percentage
5 (A)	90-100%
4 (B)	75-89.9%
3 (C)	60-74.9%
2 (D)	50-59.9%
1 (F)	0-49.9%