



UNITAFRICA

Empowering the Academic Cooperation between Italy and Africa for fostering the quality and effectiveness of the higher education systems in a mutual learning environment

TNE23-00050 - CUP D81I24000280007

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| Course | Title: Poverty, food and health: a one health vision |
| Organizing Institutions | Leading university University of Pavia |
| Target participants | Master students , PhD students, Professors and Researchers |
| Objectives of the course | <p>Understanding poverty, food security, and global health is crucial, especially for Africa, where these interconnected issues significantly impact development and quality of life. Africa faces unique challenges, including high poverty rates, food insecurity exacerbated by climate change, and limited access to healthcare, far too expensive for most of the population. These issues are compounded by rapid population growth, urbanisation, and economic disparities. The objective of the school is to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to explore solutions tailored to Africa's context, empowering them to address regional challenges like hunger, malnutrition, disease outbreaks, universal public health coverage and inequitable resource distribution. It also highlights Africa's potential to lead in sustainable development, innovation, and global collaboration to achieve equitable growth and improved well-being.</p> <p>By fostering a multidisciplinary approach, the school aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equip students with a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of socio-economic, environmental, and health issues, emphasising their relevance to Africa's unique challenges. 2. Cultivate critical thinking and problem-solving skills to develop sustainable solutions for regional and global challenges, including hunger, malnutrition, and disease outbreaks. 3. Inspire ethical leadership and advocacy for social justice, equity, and human rights, with a focus on addressing disparities in African communities. 4. Promote innovative approaches to tackling poverty, improving food security, and enhancing health outcomes, while leveraging Africa's potential for sustainable development and innovation. |



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| | 5. Prepare students to contribute meaningfully to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through context-specific solutions and global collaboration. |
| Strategic thematic area (select below*) | ST2 and ST6 |
| Abstract (max 300 words) | <p>The module provides an integrated approach to poverty, food security, and health, demonstrating how different analytical frameworks and policy responses intersect to address global development challenges.</p> <p>The sub-module on poverty will discuss different concepts and measures of poverty - absolute vs relative, money-metric vs multidimensional definitions - and corresponding poverty thresholds. Empirical evidence about poverty in SSA countries in different dimensions will be presented. The scope is to offer a critical understanding on how different concepts and methodological solutions may affect the findings and affect policies and programs.</p> <p>The food security sub-module offers students a foundational understanding of key concepts, frameworks, and indicators to analyse food security challenges. It equips them with tools to develop evidence-based solutions and write effective policy briefs. Through a blend of frontal lessons, interactive participation, and individual and group work, the module fosters critical thinking, collaboration, and practical application. This comprehensive approach prepares students to address real-world food security issues effectively and communicate their findings and recommendations clearly.</p> <p>The Global Health sub-module will give the students the essential data to understand how health and development are strictly related, considering the world demographic trends and the social and intermediary determinants of world health inequities. A particular interest will be devoted to interactive discussions on how to tackle the health challenges in the developing world, such as infant mortality and the challenge of epidemics (AIDS, Ebola), and on the implementation of Universal Health Care. Students will eventually be given some</p> |



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| | basics on the management of public health care institutions, health technology assessment and maintenance, and monitoring and evaluation of health projects. |
| Period | From 26th to 30th January 2026 |
| Place | Kenyatta University |
| Teaching delivery mode | In person |
| Language | English |
| Final test | <p>e.g partial/project work/final test</p> <p>Final Evaluation is a combination of methods to assess the students' knowledge, skills, and practical application abilities.</p> <p>It combines the following methods into a weighted grading system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Project and Presentation (30%) • Policy Brief (50%) • Class Participation and Engagement (10%) • Reflective Journal - students maintain a journal reflecting on their learning journey, key takeaways, and how they can apply the knowledge in real-world contexts (10%) |
| How to apply | <p>Selection of students attending the course is based on nominations from participating sending partner universities.</p> <p>Sending Universities will proceed internally with a selection based on PNRR principles (Publicity, Transparency, Diversity and Inclusion ect.)</p> |
| Contacts | relint@unipv.it , giulia.crispu@unipv.it |
| Extended programme | See attached file |



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*** STRATEGIC THEMATIC AREAS**

1. Rural development, land management, agrifood and food supply chains;
2. Health, water and hygiene, One Health;
3. Sustainable Energy, environment and natural resource management;
4. Entrepreneurial and industrial development for local prosperity;
5. Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism;
6. Social Sciences and humanities.
7. Ecological transition and digitalization