



EUROPE:

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Virtual experiences embedded into faculty-led programs

This program is a customized enhancement for a faculty-led course. It offers students and faculty a first-hand opportunity to interact with European actors, politics and policy. The virtual modules include expert lectures, institutional visits, thematic presentations, international exchanges and cultural learning activities. This program is an innovative and engaging opportunity to learn about Europe in a virtual and interactive format. It can also be customized as part of an in-person program.

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This Virtual Study Abroad Program is designed and operated by the CEPA Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.



Infuse your curriculum with global learning

-  Students and faculty can now pursue a European study abroad experience in a virtual format.
-  Customized components will virtually transport faculty and students to Europe.
-  Online activities are designed to fit the syllabus and contribute to the curriculum's internationalization.
-  “Connect & Exchange” live sessions offer a unique moment to interact with European experts, lecturers and actors.
-  The Cultural Ambassador’s personal touch facilitates a special cultural connection with the destination.
-  A CEPA Program Manager facilitates institutional connections, content support and coordination.
-  A CEPA dedicated easy-to-use web platform serves as a virtual classroom.
-  Up to 35 learning hours of online activities and content related to European matters.

OVERVIEW

Course Description

Virtual experiences offer an immersive option for faculty and students to gain a broader understanding and enhanced knowledge of Europe's past and present in an online format. This sample provides an overview of Continental Europe and its institutions, the European Union's (EU) structure and member states, traditions and differences. We will go even further into current topics, in-depth information and reflections on the future of European Institutions and the EU's political and economic structures.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this virtual program, students will be able to:

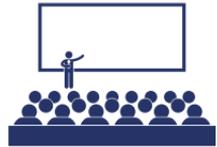
- Acquire knowledge of Strasbourg, the Capital of Europe.
- Name the main European institutions and briefly explain their functions.
- Explain the history of the EU, its functioning and some policies.
- Describe the EU's International Relations with the United States.
- Understand and explain migration and human rights issues in Europe.
- Explain the different roles of the European Commission (in Brussels) and the European Parliament (in Strasbourg).
- Describe the role of a Member of the European Parliament (MEP).
- Narrate a day of the local life and culture in a European city.

STRUCTURE

Roles

The University and Faculty Leader

The faculty leader and/or study abroad officer chooses the modules and components for this program, which can be integrated into the course syllabus and contribute to the internationalization of the curriculum.



CEPA Program Manager

A dedicated program manager will be the main contact throughout the program development, delivery and closing, and will facilitate institutional connections, content support and coordination. They oversee the effective and timely set up, help coordinate with the institutions and experts, and schedule live activity sessions. The program manager also provides technical assistance, supporting the work of the faculty, students and experts.

Cultural Ambassador

A cultural ambassador at the European destination will bring a personal touch and connection with the city and country in various virtual formats (live and pre-recorded). They will carry out creative activities virtually with the students and the faculty.



KEY COMPONENTS

Connect and Exchange

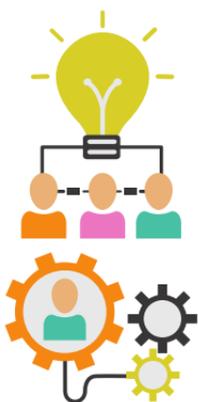
Live sessions will provide a unique interaction with experts, lecturers and local actors.

Expert Lectures, Presentations, Q&A, Interviews

CEPA will coordinate with guest experts to hold sessions on selected themes based on their expertise. These sessions can be live or be pre-recorded based on the availability of the experts and time difference.

Institutional Visits

Visits can be carried out virtually to European institutions and international organizations. The visits can be done live or can be pre-recorded based on the availability of the institutions and time difference.



Roundtables

A live session for students to discuss in an informal setting to examine key issues, challenges and opportunities related to a specific topic. Guest experts may also join the discussion.

Symposium

The symposium features a variety of virtual presentations from keynote speakers, dynamic panel discussions, and active dialogues with other European students, scholars, politicians, and business leaders.

Workshops

A hands-on guided activity that can be done live and/or offline in student groups with the guiding support of the faculty leader and a guest expert.



Discussion Forums

Thematic non-moderated discussion forums allow faculty and students to interact with each other regarding the course content and/or specific topics depending on the module. Students can also start related topic discussions.

Technical Support Forum

In this forum, faculty and students can address their questions to CEPA about technical issues related to the program's virtual learning platform or the program.

Module Surveys

Virtual modules will have a brief online survey at the end for students and faculty to provide constructive feedback based on their experience. CEPA will analyze the feedback to evaluate the quality of its virtual offer for quality assurance purposes.



Virtual learning platform

CEPA offers a dedicated easy-to-use web platform that serves as a virtual classroom with all modules, material, activities and resources related to this program. This program will further enhance the faculty's course syllabus and the group's unique international virtual experience.

MODULES

Orientation & Introduction

Introduction to the program, the CEPA virtual learning platform and eLearning tips.



Meet the CEPA manager, cultural ambassador, lecturers and experts.



- Strasbourg and its main European institutions
- European expert talk: Lieu d'Europe

Lectures

- European Union History
- Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
- EU and its international relations with the U.S.
- Crisis & the EU's Political Future
- Refugees, Migration, Asylum
- European human rights system
- COVID-19 responses in Europe



Expert Talks & Visits

- European Commission Brussels
- European Parliament Strasbourg
 - Meet a Member of the European Parliament
- American Council General in Strasbourg
 - Council of Europe
- European Court of Human Rights
 - Meet a representative of a Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe

Workshop

- Euro-Institut - European border regions & cross-border actors: "Overcoming intercultural barriers"



Symposium & Roundtable

- Cross border cooperation
- Crisis management COVID-19

Project Presentations



- Wrapping up
- Project presentations

Content

Institutional Visits & "Connect & Exchange"

The European Commission - Brussels



The European Commission is the EU's politically independent executive arm. It is responsible for drawing up proposals for new European legislation, & it implements the decisions of the European Parliament & the Council of the EU.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Live Q&A

The European Parliament - Strasbourg



The members of the European Parliament are elected by the people of the EU. You will learn about the negotiation mechanisms of EU legislation & discover the process of drafting European legislation.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr
Live Q&A

Council of Europe



A guided tour through the Parliamentary Assembly & a presentation on the role of the Council in all of Europe. This important & historic European institution carries out activities in the fields of human rights, legal affairs, social cohesion, education, culture & heritage.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Live Q&A

The European Court of Human Rights



The European Court of Human Rights is a regional human rights judicial body based in Strasbourg, created under the auspices of the Council of Europe. It was created to systematize the hearing of human rights complaints against States Parties.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Live Q&A

The European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM)



EDQM contributes to unifying the standards of the various national pharmacopoeias & to harmonize & validate the methods of control of medicinal products for human or veterinary use in Europe.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

The Eurocorps



Founded in 1992 by France & Germany, who form its framework nations together with Belgium, Spain & Luxembourg, Eurocorps can be called on to meet the security & defense needs of the EU, NATO, the UN, the OSCE or the framework nations.

1 hr of pre-recorded videos of presentation & visit

The American Council General



Political exchanges are reaffirmed on a daily basis and embodied by the presence of a Consul General in Strasbourg whose consular district covers the entire French "Grand Est" region.

30 min of pre-recorded videos of presentation & interview

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Q&A

Lieu d'Europe - The European Institutions & its functions



The Information Centre on European Institutions is part of the EU information network, Europe Direct. The fruit of a partnership between the Eurometropolis of Strasbourg, the Grand-Est region & the Bas-Rhin department, it was created in 1995. Its mission is to inform the public of the EU's programs & policies, & the life of all the European institutions located in Strasbourg.

1 hr
Live Zoom/
Webinar

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Q&A

Council of Europe



Learn about the Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe, such as Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany & other member states in Strasbourg. The Permanent Representation performs its ongoing duties from the broad spectrum of issues (political, legal, social, culture, human rights, education, youth & sports), which are part of the scope of activities of the Council of Europe.

30 min of pre-
recorded videos
of presentation
& interview

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Live Q&A

Meet a Member of the European Parliament



Meet a member of the European Parliament & have a discussion about their role, projects & work experience.

30 min of pre-
recorded videos
of presentation,
webinar & Q&A

"Connect & Exchange"

30 min
Live Q&A

The History of the European Union (EU):
From economic to political union

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos
University of Strasbourg

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

Crisis & the EU's Political Future

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos
Goethe University, Frankfurt

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

The EU & its International Relations with the U.S.
Part 1 & 2

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos
University of Strasbourg

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

European Convention on Human Rights:
The Rights Guaranteed & the Protection Mechanism

2 hrs presentation
European Expert, Strasbourg

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

Migration & Human Rights: How European countries respond to migration flows and their roles in migration governance & human rights protection.

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos
Migration Expert

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

The Corona Crisis & Europe's Response:
COVID-19 response, initiatives, actions & tools taken by different European actors.

2 hrs of pre-recorded videos
ZEW Mannheim

"Connect & Exchange"

1 hr live Q&A

The Euro-Institut in Kehl, Germany



The Euro-Institut supports all types of cross-border actors – administrations, NGOs or companies. Their expertise & know-how acquired in the Upper Rhine area allows them to work on transferable concepts, which can be used in other European border regions.

2 hrs
Live Workshop

Collaborative group work
Feedback from faculty & peers

2 hrs
tbc

Symposium on Crisis management COVID-19



The COVID-19 response, initiatives, actions & tools taken by different European actors to deliver effective responses to the pandemic & make decisions thereof.

2 hrs
Live roundtable
Q&A

Collaborative group work
Feedback from faculty & peers

2 hrs
tbc

Institutional Videos & Webcasts

Parliament plenary session at the European Parliament in Strasbourg



Over the years, the Parliament has acquired vast legislative & budgetary powers, which enable it to determine, with the government representatives of the Member States meeting within the Council, the course followed by the European project.

Live Webcast

Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly



The sessions of the Parliamentary Assembly are divided into four part-sessions, each lasting for about a week.

Live Webcast
Pre-recorded
videos