



# imagining utopia

visions for the campus of the future

interactive  
international  
interdisciplinary

# summer school

## Imagining Utopia – Visions for the Campus of the Future

An interactive, international and interdisciplinary summer school hosted at Hochschule Geisenheim University

### Key Facts

Date:	28 <sup>th</sup> July – 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2025
Virtual Component	13th June, afternoon 8th July, afternoon
Venue:	Hochschule Geisenheim University, Germany
Study Programs:	From architecture to agriculture, including an interdisciplinary spectrum of planning and plant sciences
Level of Study	Higher bachelor degree and master students
Work Load:	40 h presence, 12 h virtual, 38 h self-study = 90 h total
ECTS:	3

### Innovation on Campus?

Universities are cradles for future development and foster innovative ideas. Students develop utopian solutions that shape the path towards a better, more sustainable future by building on sound analyses of the current situation and applying scientific standards and state of the art science and collaboration. Out of the box thinking is encouraged by not being limited by constraining factors of the system in place, so that unique ideas may emerge. However, despite this huge potential, it mostly remains a purely academic and theoretical exercise. Moreover, the physical surroundings, the university campuses, stand in harsh contrast to this visionary thinking, since they often have a conventional setup with regard to social interaction, ecological footprint as well as climate protection and adaptation. The suggested summer school aims to experimentally fill this gap.

### Campus of the Future: Developed by Students

With universities embracing their potential as drivers for transformative change, we are asking ourselves: What needs to be changed? What can be changed?

In the scope of this summer school we want to explore the big societal challenges of our time, such as climate change, biodiversity loss, digitalization, energy efficiency and social issues and participation. These will not be targeted at an abstract level. Instead, we will apply concepts to an area that concerns us all: our university campuses.

The goal of our summer school is to learn from experiences and best practices of the universities involved and to develop new visionary ideas for the campus of the future. Enabling visionary thinking will be at the very heart of this exercise. Based on this, we will fully embrace a co-production approach with a lab atmosphere during the on-site part in Geisenheim. Creative collaboration will be fostered by a mix of methods, including the World café and the Walt Disney methods. Students will thus take on roles of different stakeholders and learn to change perspectives. They will develop ideas for the campus of Geisenheim and/or their home campuses and will also transfer lessons learnt to other locations.

## Why is this summer school for you?

You are open-minded, want to think out of the box and beyond your disciplinary background, build bridges and connect topics? Then this summer school is for you!

Whether you study landscape architecture, horticulture, environmental management, urbanism, agriculture, sustainable transport, spatial planning, landscape development or something similar – join us and let your ideas grow: pocket gardens and interactive spaces, urban farming, car-free futures, digital innovations, biodiversity-friendly management of campuses, circulatory systems, healthy universities, spaces for nature experience or creativity. Let's find out what we can achieve together!

## Contact Information

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## Annex

This summer school shall be funded through the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Program. Hence, it is supposed to be a joined international project including at least two other European universities. The summer school will consist of a virtual component and a five-day physical mobility spent at Geisenheim University.