



EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITY  
ALLIANCE



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

# INFORMATION ON THE 4EU+ ONLINE COURSES

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The 4EU+ European University Alliance is a transnational strategic association of Charles University in Prague, the University of Heidelberg, the University of Paris-Panthéon-Assas, the University of Sorbonne in Paris, the University of Copenhagen, the University of Geneva, the University of Milan and the University of Warsaw. The alliance aims to create a new quality of cooperation between the eight European research universities in education, teaching, research, transfer and administration. Building on existing collaborations, 4EU+ is establishing the appropriate infrastructure to bring together students, teachers and researchers from the partner universities.

Through the 4EU+ Online Courses, the 4EU+ European University Alliance provides an offer to promote **virtual mobility** and the development of a joint 4EU+ course catalogue. These courses are offered in either online or hybrid formats, allowing students and doctoral candidates from the 4EU+ partner universities to participate without the need to be physically present. These courses are open to all 4EU+ students and doctoral candidates.

The aim of the 4EU+ Online Courses is to enable meaningful mobility. This means that, in addition to promoting the 4EU+ core competences (multilingualism, data literacy, critical thinking, entrepreneurship, social engagement), the intention is to simplify course recognition for both lecturers and students. To support study program coordinators and to facilitate the assessment of recognition options, all 4EU+ Online Courses follow a standardized course description format, to ensure that the necessary course information is provided consistently.

The 4EU+ Online Courses offer consists of a variety of innovative and digital course formats. In addition to semester-long courses, the offer also includes shorter courses, such as short seminars, workshops, summer/winter schools or formats for exchanging information on current research like lecture series or colloquia. An advantage is that the courses can more easily be integrated into the different semester schedules of the partner universities, making it easier for students of the alliance to participate.

## PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS IN COURSES AT 4EU+ PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

Students and doctoral candidates at Heidelberg University have the opportunity of participating in courses offered by the other 4EU+ universities. Before registering, they should consult their respective study program coordinators to explore the possibilities of having the courses recognized for credit. This process is documented using the simplified 4EU+ Learning Agreement, which is a mandatory requirement for course registration at the partner universities.

The registration period at the partner universities is generally open until **February 2026**. Due to earlier semester start dates, courses may begin as early as the end of January 2026. The registration procedures currently differ across the universities. For detailed information on course registration, students are advised to consult the **4EU+ Student Portal**: <https://sp.4euplus.eu/home>.

### The 4EU+ Online Courses offer a variety of benefits for students and doctoral candidates:

- **Access:** Students and doctoral candidates gain unique access to a range of courses offered by seven research-intensive universities in Europe, enabling them to further develop their skills profile.
- **Flexibility:** Students and doctoral candidates can integrate courses offered by partner universities into their academic schedules within the same semester.
- **Preparation:** Prior to future stays abroad, students and doctoral candidates can already participate in courses offered by the respective partner university, allowing them to better prepare for their upcoming study exchange.
- **Interdisciplinarity:** The courses are designed to foster the 4EU+ core competencies – multilingualism, data literacy, critical thinking, entrepreneurship and social engagement – thereby supporting interdisciplinary learning objectives. Students and doctoral candidates are encouraged to take courses outside of their own study degree program in order to further develop and sharpen their individual skills profile.
- **Networking and language development:** The offer is intended to encourage students and doctoral candidates in establishing contacts and building networks that may help to advance their own academic careers and further develop their language profile.

## REGISTRATION PERIODS

The course offer of the 4EU+ Online Courses is published on the **4EU+ Student Portal**:

<https://sp.4euplus.eu/home>.

An overview with the publication dates of the courses, the application deadlines and the start of the courses at the participating partner universities can be found in the following table:

	<b>Registration Period</b>	<b>Start of the Courses</b>
<b>Charles University Prague</b>	Until 04 February 2026	As of 16 February 2026
<b>Sorbonne University Paris</b>	Until 16 January 2026	As of 26 January 2026
<b>University of Geneva</b>	Until 29 January 2026	As of 16 February 2026
<b>University of Milan</b>	Until mid- or late February, or in some cases mid-March 2026	As of early or mid-March 2026
<b>University of Warsaw</b>	Until 15 February 2026	As of 16 February 2026

## CONTACT PERSONS AT THE 4EU+ OFFICE

Questions regarding the 4EU+ Online Courses can be directed at the 4EU+ Office at Heidelberg University:

Gregor Stiebert  
4EU+ Office  
Coordinator Education  
E-Mail: [gregor.stiebert@rektorat.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:gregor.stiebert@rektorat.uni-heidelberg.de)  
Phone: 06221/54-19067

Miriam Topalian  
4EU+ Office  
E-Mail: [miriam.topalian@rektorat.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:miriam.topalian@rektorat.uni-heidelberg.de)  
Phone: 06221/54-19063

## DESCRIPTION OF THE 4EU+ SHARED COMPETENCIES

In alignment with the 4EU+ mission and its specific student profile, the educational activities in the alliance foster the following five shared competencies:

Multilingualism: The alliance is committed to promoting the language of all six countries and develop their teaching in all 4EU+ universities. This commitment is key at a time when English is the dominant language of communication between both staff and students and will necessarily be a key language of instruction for many of the new courses that will be developed within 4EU+. However, multilingualism remains essential to achieving a better understanding of European socio-cultural diversity. The 4EU+ student is thus exposed to multiculturalism and plurality of views aiming at developing diverse language skills.

Data literacy: Data literacy is required in all fields and for all job profiles. As such, mastering the basics is as necessary as speaking English. The 4EU+ student is expected to develop skills in the field of information literacy, media literacy, and information and communication technologies (ICT) literacy.

Critical thinking: may be defined as careful, goal-directed thinking, i.e. the ability to engage in purposeful, self-regulatory judgment based on rigorous intellectual concepts and principles. It allows students to orchestrate and self-regulate their own learning strategies and it describes the ability to analyse information objectively, evaluate this information, and come to an informed judgment. Critical thinking plays a special role in academic learning by providing an opportunity for students to reflect on the nature of knowledge; inquiring into the process of knowing, making connections between areas of knowledge, becoming aware of their perspectives and those of the various groups whose knowledge they share, and coming to conclusions about issues by directly contributing to knowledge. Beyond being an academic value, critical thinking is crucial in any democratic society to face challenges unbeknownst at present, and against populist usage of distorted news. 4EU+ and its stakeholders will contribute to revitalizing the trust in academic expertise and to addressing jointly the challenges of tomorrow's world. Through taking part in different 4EU+ activities, the students will be able to investigate problems with a critical spirit, enhance their problem solving, augment analytical and evaluative skills, and confront their points of view. Being a critical thinker will allow the 4EU+ student to be aware of one's attitudes and assumptions, inclined to care about the dignity and worth of every person as well as to develop the ability to identify the relevance of arguments, to select a relevant source for arguments, critically interpret research results, developing logical thinking abilities, make evidence-based opinions and decisions and challenge his/her way of thinking.

Entrepreneurship: The 4EU+ programs will include the creation of a shared pool of courses to develop and strengthen entrepreneurial skills. Associated partners (businesses, regional actors, and civil society actors) will be engaged in the 4EU+ joint educational activities to narrow the gap between the world of work and higher education institutions and make the collaboration meaningful. The 4EU+ student, as an active participant, will learn to be flexible and adapt to the different working environment, to take the initiative and be a self-directed learner as well as be able to engage in social and cross-cultural interaction, productively and responsibly.

Social engagement: The university's engagement with the community is essential to ensuring that knowledge is developed, transmitted, and applied for the public good. Students expect universities to be socially involved at a time of growing social unrest around the distribution of wealth and power. At the same time, 4EU+ students are expected to be engaged in activities that will provide graduates with a Global and European academic experience and outlook, fostering open-mindedness and make them able to engage meaningfully in societal challenges.