CALL FOR COURSE PROPOSALS 2019

The Finnish University Partnership for International Development – UniPID is hereby inviting interested teachers and lecturers to submit course proposals for the UniPID Virtual Studies programme.

Background

The aim of the UniPID Virtual Studies programme is to offer equal opportunities for students to learn about global development and sustainability. The programme deepens collaboration between Finnish universities and draws on their specific areas of expertise related to global challenges. The UniPID Virtual Studies allow students (including exchange students) in UniPID member universities to access online courses offered by UniPID member universities. The students can take individual courses or complete an online minor programme. The courses are a collaborative effort to avoid duplication and meet increasing demand and need for courses on sustainable development, international development studies and global responsibility. You can find the current courses listed online, at http://www.unipid.fi/en/courses/.

The 2019 Call for Proposals

The 2019 Call for Proposals aims to fund courses that contribute to and expand the themes and overall offering of UniPID's Virtual Studies programme.

The following sums will be available, for establishing new courses and for updating existing UniPID courses:

- **New UniPID course**
  A sum of up to 6 500 € per course is available from UniPID for the creation and provision of a new online course. In this call, special attention is given to proposals that address the role of education in sustainable social development in the Global South, but all proposals exploring global challenges to sustainable development will be considered.

- **Updating an existing UniPID course**
  A sum of up to 4 500 € per course is available from UniPID for updating a course that has been offered at least 3 times as a part of the UniPID Virtual Studies syllabus.

Conditions of Funding

UniPID funding for Virtual Studies courses is awarded under the following conditions:
- The prospective contracting party to sign the course agreement should be one of the UniPID member universities[1];
- Proposed courses can either be entirely new courses or existing courses that will be modified to fit the UniPID Virtual Studies blueprint e.g. by translation into English or transformation from contact instruction into an online format;
- Courses must be added to the member university's syllabus or already be part of it;
- All online courses should be worth 5 ECTS credits and their primary target group should be master's level students;
- Courses must be offered as a UniPID online course at least three times;
- The courses funded under this call should be offered for the first time in the academic year 2019-2020;
- Funding is paid in total upon signature of the UniPID Virtual Course Contract.

Formulating a Proposal

A course proposal should clearly outline and include the following components:
- course content,
- objectives,
- expected learning outcomes,
- pedagogical approach & teaching methods,
- learning materials,
- plan for the assessment of student performance and forms of feedback,
- call-specific requirements,
- a preliminary course timetable, and
- an estimation of course budget.

Funding decisions of the eligible proposals will be based on assessment of the following elements:

1. Course Content
   - Relevance to the UniPID minor programme *Sustainability in Development*
   - Timeliness of topic / special emphasis of the call
   - Added value to UniPID syllabus, e.g. by filling existing thematic gaps

2. Online Pedagogy
   - Quality of online pedagogical approach, and how well it facilitates collaborative learning and communication among students and between the teacher(s) and the student(s)
   - How well the course meets the needs of students with different learning styles
   - The structure of the course,
   - Easy access to the course material and the use of open online resources

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[1] Aalto University, Tampere University, University of Eastern Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Jyväskylä, University of Lapland, University of Oulu, University of Turku, Åbo Akademi University

3. Proposal
   - The clarity of the articulated learning objectives and outcomes, and clear description of the course workload to be met by the students
   - Academic qualifications the teacher or teaching team
   - Earlier online course or online pedagogy experience
   - Call-specific requirements

All proposals should be submitted via the specific form for UniPID Virtual Studies Proposals 2019. The form can be found at http://unipid.fi/vs-forms/unipid-virtual-studies-course-funding-application-form/.

The deadline for proposals is 31 March 2019. The UniPID Board makes the final decisions on the funding, and results will be announced in June 2019.

For further information, contact

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