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## CHANCE Romania Course Calendar (pre-field Online Course, Spring 2023)

Wednesdays, March 15-April 26, 2023, 13:00-15:00 CET, Synchronous Zoom Delivery through Penn State University, USA.

Before students leave for Romania, faculty mentors will prepare students to engage in research and scientific inquiry, using a team-based learning approach. Each of the five CURE transnational teams will undertake a mini-research activity using authentic data on a specific issue facing the Danube River basin, then interpret and communicate their findings as they relate to a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDGs). Both exercises are intended to give students practice and develop skills they will need to successfully engage in a course-based undergraduate research experience (CURE) once on site in the summer. Both exercises will occur via ZOOM via Penn State's CANVAS course-management system, via break-out rooms hosted by Penn State, University of Bucharest, Université Libre de Bruxelles, and Aix-Marseille University.

	Topics covered	Class Agenda Assignment	Class Agenda Assignment
<b>Week 1</b> <i>WEDS, MARCH 15</i>	The Sustainability Challenge Lectures: What is Sustainability? (Dr. Michele Halsell, Assistant Director, Penn State's Sustainability Institute)	Welcome, Introductions & Course Overview (Dr. McLaughlin; 30 min) Sustainability Lecture and Q&A (Dr. Halsell; 40 min) Breakout Rooms – 5 Random Student Teams; Meet, Greet & Ice Breaker (Dr. Fadigan; 5 min): • Deconstruct a UN SDG goal and apply it to your life. (20 min) Class Discussion on SDG Activity (Dr. Fadigan; 15 min) Homework Assignment (Dr. McLaughlin; 10 min)	Submit Group Video (3 minutes): What is Environmental Sustainability?
<b>Week 2</b> <i>WEDS, MARCH 22</i>	Global Water Lectures: Global Water Issues (Dr. Andrew Warner, Director Penn State's Water Initiative)	Share UN SDG Videos (Dr. McLaughlin; 20 min) Global Water Lecture and Q&A (Dr. Warner; 55 min) Breakout Rooms – 5 Student CURE Teams: • Breakout Room Activity - Choose three UN SDGs and tie them into the overarching theme of global water (Dr. Fadigan; 15 mins) • Groups Report Out (Dr. Fadigan; 15 mins)	Submit Journal Entry Read Assigned Paper and Submit Answers to Questions.

		Overview of Assigned Paper and Homework (Dr. McLaughlin; 15 min)	
<b>Week 3</b> <i>WEDS, MARCH 29</i>	The Danube River Lectures: The Danube River: Realities and Future (UB) (Dr. Carmen Hamchevici, Water Quality Data, Dept. at the National Water Administration, Romania)	Share UN SDG Videos Round II (Dr. McLaughlin; 20 min) Danube River Realities Lecture and Q&A (Dr. Carmen Hamchevici; 40 min) Breakout Rooms – Student CURE Teams meet Assigned Mentors Introductions, overview of assigned CURE, and student-centered activity (50 min) Course Check-In and Homework: (Drs. McLaughlin and Fadigan; 10 min)	Submit Journal Entry Watch Danube River Documentary and Answer Assigned Questions. “The Danube: From the Black Forest to the Black Sea” ( <a href="https://youtu.be/-lRnxx2GLY">https://youtu.be/-lRnxx2GLY</a> )
<b>Week 4</b> <i>WEDS, APRIL 5</i>	Danube Delta - The Science Behind the Issues Lectures: Nutrient Overload and Eutrophication (UB) Dr. Carmen Postolache, Dean of Biology Faculty, University of Bucharest.	Nutrients and Eutrophication Lecture and Q&A (Dr. Postolache; 45 min) Into to Writing a Mini-Lab Report (Dr. McLaughlin; 30 min) Breakout Rooms – Student CURE Teams with Assigned Mentors • Research activity using authentic data related to assigned CURE (45 min)	Submit Journal Entry Group-based Research Activity assigned by CURE mentors
<b>Week 5</b> <i>WEDS, APRIL 12</i>	Danube Delta - The Science Behind the Issues (continued)	Breakout Rooms – Student CURE Teams with Assigned Mentors • Begin draft Mini-lab Report with Mentor Feedback (2 hours)	Submit Journal Entry Draft Mini-Lab Report Due
<b>Week 6</b> <i>WEDS, APRIL 19</i>	UN SDG Research Project	Breakout Rooms – Student CURE Teams with Assigned Mentors • Work on FINAL Mini-lab Report with Mentor Feedback; tying in UN SDG #6 (2 hours)	Submit Journal Entry FINAL Mini-Lab Report Due
<b>Week 7</b> <i>WEDS, APRIL 26</i>	Oral Presentations	Student CURE Group Presentations (5 groups; 15 minutes = 75 min) Group Reflection (Drs. McLaughlin and Fadigan) 30 minutes) Post-program Assessment (15 min)	Submit Final CURE PowerPoint