

Wanted: Coordinators for the UWC Short Course “Building a Sustainable Future” in Germany

What is a UWC Short Course?

Short Courses are summer programs, that offer an experience similar to that of the two-year program, but without an academic program and in a shorter timeframe. They are typically organized as non-formal educational programs with a focus on a particular topic.

What is “Building a Sustainable Future”

The UWC Short Course “Building a Sustainable Future” in Germany touches on issues within economic, environmental and social sustainability – and their several intersections – to give young participants a chance to rethink sustainability in its complexity, with its challenges. These themes will be explored in a non-formal learning setting, including self-led projects, interactive workshops, debates, reflections, guest speakers, etc. Participants will be enabled to engage in discussions on sustainability critically and informed, to envision the world in terms of a sustainable future and to contribute to this vision.

In the past years the course has aimed for 50-60 participants, plus a facilitator team ranging from 15 to 20. The 2019 program took place over 3 weeks, which included preparation and disorientation days before and after the 17-day program.

What are the tasks of a coordinator?

The tasks are as diverse as can be expected from a program like this. The working groups are usually divided into Logistics (organization of transportation, securing a location etc.), PR (running website, press releases and other social media channels), participant communication (supporting in travel organization, writing and collection of required forms), NC-communication (recruitment of and communication with partner organizations) and evaluation (monitoring and impact report of project). Additionally, you will be tasked with supporting the NC in the securing of funding, the recruitment of a team of facilitators, the development of content for the Short Course, the running of the Short Course itself and the reports needed after the program ended for the completion of the Erasmus+ funding.

While this sounds like difficult tasks at the beginning, the past short courses have left a paper trail that should make it quite easy to access most of the knowledge and skills needed for any of these tasks. This, however does not mean that the organization of a Short Course does not come with a not insignificant workload. In the early project phase, you will be facing a work volume of 2-5h a week, which increases to 4-6h around April and then again closer to 5-8h before the short course. While the Short Course itself is a beautiful experience, you will need to be present for the full period and there will be little room for breaks. Depending on individual need, there is the possibility of a recompensating of up to 2.000€.

What are we looking for?

Candidates with basic experience in project management and logistics

The Short Course is sadly not all fun and games, and coordinators will be required to take over significant parts of the organizational work. You can expect to write long excel tables with arrival dates, project budget and participant registration.

Candidates with an interest in informal youth education

The Short Course employs a wide range of pedagogical methods, in order to be able to sustain an intense educational program. Instead of traditional teaching, there is a strong emphasis on experiential transformative learning. Experience in working with youth or peer-to-peer education or other forms of facilitation of workshops is indispensable.

Candidates that are willing to be team leaders

Three weeks are an intense time for both the coordinators and their team. As a coordinator it is not only your task to recruit the facilitator team, but also to act as a team manager and leader for the duration of the Short Course.

Candidates with a passion for sustainability

Organizing a Short Course is a lot of work and most certainly one of the more intense activities one can pick for their summer holiday. It will be very difficult to show the needed commitment and energy levels, without a deep passion for UWC, our project, the topic but mainly for the youth we are teaching.

Why should you apply?

This all sounds like an overwhelming amount of work and to be honest, sometimes it is. However, there are good reasons why coordinators and facilitators keep coming back to this summer program. Over 50 young, motivated and engaged people from all over the world are coming together because they genuinely care about the topics at hand. You have the opportunity to teach and learn from them, to inspire and be inspired. The Short Course is a unique project that brings people together for an intense and beautiful time and gives them the knowledge, skills and tools to put the UWC mission statement into action: To make education a force that unites people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.

Learn more about the past Short Course "Building a Sustainable Future" [here](#).

We hope to hear from you soon,

Clara and Moritz, UWC Short Course Coordinators 2019

How to apply?

Deadline for application: 28 August 2019

Please answer the below and send them with your CV to: stiftungsbuero@uwc.de.

Questions

1. UWC Short Courses are experiences of informal, transformative education. What makes you passionate about education and running a programme such as this for young people? (150-300 words)
2. Have you ever worked in a leading position in a youth project? What do you think, in a nutshell, is important in order to effectively lead such a project? (150-300 words)
3. Describe a situation that required you to work in a team. What was your position in the team? What was the team like? How did you contribute? (150-300 words)
4. Please summarize, in about 5 sentences, why and how you would like to coordinate the upcoming Short Course 'Building a Sustainable Future'. (150-300 words)
5. Please add a list of specific skills you would bring to the team (word, excel or powerpoint skills, webdesign, driving license, accounting, image editing, climbing certificates or whatever it is you think might come in handy).