

2026 ERNOP SNAPSHOT OF EUROPEAN PHILANTHROPY EDUCATION



The ERNOP Snapshot of Philanthropy Education provides a descriptive overview of philanthropy-related educational offerings that are provided by the academic institutional members of ERNOP. It maps academic and professional education that contributes to the study, understanding, and professionalisation of philanthropy and civil society, broadly understood as private, voluntary contributions to public causes. The Snapshot provides an overview of Bachelor's and Master's courses, as well as full degree programmes composed of multiple courses, and an overview of courses and full programmes offered as executive education.

Entries are presented in a standardised format to support clarity and comparability, while respecting institutional and pedagogical diversity. The Snapshot is descriptive rather than evaluative: it does not rank, endorse, or assess quality, but documents the range and forms of philanthropy education currently offered.

By bringing together these educational initiatives, the Snapshot aims to make visible the breadth of philanthropy education in Europe and to provide a shared reference point for researchers, educators, practitioners, and policymakers interested in the development of the field.

For more information, visit www.ernop.eu

COLLEGE OF POLYTECHNICS JIHLAVA

Fundraising for Social Work

Lecturer Name(s): Vladimír Hyánek
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description

This course develops fundraising skills for social work organisations, including campaign planning, donor communication, grant seeking, and ethical considerations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Plan and evaluate fundraising campaigns
- Communicate mission to attract and engage supporters
- Manage relationships with individual and corporate donors
- Apply ethical principles and transparency in fundraising

Public Funding and State Regulation

Lecturer Name(s): Jakub Dostál; Vladimír Hyánek
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description

This course examines state regulation, mandates, subsidies, and public-private dynamics from central, local, and international (EU) perspectives, including grant schemes and evaluation methods.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand types and impacts of market regulations and state interventions
- Knowledge of national and EU funding policies and evaluation principles
- Analyse market and government failures
- Assess consequences of regulatory and funding measures using real cases

Public Sector Economics

Lecturer Name(s): Eva Lajtkepová; Ivan Malý; Jana Rozmarýnová
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description

This course explores public sector economics, finance, and market failures, including the role of nonprofits and civil society as public service providers. Students analyse socio-economic data, budget processes, and interactions between sectors in political-economic context.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Insight into the role of civil society and nonprofits in public service provision
- Ability to search, sort, and interpret socio-economic public-sector data
- Evaluate impacts of economic decisions on entities
- Teamwork, critical thinking, and evidence-based argumentation

Sustainable Development, Social Entrepreneurship, and Non-profit Sector

Lecturer Name(s): Zuzana Tuřková; Jakub Pejcal
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description

This course integrates sustainable development with social entrepreneurship and the nonprofit sector, focusing on strategies that are socially desirable, economically viable, and ecologically sustainable.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand sustainability pillars and circular economy principles
- Design and evaluate sustainable development strategies (missions, visions, goals)
- Knowledge of global initiatives (SDGs, Agenda 2030, Green Deal, ESG reporting)
- Understand management, financing, and legal frameworks of nonprofits and social enterprises

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY – Centre for Social Investment

Organisations of Civil Society

Lecturer Name(s): Georg Mildenerger
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course introduces key concepts of civil society, the third sector, and the social economy. Students examine organisational types, functions, resources, and funding structures, supported by empirical data on Germany and case study presentations of civil society organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Basic knowledge on concepts and theories of civil society, third sector, social economy, and philanthropy
- Insights into different legal forms and taxation
- Specific challenges for civil society organisations
- Overview of organisational heterogeneity and sector data

HOGENT – University of Applied Sciences

Postgraduate Degree in Fundraising

Lecturer Name(s): Ann-Sophie Bouckaert; Sanne Holvoet; Joke Persyn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Programme
Language: Dutch
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This postgraduate programme provides structured, practice-oriented education in fundraising for nonprofit and civil society organisations. It addresses donor relations, fundraising ethics, strategic planning, and campaign development, and combines theoretical foundations with applied assignments. The programme is organised by HOGENT in collaboration with Fundraisers Belgium.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Implementation of a fundraising strategy in a concrete organisational context
- Development of a coherent vision and ethical framework for fundraising
- Design or optimisation of a fundraising plan based on strategic analysis
- Development of a fundraising campaign tailored to a specific target group

Framework for Professional Fundraising

Lecturer Name(s): Ann-Sophie Bouckaert; Sanne Holvoet; Joke Persyn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: Dutch
Format: In-person

Short Description

This professional training programme introduces a structured framework for fundraising practice. It addresses strategic fundraising, donor relationships, ethical standards, and organisational positioning, supporting participants in developing a coherent and professional approach to fundraising within nonprofit and civil society organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills

- Understanding of a structured framework for professional fundraising
- Ability to position fundraising strategically within an organisation
- Insight into ethical standards and professional norms in fundraising
- Reflection on donor relations and long-term fundraising strategies

Marketing and Communication for Fundraisers

Lecturer Name(s): Ann-Sophie Bouckaert; Sanne Holvoet; Joke Persyn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: Dutch
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This professional training course focuses on marketing and communication in fundraising contexts. It addresses strategic communication, donor-oriented messaging, and the use of communication tools to support fundraising objectives within nonprofit and civil society organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills

- Understanding the role of marketing and communication in fundraising
- Ability to align communication strategies with fundraising goals
- Insight into audience segmentation and donor-focused messaging
- Practical application of communication tools in fundraising practice

Advanced Training in Strategic Fundraising

Lecturer Name(s): Ann-Sophie Bouckaert; Sanne Holvoet; Joke Persyn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: Dutch
Format: In-person

Short Description

This advanced training focuses on strategic fundraising within nonprofit and civil society organisations. Participants examine how fundraising can be positioned at an organisational level, linking long-term strategy, donor relationships, and financial sustainability to mission-driven objectives.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills

- Understanding strategic fundraising as an organisational function
- Ability to link fundraising strategy to mission and long-term goals
- Insight into donor strategy and portfolio development
- Reflection on governance, leadership, and strategic decision-making in fundraising

MASARYK UNIVERSITY (PRAGUE)

Economy and Management of Non-profit Organizations

Lecturer Name(s): Vladimír Hyánek; Jakub Pejcal
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description:

Practical analysis of nonprofit organisations, focusing on activities, funding methods, missions, processes, and management, supported by real nonprofit case studies.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand and evaluate the nonprofit sector
- Apply managerial, financial, and marketing tools
- Analyse relations among sectors
- Make informed decisions on fundraising, efficiency, volunteer management, and sustainability

Management Accounting and Taxes in the Non-profit Sector

Lecturer Name(s): Marie Hladká; Jakub Pejcal
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: Czech
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course focuses on managerial accounting and taxation in nonprofit organisations in the Czech context, including budgeting, cost estimation, funding sources, and financial analysis for non-profit management.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Use managerial accounting tools (calculations, budgets)
- Estimate budget costs and identify funding sources for revenue side
- Perform financial analysis and assess financial health of a non-profit
- Prepare a project proposal in a team

UNIVERSITY OF BASEL

– Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS)

Advanced Private Law: Foundations, Association, and Nonprofit Law

Lecturer Name(s): Roman Baumann Lorant
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course examines nonprofit organizations from a legal perspective, covering civil, tax, and supervisory law, donation regulations. Topics include nonprofit, foundation and association status (in Switzerland and foreign jurisdictions), restructuring, accounting, and NPOs in financial crises. The course covers not only theory but also practical application through real-world examples and active student participation.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding legal and tax framework for NPOs (foundations and associations) in Switzerland.

Bachelor seminar in nonprofit organizations and management

Lecturer Name(s): Georg von Schnurbein
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Dissertation
Language: German or English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

The bachelor thesis topics are chosen by the students in consultation with the supervisor. Topics covered include management of NPOs (e.g., fundraising efficiency, nonprofit governance, funding mix) and the socio-economic significance of NPOs (e.g., the role of NPOs in the organization of the economy/collective bargaining, NPOs as employers, monetization of volunteer work)

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Explore topics related to nonprofit organizations and management in greater depth through bachelor's theses
- Better able to independently write a bachelor's thesis, present their work, and actively participate in seminar discussions.

Better Foundation Governance

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: German and French
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This compact seminar provides practice-oriented continuing education for current and prospective foundation board members. It addresses changing governance requirements in the Swiss foundation sector, including good governance, impact, transparency, compliance, and professionalisation in response to regulatory, financial, and societal developments.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding governance roles and responsibilities of foundation boards
- Insight into good governance, impact, and diversity debates in the foundation sector
- Awareness of transparency, compliance, and regulatory requirements
- Reflection on professionalisation and competence development in foundation governance

Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Impact Management in Nonprofit Organizations

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This certificate programme is designed for professionals involved in nonprofit management who are responsible for managing, measuring, and communicating organisational impact. It addresses impact-oriented work across project planning, data use, and learning processes within nonprofit and civil society organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding the fundamentals of impact-oriented work
- Ability to integrate impact management into strategic project planning
- Use of impact data for communication and organisational learning

Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Nonprofit & Public Management

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive / Programme
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This certificate programme provides advanced training in nonprofit and public management. It addresses governance, strategy, financing, leadership, and accountability in nonprofit and public organisations, with a strong focus on professional management practices in civil society and the public sector.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding governance and management of nonprofit and public organisations
- Ability to apply strategic and financial management tools
- Insight into leadership, accountability, and organisational development
- Reflection on the role of nonprofits and public organisations in society

Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Nonprofit Governance & Leadership

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive / Programme
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This certificate program provides a compact, theory-based introduction to strategic nonprofit management tools and methods, with a focus on governance and leadership in nonprofit organisations. It addresses roles and responsibilities of boards and executives, decision-making processes, accountability, and strategic leadership, supporting professional governance practices within foundations and nonprofit organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding governance roles and leadership responsibilities in nonprofits
- Ability to apply governance and leadership frameworks in practice
- Insight into strategic decision-making and accountability mechanisms
- Reflection on board-management relations and organisational leadership

Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) in Nonprofit Management & Law

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Programme
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This program offers a research-based, practice-oriented education in nonprofit management. It is aimed for all those working in the management of a nonprofit or public organization. This includes executives and senior staff of aid agencies, grantmaking foundations, sports organizations, associations, and development organizations; board members and volunteers seeking leadership roles; and individuals providing consulting or services to nonprofits.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Translating current academic insights from management, law, sociology, and ethics to practical challenges.
- Addressing all key topics in both business and legal perspectives.
- Applying integrative, interdisciplinary approach to highlight interconnections and reflect real-world management challenges.

Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Nonprofit Management & Law

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Programme
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This postgraduate programme provides advanced education in nonprofit management and law at Master of Advanced Studies level. It integrates management, legal, governance, and leadership perspectives relevant to nonprofit organisations. The MAS builds on structured coursework and is completed with a master's thesis.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Advanced understanding of management and legal frameworks for nonprofit organisations
- Ability to apply strategic, financial, and governance tools at organisational level
- Insight into leadership, accountability, and impact-oriented management
- Integration of academic knowledge and applied research in nonprofit practice

Impact Measurement

Lecturer Name(s): Georg von Schnurbein
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course explores the growing importance of sustainability, social responsibility, and societal impact in business performance. It covers impact measurement, non-financial reporting, relevant guidelines, and practical case studies, highlighting how concepts from nonprofit management inform the "purpose-driven economy" beyond traditional measures of financial success.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding theoretical foundations of impact measurement and non-financial reporting in for-profit contexts (purpose-driven enterprises, social businesses, ESG, CSR).
- Ability to apply and conduct impact measurement methods independently.
- Familiarity with key reporting frameworks (UN Global Compact, GRI, SDGs) and relevant indicators.
- Capacity to connect theory with practice and integrate insights from nonprofit impact measurement and reporting.

Intensive Course in Foundation Management

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course is designed for those seeking a scientifically grounded, concise introduction to the management of grantmaking foundations. This intensive programme provides practice-oriented training in foundation management. It addresses governance, strategy, legal frameworks, asset management, grantmaking, and accountability, supporting professional management and decision-making within philanthropic foundations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding governance and legal frameworks of foundations
- Ability to apply strategic and financial management principles
- Insight into grantmaking processes and accountability requirements
- Reflection on professional roles and responsibilities in foundation management

Strategic Financial Management in Nonprofit Organizations

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

The course is designed for those seeking a scientifically grounded, concise introduction to financial management in nonprofit organizations. It targets executives, managers, and employees of nonprofits; finance and fundraising professionals; consultants and service providers; staff of public institutions and funding bodies; as well as trustees and lawyers active in the nonprofit sector.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding the challenge of planning, developing, and designing the optimal mix of funding sources for nonprofits, including different funding mechanisms.
- Acquiring interdisciplinary knowledge in financial planning and gaining insights on the latest approaches in strategic financial management through successful real-world examples.

Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Business Start-ups

Lecturer Name(s): Sophie Hersberger-Langloh
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course provides a theoretical and practical understanding of entrepreneurship, covering its history, economic role, and key theories. Students explore innovation, market entry, financing, and exit strategies. The final module highlights how entrepreneurship can address global societal challenges, emphasizing social and sustainable entrepreneurship through seminars and group startup projects.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding conceptual and economic foundations of entrepreneurship and its historical evolution.
- Ability to evaluate entrepreneurial trends and developments using academic frameworks.
- Familiarity with key entrepreneurial activities, challenges, and current research.
- Capacity to apply theory in startup projects and gain practical entrepreneurial insights.

Open Online Course (MOOC) "Entrepreneurship in Nonprofits"

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Bachelor/Master/Executive Education/Certificate
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course explores entrepreneurial approaches within nonprofit organisations. It focuses on opportunity recognition, innovation, and the development of sustainable initiatives in nonprofit contexts, supporting participants in applying entrepreneurial thinking to mission-driven organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding entrepreneurial approaches in nonprofit organisations
- Ability to identify and develop innovative nonprofit initiatives
- Insight into sustainability and value creation in nonprofit contexts
- Application of entrepreneurial thinking to mission-driven challenges

Open Online Course Nonprofit Management: Innovation und Digitalisation

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Bachelor/Master/Executive Education/Certificate
Language: German
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course is aimed at individuals who serve as board or foundation members, or as managing directors in nonprofit organizations, who wish to learn more about addressing current topics such as innovation and digitalization. It addresses organisational strategy, innovation processes, and management challenges in nonprofit organisations, providing participants with a flexible learning format focused on contemporary developments in the nonprofit sector.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding core principles of nonprofit management
- Insight into innovation processes and digitalization in nonprofit organisations
- Ability to reflect on organisational challenges and change
- Application of management concepts to nonprofit practice

Master Class in Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: French
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This master class offers advanced, practice-oriented education for experienced professionals in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector. It addresses current challenges in governance, strategy, leadership, and impact, providing space for reflection and exchange on complex managerial and societal issues.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Advanced understanding of nonprofit and philanthropy management challenges
- Ability to reflect on strategic, governance, and leadership issues
- Insight into current developments and debates in the sector
- Peer-based learning and exchange among experienced practitioners

Nonprofit Management

Lecturer Name(s): Georg von Schnurbein
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course discusses about theories of the emergence of nonprofit organizations (NPOs), introduction to nonprofit management, management specifics in NPOs (including volunteer management, fundraising, and financial management) as well as the current trends in nonprofit management.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding theoretical foundations and the practical relevance of the nonprofit sector from a social and economic perspective.

Social Preferences and Fundraising: A Behavioral Economics Perspective With a Global Focus

Lecturer Name(s): Dominik Meier
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course applies behavioral economics to understand social preferences (e.g., altruism, fairness, reciprocity, trust) and link them to innovative fundraising strategies. It examines theoretical and empirical research, cultural contexts, and global studies. This enables students to design effective donation appeals and foster sustainable, equitable philanthropic practices in both WEIRD (Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic) and non-WEIRD samples.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding key theories of social preferences (e.g., fairness, altruism, reciprocity, trust) and experimental methods for their measurement.
- Ability to design evidence-based fundraising strategies and critically evaluate their effectiveness using behavioral insights.
- Better able to reflect on personal and societal social preferences in decision-making as well as collaborate with peers to develop creative solutions for fundraising challenges.

Sustainability Management: Fundamentals of responsible corporate governance

Lecturer Name(s): Dominik Meier
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course introduces sustainable and responsible corporate management, exploring how firms address global environmental and social challenges while maintaining economic performance. It covers climate change, business ethics, SDGs, sustainable business models, and integration of sustainability into core corporate functions (e.g., production, HR, finance, supply chain).

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding interrelationships between ecological, social, and economic challenges and corporate responsibility through concepts such as sustainability, ethics, CSR, and SDGs.
- Better able to analyze responsible management strategies by reflection and case studies.
- Familiarity with instruments and standards of sustainable business practice (e.g., GRI, UNGB, B Corp)

Writing Successful Grant Applications

Lecturer Name(s): Multiple lecturers
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Certificate
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This one-day seminar equips nonprofit leaders, project managers, cultural professionals, and social entrepreneurs seeking to begin fundraising with institutional donors. It introduces effective, structured approaches to prepare grant proposals to public and private funding bodies.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding how to prepare effective and well-structured proposals to institutional donors (public and private funding bodies).

UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA – Geneva Centre for Philanthropy

AI and Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Giuseppe Ugazio
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course examines philanthropy's role in advancing human well-being and the U.N. 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, exploring its interdisciplinary nature across finance, law, philosophy, and psychology, and its transformation through artificial intelligence, big data, and digital innovation.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand the role of behavioral science in explaining philanthropic decisions
- Explore the multiple ways in which data-science can support philanthropic organizations

Enterprises, Capitalism, and the Sustainable Development Goals

Lecturer Name(s): Giulia Neri-Castracane
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: French
Format: In-person (course recorded, open to auditors)

Short Description:

This course examines the evolving legal framework of corporate sustainability at international, European, and Swiss levels. It explores companies' roles, governance responsibilities, shareholder activism, and liability issues, including climate litigation, through theory, case studies, and corporate reporting practices.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand international, EU, and Swiss sustainability regulations.
- Analyze corporate governance and accountability in sustainability.
- Evaluate the roles of directors, auditors, and shareholders.
- Explore corporate responsibility and climate litigation.
- Apply legal concepts to real-world corporate sustainability cases.

Foundations, Associations, and Cooperatives

Lecturer Name(s): Giulia Neri-Castracane
Education Level and Type: Bachelor/ Course
Language: French
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course explores the legal frameworks of foundations, associations, and cooperatives—key organizational forms across Swiss society. It examines their economic and social roles, including types of foundations and their governance, combining theory with practical case studies.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand the legal structures of foundations, associations, and cooperatives.
- Distinguish between ordinary, family, and pension foundations.
- Analyze how these entities balance economic and social missions.
- Apply legal principles through practical case studies.

Cultural Philanthropy and Law

Lecturer Name(s): Anne Bandle
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: French
Format: In-person (course recorded, open to auditors)

Short Description:

This course examines the role of philanthropy in supporting art and culture through legal, ethical, and managerial lenses. It explores Swiss legal structures, taxation, artist estates, and public-private partnerships, combining academic and practical approaches, culminating in a workshop where students design their own philanthropic structure.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand the concept and contemporary meaning of philanthropy as action in the public interest.
- Explore the growing role of philanthropy and patronage in the arts and cultural heritage sectors.
- Analyze the legal frameworks governing cultural philanthropy.
- Examine real-world cases linking art law and philanthropic practice.
- Assess how cultural philanthropy supports public value and heritage preservation.

Philanthropy and the Social Sciences

Lecturer Name(s): Nicolas Duvoux
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: French
Format: In-person

Short Description:

The course explores philanthropy through political and social science perspectives, linking theory and practice. Using historical and contemporary cases, it examines gift theories (Mauss), critical views (Bourdieu, Foucault), and the relationship between philanthropy and democracy to better understand both philanthropy and society.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand philanthropy within an integrated social science framework, combining objective and subjective dimensions.
- Analyze major social science critiques of philanthropy, including Bourdieu's theory of symbolic capital and Foucault's ideas on social control.
- Examine links between philanthropy, power, and democracy, including its relationship with public institutions.
- Explore the democratization of philanthropy through participation.
- Reflect on the connection between philanthropy and knowledge production, emphasizing critical reflexivity in the social sciences.

Public Ethics of Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Michele Bocchiola
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course provides conceptual and normative tools to examine philanthropy through public ethics and political theory, enabling students to analyze how philanthropy can serve the public good while addressing its ethical and political challenges.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand and distinguish philanthropy from other forms of institutional action.
- Analyze different forms of philanthropy, such as charitable giving, social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and CSR.
- Evaluate ethical challenges related to accountability and effective giving.
- Assess philanthropy's role in addressing public policy issues and promoting justice, transparency, and legitimacy.
- Apply public ethics and normative frameworks to real-world philanthropic case studies.

Structuring Social Enterprises

Lecturer Name(s): Giulia Neri-Castracane
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: French
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course introduces social entrepreneurship and the legal structuring of social enterprises. Through a participatory approach, students learn to draft legal documents and analyze real-world cases, gaining practical skills to support innovative ventures that combine business strategies with positive social and environmental impact.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understand the concept of social enterprises
- Deepen the study of business structures covered at the undergraduate level from the perspective of contributing to the common good
- Explore legal forms not yet studied in a specific context
- Situate Swiss regulations on the topic within the international context
- Understand the possibilities for implementing steward ownership under Swiss law

The many faces of Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Giuseppe Ugazio
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course explores philanthropy through data science and global perspectives. Students learn to collect, analyze, and communicate philanthropic data and examine diverse regional approaches from Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa. The course includes a group data project and two multiple-choice exams.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Have an overall awareness of relevant topics for philanthropy
- Have an overall awareness of emerging and global philanthropy trends
- Recognize the key contributions of data-driven approaches to philanthropy
- Acquire some of the needed skills to perform data-science in the context of philanthropy

UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG

– Chair for Management of Public, Private and Nonprofit Organizations

Trust-based Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Silke Boenigk; Lena Höpken
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course combines academic theories from philanthropy and nonprofit research with engagement in real-world funding relationships. Students examine dilemmas in trust-based philanthropy and apply theoretical frameworks to analyse power, trust, and accountability in philanthropic practice.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding dilemmas in trust-based philanthropy
- Application of philanthropy and nonprofit management theories
- Critical analysis of power, trust, and accountability in funding relationships
- Development of analytical, communication, and reflection skills

Fundraising Management

Lecturer Name(s): Tom Neukirchen
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course introduces core fundraising strategies in nonprofit organisations, including donor engagement, major gifts, online fundraising, and event-based campaigns. Students apply ethical principles and management practices to practical fundraising challenges through case studies and group work.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding fundraising strategies across multiple channels
- Application of ethical principles in fundraising practice
- Development of donor engagement and relationship-building skills
- Analysis of fundraising performance and organisational readiness

Philanthropy in a Comparative European Perspective

Lecturer Name(s): Pamala Wiepking; Silke Boenigk; Kathi Badertscher; SJ Weber
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course offers a comparative perspective on philanthropy and nonprofit sectors in Europe and the United States. Students analyse cross-national differences in philanthropic practices through lectures, field visits, and interaction with scholars, policymakers, and nonprofit organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Comparative understanding of philanthropic and nonprofit systems
- Analysis of volunteering, fundraising, and giving practices across countries
- Application of nonprofit management concepts in international contexts
- Development of analytical and intercultural skills

Public and Nonprofit Management

Lecturer Name(s): Silke Boenigk; Rick Vogel
Education Level and Type: Master / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course provides an overview of current research topics in nonprofit management. It addresses leadership, human resource management, volunteering, marketing, fundraising, and finance, enabling students to assess management and reform needs in nonprofit organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding core concepts and research topics in nonprofit management
- Insight into leadership, HRM, volunteering, marketing, fundraising, and finance
- Ability to identify management and reform needs in nonprofit organisations
- Development of analytical and research skills

Public and Nonprofit Management I

Lecturer Name(s): Silke Boenigk; Rick Vogel
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course introduces management practices in nonprofit organisations, with a focus on philanthropic activities such as giving, volunteering, and fundraising. Students analyse nonprofit management challenges through case studies and group work.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding structures and management of nonprofit organisations
- Recognition of limits of private-sector management approaches
- Identification of management and reform needs in philanthropic contexts
- Development of analytical and problem-solving skills

Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Public and Nonprofit Management

Lecturer Name(s): Silke Boenigk; Rick Vogel; Alexander Rödl
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This course examines nonprofit management in associations, foundations, and cultural organisations. Through case studies, field visits, and guest lectures, students explore volunteer management, philanthropic engagement, and sector-specific challenges.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding management practices across nonprofit organisational forms
- Application of philanthropic strategies in sector-specific contexts
- Development of volunteer management and community engagement skills
- Analysis of practical nonprofit challenges

Service Learning

Lecturer Name(s): Lena Höpken; Sarah Fenske; SJ Weber
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

This service learning course combines nonprofit management theory with practical engagement in civil society organisations. Students work on real-world nonprofit challenges while developing professional, collaborative, and reflective skills.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Application of nonprofit management theories in practice
- Analysis of real-world nonprofit challenges
- Development of teamwork and professional skills
- Reflection on societal impact and organisational outcomes

UNIVERSITY OF KENT – Centre for Philanthropy

Master in Philanthropic Studies

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level: Executive Education / Master / Programme
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This master's programme provides advanced education in philanthropy and fundraising. It examines the role of philanthropy in society, donor behaviour, fundraising practice, leadership, and governance, combining academic perspectives with applied analysis in UK and international contexts. The programme is designed for professionals and includes taught modules and a dissertation.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding theoretical and practical dimensions of philanthropy and fundraising
- Ability to critically analyse philanthropic practice and donor engagement
- Insight into leadership, governance, and strategy in the philanthropic sector
- Application of academic research and reflective analysis to professional practice

Fundamentals of Philanthropy

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course provides an overview of philanthropy as a historical and contemporary social phenomenon. It examines motivations for philanthropic action, relationships between philanthropy, state, and market, and debates about effectiveness and legitimacy. The course introduces key theories, ideologies, and policy contexts shaping philanthropic practice.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding historical and contemporary forms of philanthropy
- Knowledge of theoretical and philosophical explanations of philanthropic behaviour
- Ability to analyse the relationship between philanthropy, state, and market
- Critical engagement with debates on impact, legitimacy, and contested practices
- Insight into legal, fiscal, and cultural contexts influencing philanthropy

The Art and Science of Fundraising

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course examines fundraising as a central practice within civil society. It explores evidence-based fundraising techniques and strategies alongside research on the skills, attributes, and organisational contexts that support effective fundraising. The course addresses ethical considerations, equity, diversity and inclusion, and the development of fundraising strategy and organisational culture.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding evidence-based fundraising techniques and strategies
- Insight into the role of fundraisers and fundraising within civil society
- Ability to analyse ethical, equity, and inclusion challenges in fundraising
- Development of strategic approaches to embedding fundraising within organisations
- Critical understanding of how fundraising shapes philanthropic and nonprofit practice

Advising Donors

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course examines philanthropy advising within the broader philanthropic ecosystem. It explores how individual and institutional donors are supported in making effective, ethical, and strategic decisions, addressing structural factors such as tax and legal frameworks alongside strategic approaches including theory of change, goal-setting, and impact assessment.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding the philanthropic ecosystem and roles involved in donor advising
- Insight into structural aspects of philanthropy, including tax, legal, and wealth management considerations
- Ability to apply strategic approaches to donor support and decision-making
- Critical engagement with debates on impact measurement and outcome orientation
- Understanding the role of philanthropy advising in supporting private and institutional donors

Leading Social Action

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course examines social and collective action within the philanthropic sector. It introduces theories of social action and social change and explores the role of philanthropy in enabling societal transformation. Students combine theoretical analysis with practical project work, addressing ethical challenges, leadership, and collaboration in complex social change initiatives.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Advanced understanding of theories of social action and social change
- Ability to critically assess the role of philanthropy in enabling social change
- Development of leadership and management skills through applied project work
- Capacity to address ethical challenges in social action initiatives
- Skills in project management and collaboration with diverse stakeholders

Global Philanthropy: Comparative Perspectives

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course examines philanthropy from a global and comparative perspective. It critically explores giving traditions and philanthropic practices across different regions, addressing debates on decolonising philanthropy discourse. Through comparative case studies, students analyse how political, cultural, and socio-economic contexts shape philanthropic behaviour and global philanthropic organisations.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Comparative understanding of global philanthropic traditions and practices
- Critical analysis of Western-dominated philanthropy discourse
- Ability to assess how political, cultural, and socio-economic contexts shape giving
- Application of academic theory and empirical research to global philanthropy
- Insight into the role of global philanthropic organisations in addressing global challenges

Research Methods for Philanthropic Studies

Lecturer Name(s): Karl Wilding; Fiona Fairbairn
Education Level and Type: Executive Education / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course introduces social research methods used to study fundraising and philanthropy. It develops students' ability to design, interpret, and critically assess research, addressing philosophical approaches, ethical considerations, and methodological choices relevant to understanding trends, policy, and practice in philanthropy.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Understanding social research methods applied to philanthropy and fundraising
- Ability to design and critique research projects and research questions
- Insight into philosophical and ethical foundations of social research
- Skills in data collection and analysis, including interviews and secondary analysis
- Capacity to critically assess research reports and academic literature

Dissertation in Philanthropic Studies

Lecturer Name(s): Supervised by academic staff of the Centre for Philanthropy
Education Level and Type: Executive Education/Master/Dissertation
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This module enables students to undertake an independent, in-depth research project on a philanthropy-related topic of their choice. Building on prior methodological training, students design and conduct rigorous and ethical research, critically review relevant literature, analyse data, and develop a dissertation under close academic supervision.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Ability to design and conduct independent research in philanthropy
- Advanced skills in literature review, data collection, and data analysis
- Application of ethical and methodological standards in research practice
- Development of critical thinking and scholarly writing skills
- Capacity to formulate research-informed conclusions relevant to policy and practice

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

– The Gradel Institute of Charity, New College

Social Innovation: Strategy for Nonprofit Organisations

Lecturer Name(s): Peter Frumkin
Education Level and Type: Certificate
Language: English
Format: Online

Short Description:

This course introduces tools and frameworks for developing social innovation in nonprofit organisations and social enterprises. Participants learn how to define, design, pilot, and scale innovative initiatives through applied project work, focusing on strategic decision-making across different phases of social innovation.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills

- Recognition and description of tools across four phases of social innovation
- Ability to compare and distinguish innovation tools and their purposes
- Selection of appropriate tools for different project stages
- Development of integrated strategies for nonprofit and social enterprise innovation

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

– Centre for the Study of Philanthropy and Public Good

Philanthropy & Philanthropreneurs: The Business of Doing Good

Lecturer Name: Tobias Jung
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Master / Course
Language: English
Format: In-person

Short description:

This course critically examines philanthropy and philanthropic organisations, focusing on motivations, roles, and societal impact. It explores philanthrocapitalism, the intersections of private, public, and nonprofit spheres, and how business models and philanthropic practices contribute to social change in different global contexts.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills

- Critical engagement with philanthropy theory and practice
- Understanding changing roles of philanthropy in contemporary society
- Assessment of intersections between private, public, and nonprofit sectors
- Reflection on impact, effectiveness, and legitimacy of philanthropy
- Development of analytical, communication, and problem-solving skills

UTRECHT UNIVERSITY

– Faculty of Humanities

The Art of Asking

Lecturer Name(s): Helleke van den Braber
Education Level and Type: Executive / Certificate
Language: Dutch
Format: Hybrid

Short Description:

In this academic course, professionals working in the cultural sector explore what they can do to strengthen their position toward their private donors. The course offers an exploration of both the practice and theory of arts funding, and hands-on understanding of what is exchanged between recipients of private support and their donors.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Research-based insights into arts funding practice and theory
- Strategic philanthropy, fundraising ethics, protecting core values
- Knowledge of societal debates on private support for the arts; ability to take a well-considered position

WU

– Vienna University of Economics and Business

Nonprofit Organizations & Civil Society

Lecturer Name(s): Michaela Neumayr
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

In this course, students analyse the interactions between non-profits and their stakeholders in order to obtain the resources needed to fulfil their mission (e.g. financial resources, volunteer work, information, legitimacy). Approximately one third of the course deals with philanthropy, i.e. the relevance of donations for non-profit organisations, motivations for private individual giving, fundraising principles, charitable foundations, cause-related marketing and impact investing.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Collect, organise, and analyse information for informed decisions and well-founded arguments
- Reflect on nonprofit management decisions from stakeholder perspectives
- Transfer insights from content, cases, and role-plays to practice and policy debates
- Formulate and defend viewpoints on nonprofit management and philanthropy

Philanthropy and Impact Investing

Lecturer Names: Reinhard Millner & Peter Vandor
Education Level and Type: Bachelor / Course
Language: German
Format: In-person

Short Description:

The course "Philanthropy and Impact Investing" explores different forms of impact-oriented investments and financing instruments. In addition to examining philanthropy and impact investing from the perspective of capital providers, the course also addresses the demand side of capital (e.g., social start-ups, social businesses) and the importance of impact orientation and impact measurement in these financing relationships.

Key Learnings & Acquired Skills:

- Familiarity with and critical reflection on academic and practical concepts in philanthropy and impact investing
- Knowledge of financing models and approaches from various sectors
- Group work on selected thematic areas and coherent presentation
- Team-based development and presentation of an academic working paper

ABOUT ERNOP

The European Research Network On Philanthropy aims to advance, coordinate and promote research on philanthropy in Europe. We eagerly invite you to join our community of philanthropy researchers and practitioners with in a research interest. Today, ERNOP represents around 50 organisations, and about 300 individuals from 30 European countries.

At the biennial ERNOP conference, researchers studying philanthropy present their state-of-art research, exchange ideas and meet colleagues and practitioners. The conference aims to contribute to a European philanthropy researcher identity. ERNOP is proud that this conference is considered to be the leading conference on European philanthropy research. We are pleased that ERNOP members represent European philanthropy research in other international conferences as ISTR and ARNOVA, and are part of the editorial board of major journals as NVSQ, Voluntas, Journal of Philanthropy and VSR.

ERNOP represents the study of philanthropy in Europe in discussions among European policymakers in the public and philanthropy sector and has developed warm working relationships with European professional associations as Philea, Impact Europe, EFA and CEV.

As research community we want to contribute to society. Every year, members of ERNOP publish their work in a broad range of academic journals and present their work on conferences. ERNOP members make their work available for all working in, with and for philanthropy through the ERNOP Science and Society Series and through the ERNOP Research Notes.

More information can be found at www.ernop.eu.