



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

SUMMER SCHOOL

Exploring rural transitions

JUNE 29TH - JULY 26TH

TARGET

EU and Non-EU students (University degree or Bachelor degree, Master degree) as well as PhD students.

For students who want to specialize in European Rural Development and to live a practical experience

LECTURERS

Professors from the University of Pisa

Professors from the University of Florence

Professors from European Universities

Professionals of Public Institutions

Cooperatives and Associations

Officials of NGO's.

Meetings/interviews with special informants and stakeholders



OBJECTIVES

Rural areas and agriculture are facing transition processes that will impact on the human wellbeing on a world scale. Professionals in rural areas need to perform new knowledge, competencies and skills. The course aims to increase awareness and competencies about transition in rural areas and in agriculture and to prepare students in order to design future promising transitions pathways able to meet medium and long-term societal and consumer demands. The Course would provide students engaged with agricultural and rural studies an immersive experience on the Tuscan territory.

PROGRAMM STRUCTURE

The course provides students with theoretical knowledge, methodological tools, and direct comprehension in order to better face local processes of rural transition and to compare international visions on rural development in their diversity of approaches and applications.

Provided skills: Developed analytical and conceptual views; got familiar with concepts and tools of qualitative and participatory research; establish new connections and strategic visions in order to better understand and promote transition in rural areas; group working; to use visual methods.

The programme focuses on the following issues:

- Transition in rural areas and in agriculture
- Local resources and territorial components
- Multifunctional agriculture, concepts and implications
- Changing role of food in rural development (Typical food and consumers)
- Synergies in rural development
- The role of communication in building sustainable rural development and alternative pathways of change in rural areas

COURSE ORGANIZATION

- 4 weeks residential of intensive course in a Tuscany rural village (from Monday to Friday):
 - 2 weeks of theoretical and methodological background
 - 2 weeks of field works - collecting, elaborating and reporting data
- Overall load of 250 hours of activities (lectures, workshops and field trips) corresponding to 10 ECTS

The Course is organized in 3 parts:

1. Reviewing Rural Development Studies
2. Research Methodologies for local development
3. Exploring rural transition (case-studying)

Methods: Series of workshops that will introduce and reflect on methodology for fact-finding activity, analysis and reporting. A special focus will be given to visual methods as means for investigation, documentation and reporting. The instruments that will be used:

- Interviewing methodologies
- Visual activities
- Group facilitation
- Data elaboration



REGISTRATION FEES

1.500 euros covering participation, traveling and meals during field trips, a social event

Participants are asked to submit a CV before May 31st, 2013 and will be notified of acceptance by June 7th, 2013. Payment and final registration will be possible after acceptance notification

Accommodation is guaranteed at an affordable price

CONTACTS

Programm coordinators

Prof. Francesco Di Iacovo, Dept. of Veterinary Science, tel. +39 050 2216918 e-mail francovo@vet.unipi.it

Prof. Gianluca Brunori, Dept. of Agricultural Sciences, Food and Agro-Environmental, tel. +39 050 2218979 e-mail gbrunori@agr.unipi.it

Dr. Paola Scarpellini, Dept. of Veterinary Science, tel. +39 050 2216920 e-mail paola.scarpellini@vet.unipi.it

The Course is part of the International MSc in Rural Development IMRD - EU Atlantis in the framework of Erasmus Mundus Programm

<http://www.transatlantis.ugent.be>