



STAFF WEEK 2026

July 08-10

Visit Tübingen

Division III – Academic Affairs
Department 1 Planning and Development of Degree Programs





Designing Competence-Oriented Joint Programmes

08.07-10.07.2026, Neue Aula

Objectives of the Staff Week:

This staff week aims to empower academic and administrative staff across the CIVIS Alliance to collaboratively develop and implement competence-oriented curricula. This approach, which places the student at the centre of the learning process, is essential for equipping graduates with the necessary skills to create innovative solutions to complex real-world problems. In an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world, students need subject-specific knowledge as well as interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary skills to shape the future. Joint programmes play a key role in fostering these competencies. Competence-based degree programmes enable students to adopt different perspectives, collaborate across disciplinary boundaries, and develop innovative solutions by applying the skills learned in their curricula. By working together with colleagues from different universities, participants will discuss practical strategies and exchange their best practices. By the end of the week, participants will be able to deploy student-centred curriculum development that prepares graduates for both the demands of the labour market and the responsibilities of active citizenship in a global society.

Expected results of the Staff Week:

During the Staff Week, participants will:

- Learn how degree programmes are developed @University of Tübingen.
- Explore the principles and frameworks of competence-oriented curriculum design
- Learn how to align learning outcomes, teaching methods, and assessment strategies with defined competences.
- Reflect on the role of Future Skills – such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, digital literacy, and self-efficacy – in modern study programs.
- Share inspiring practices and challenges in transforming traditional curricula into competence-based formats within the CIVIS network.
- Work collaboratively on strategies to implement competence orientation in joint programmes.
- Strengthen cooperation within the CIVIS Alliance to foster joint curriculum development and mobility formats grounded in competence orientation.



DAY 1: Focus - Competence-Orientation and Developing Joint Programmes

The First Day focuses on competence-oriented Education, Future Skills and the development of Joint Programmes. Participants explore learning outcomes to creating high-quality international Joint Programmes.

The Number and focus of the Workshops depends on the number of participants (Choose one of three)*

9:30	Opening	Registration and Welcome-Coffee		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
10:00 to 10:45	Welcome	Welcome and Staff Week Overview	Christian/ Martina	Neue Aula, HS 9
10:45 to 11:15	Coffee	<i>Coffee Break</i>		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
11:15 to 12:00	Impulse	From Curriculum Design to Ecosystem Thinking: Developing Degree Programmes @ University Tübingen	Christian	Neue Aula, HS 9
12:00 to 13:00	Lunch	<i>Lunch Break</i>		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
13:15 to 15:45	Workshop*	Co-Creating Learning Outcomes for Joint Programmes: Experiences from Practice	Jannik/ Lorena	Neue Aula, R 236
13:15 to 15:45	Workshop*	Joint Programmes, Shared Goals, Shared Futures: Designing Future Skills as Learning Journeys	Manuel/ Daniel	Neue Aula, R 225
13:15 to 15:45	Workshop*	Designing Future Skills in Joint Programmes: Chances and Challenges	Iris/ Martina	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
14:00 to 14:30	Coffee	<i>Coffee Break</i>		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
15:15 to 15:45	Coffee	<i>Coffee Break</i>		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
15:45 to 16:45	Ending	Reflection on the Day	Lorena/ Daniel	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
From 18:30 until open End	Networking	Informal Networking Event (Neckawa)		(Neckawa)



DAY 2: Focus - Designing Study Tracks in Joint Programmes: The Role of competence-oriented Teaching Methods and Assessments

The Second Day focuses on designing Study Tracks within Joint Programmes, with special attention to alignment between learning outcomes, teaching methods and assessments. Participants explore how competence-oriented learning and future skills can help to align Joint Programmes while discussing the Challenges and Chances related to designing Study Tracks in Joint Programmes.

The Number and focus of the Think Tanks depends on the number of participants, (All four, rotation after 45 min.)*

9:30	Opening	Welcome-Coffee and Framing the Day		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
10:00 to 10:45	Think Tank*	Joint Programmes, Shared Learning Outcomes: How to create Alignment across Study Tracks?	Manuel/Martina	Neue Aula, R 236
	Think Tank*	Designing competence-based Study Tracks Together: Chances and Challenges	Christian	Alte Botanik, Konf. I
10:45 to 11:15	Coffee	Coffee Break		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
11:15 to 12:00	Think Tank*	Strengthening Civic Competencies over Service-Learning Methodology	Iris/Daniel	Neue Aula, R 225
	Think Tank*	Rethinking Assessment: Competence-Oriented Formats in Joint Programmes	Jannik/Lorena	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
12:00 to 13:00	Lunch	Lunch Break		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
13:15 to 14:00	Think Tank*	Joint Programmes, Shared Learning Outcomes: How to create Alignment across Study Tracks?	Manuel/Martina	Neue Aula, R 236
	Think Tank*	Designing competence-based Study Tracks Together: Chances and Challenges	Christian	Alte Botanik, Konf. I
14:00 to 14:30	Coffee	Coffee Break		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
14:30 to 15:15	Think Tank*	Strengthening Civic Competencies over Service-Learning Methodology	Iris/Daniel	Neue Aula, R 225
	Think Tank*	Rethinking Assessment: Competence-Oriented Formats in Joint Programmes	Jannik/Lorena	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
15:15 to 15:45	Coffee	Coffee Break		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
15:45 to 16:45	Ending	Reflection on the Day	Lorena/Daniel	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
18:30	End of the Day	Time on your own for Networking (optional: 20:00 Stocherkahnfahren, 20 Seats)		Dock, Jugendherberge



DAY 3: Focus - Designing Competence-Oriented Joint Programmes:
What Have We Learned for Tomorrow?

The Third Day reflects on Key Insights gained throughout the Staff Week and looks ahead to future perspectives for competence-oriented Joint Programmes. Participants discuss lessons learned, remaining challenges, and common ideas for strengthening international collaboration and competence-oriented programme design on the way to a European Degree.

9:30	Opening	Welcome-Coffee and Framing the Day		Neue Aula, kleiner Senat
10:00 to 11:00	Session	Towards a European Degree: Where Are We Now? Developing Competences for a Common European Higher Education Area	Alexandru	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
11:00 to 12:00	Session	Recap: What did we learn and how can we use it tomorrow?	Lorena/ Daniel	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
12:00 to 12:30	Ending	Farewell	Christian/ Martina	Neue Aula, Großer Senat
12:30	Ending	End and flight home		



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Dr. Christian Zettl

Head of Degree Programme Development with extensive experience in shaping higher education curricula. He will share key learnings from the SMARTT-project and explore how strategic planning and cross-institutional collaboration can drive the development of innovative, competence-based curricula that meet both academic standards and societal needs.



Martina Lorenz

Deputy Head of Degree Programme Development with a key role in steering major curricular reforms at her institution. She has a profound expertise in managing complex reform processes — from structural redesigns to competence-based curriculum overhauls. She will provide insights into the challenges and success factors of large-scale degree programme reforms and share practical strategies for sustainable implementation.



Lorena Popović

As an expert in Curriculum Design, she has a thorough knowledge of international programmes, with a focus on developing future-oriented collaborative profiles in degree programmes. She will address how to align profile development with competence-based learning, and how to involve academic staff in shaping these processes.



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Manuel Halseband

As an Expert in higher education pedagogy at University Tübingen, he brings extensive experience in didactic planning processes in higher education with a focus on interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary teaching across partner institutions. He will provide practical insights into competence-oriented curriculum design and will share his expertise on how aligning learning outcomes, teaching and learning activities, and assessment formats according to the principles of constructive alignment in joint programmes.



Dr. Iris-Niki Nikolopoulos

Head of Transdisciplinary Course Program & Civic Engagement at University Tübingen. Her work focuses on fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, societal impact, and innovative teaching formats across institutional and international boundaries. She will share expertise in transversal competences, such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, digital literacy, and self-efficacy. She brings valuable expertise on integrating civic engagement and transdisciplinary approaches and strengthening cooperation and competence-oriented education across partner universities.



Assist. Prof. Alexandru Cartis, Ph.D.

Head of the Education Unit at CIVIS Alliance and Professor at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Bucharest. He brings extensive expertise in structural development at alliance level, with a strong focus on competence-based joint programme design. He will share insights into competence-based cocreation across partner institutions and present the latest developments regarding the European Degree Label, highlighting current policy directions and practical implications for joint programmes



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Jannik Küchen

As an Expert in Curriculum Development at University Tübingen, he brings a strong background in co-creation with a focus on international programme design. His work centers on aligning learning outcomes with transnational academic standards and fostering cross-institutional collaboration between European higher education partners.



Dr. Daniel Beathalter

As an Expert in Curriculum Development, he brings extensive experience in designing international programmes with a focus on multiple degree options. He has a deep expertise in the collaborative co-creation process with academic staff from initial concept to accreditation. He will share insights into aligning international collaboration with competence-based programme design.



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