



European Summer Academy – 2024 project

The European Summer Academy, enabled by the German Haniel Foundation, brings together MA students from five different European business schools and universities: the University of St. Gallen, the Copenhagen Business School, Leuphana University Lüneburg, Ca'Foscari University of Venice, and Bristol University.

The Academy will have its base in Berlin. Thanks to the generous support of the Haniel Foundation, we can offer free accommodation.

Course content

2024's European Summer Academy will investigate the organizational and entrepreneurial conditions, consequences, potentials and politics of 'care'. In times of environmental and health crises, how we think and organize care – as caring for e.g. others, neighbourhoods, environments, and oneself – is of utmost concern. How, then, is care understood and practiced? What kind of organizational forms and processes does it take? What social and political struggles mark the work of caring? How do these forms and processes take place within the urban landscape; what are its sites, actors and atmospheres?

The Summer Academy is dedicated to understanding and exploring the organizational and entrepreneurial conditions, concerns and demands of practicing care. To do so, we will apprehend and explore the city of Berlin as empirical site of organizing these conditions, concerns and demands: from everyday practices of care to sites of self-care, from protest movements to feminist initiatives that seek to reorganize the labour of caring, from locations of collective caring to globalized networks, from bottom-up initiatives to the bureaucratic enforcement of care.

Joined by researchers of all participating universities as well as guests, we will jointly work towards an exhibition of the students' findings on care as a phenomenon that organizes urban life, and that is constantly organized and re-organized.

Course structure

After an (online) introduction/preparation session, the course is organized in five parts and runs over 5 full days, which consist of thematic discussions, guest lectures, preparatory methodological exercise, on-site visits and fieldwork, project analysis and putting together an exhibit of findings.

Through mixed groups made up from participants from the participating universities, the learning process centres on the fieldwork on or around care-based projects and sites in the urban context of Berlin, which are reflected conceptually and personally by respectively drawing upon the preparatory readings and group reflections.

Part 1 consists of exploring histories and concepts of care.

Part 2 consists of fieldwork and empirical research based on specific organizational initiatives, processes and milieus around care in the city of Berlin.

In **Part 3**, we develop empirical findings through interweaving observations with findings from literature research.

Part 4 is for preparing and executing the exhibition.

Part 5 is setting up the exhibition and presenting the findings.

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Objective

The European Summer Academy 2024 has as learning goals:

- 1) understanding the conditions, practices and affects of care as organizational and entrepreneurial phenomenon;
- 2) conducting a field study of 'organizing care' in the urban context of Berlin: identifying and reflecting 'site-specific' organizational challenges and responses based on fieldwork;
- 3) learning to think visually, spatially and performatively in devising and realizing an exhibition experience based on the fieldwork's findings.