OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2017

The Finnish University Partnership for International Development – UniPID is hereby inviting interested course coordinators or lecturers to submit course proposals for the UniPID Virtual Studies programme.

Background

The aim of the UniPID Virtual Studies programme is to offer equal opportunities for students to learn about global development and sustainability. The programme deepens collaboration between universities and draws on the specific areas of expertise related to global challenges at different universities in Finland. The UniPID Virtual Studies allow students (including exchange students) in UniPID member universities to access online courses offered by other UniPID universities. The students can take individual courses or complete a virtual minor. The courses are a collaborative effort to avoid duplication and meet the common, increasing demand and need for courses relating to sustainable development, international development studies and global responsibility. The current courses produced and provided by UniPID universities are listed online, at http://www.unipid.fi/en/courses/

The 2017 Call for Proposals

The 2017 Call for Proposals aims to fund courses that contribute to and expand the themes and overall offering of UniPID's Virtual Studies programme.

The following sums will be available, for establishing new courses and for updating existing UniPID courses:

- **New *introductory course* for the UniPID Minor Programme**
  The course should give an overview of the field of development studies, sustainable development and global challenges, covering central themes and important concepts.

  A sum of up to €6500 is available from UniPID for the creation and provision of the introductory virtual course. The grantee should be prepared to offer the course during three consecutive fall semesters, beginning Fall semester 2018 and ending Fall semester 2020.

- **New UniPID course**
  A sum of up to €6500 per course is available from UniPID for the creation and provision of a new virtual course. In this call priority will be given for course proposals that address socio-cultural themes relating to development and global challenges.

- **Updating Existing UniPID course**
  A sum of up to €4500 per course is available from UniPID for the updating of a course that has been offered as a UniPID virtual course for at least 3 times in the past.

Conditions of Funding

UniPID funding for Virtual Studies is awarded under certain conditions:
- Applicants should be based in one of UniPID's member universities[1];
- Proposed courses can either be new courses or existing courses that will be modified to fit the UniPID Virtual Studies blueprint e.g. by translation into English or transformation into online format;
- Courses must be added to the member university's syllabus;
- All virtual courses should be worth 5 ECTS credits and aimed at master's level students;
- Course must be offered as a UniPID virtual course at least three times;
- The courses funded under this call should aim to offer the course for the first time during the year 2018;
- Funding is awarded based on the budget submitted as part of the proposal and paid in total upon signature of the UniPID Virtual Course Contract.

Formulating a Proposal

A UniPID course proposal should clearly outline and include the following components:
- ✓ course content,
- ✓ objectives,
- ✓ expected learning outcomes,
- ✓ learning methods,
- ✓ materials,
- ✓ plan for the assessment of student performance and giving feedback,
- ✓ call-specific requirements,
- ✓ a preliminary course timetable, and
- ✓ a budget for the course .

Assessment of the eligible proposals will be based on the following elements:

1. **Course Content**
   - ✓ Importance within minor programme
   - ✓ Timeliness of topic
   - ✓ Overlap with other UniPID courses, e.g. filling existing thematic gaps

2. **Online Pedagogy**
   - ✓ How well the course structure is organized, and how well it facilitates collaborative learning and communication among students
   - ✓ How well the course meets the needs of students with different learning styles

---

[1] Aalto University, Åbo Akademi University, University of Eastern Finland, University of Helsinki, University of Jyväskylä, University of Lapland, University of Oulu, University of Tampere, University of Turku

✓ Use of open online resources

3. Proposal
   ✓ Academic quality of teaching team
   ✓ The clarity of the articulated objectives, expected learning outcomes, and student responsibilities
   ✓ Earlier virtual study or virtual pedagogy experience
   ✓ Call-specific requirements

More information about coordinating a UniPID course can be found in the *UniPID Virtual Studies Course Coordinator's Guide*.

All proposals should be submitted via the specific form for UniPID Virtual Studies Proposals 2017. The form can be found at https://goo.gl/forms/DHgTwH9yc6AcTIbo2.

The deadline for proposals is 31 August 2017 at 18:00. The UniPID Board makes the final decisions on the funding.

For further information, contact

Osku Haapasaari
UniPID / University of Jyväskylä
Tel. +358 40 805 4327
email: osku.haapasaari@jyu.fi
www.unipid.fi