



# HEROES

## Blended Intensive Programme on Sustainable Tourism & Crowdsourced Data



### “Leveraging Crowdsourced Data for Sustainable Tourism in the Bavarian Forest National Park.”

**Dates for virtual component:** 16, 19 and 24 March, 21 April 2026

**Dates for Physical mobility:** 13 to 17 April

**Location:** Feriendorf Finsterau, Buchwaldstraße 49, 94151 Mauth

**Application deadline for international students:** 1 February 2026

**Credit value:** 3 ECTS

**Attendance:** 50 hours

**Self-study:** ~25 hours

**Certificate:** Upon confirmation of 90% of attendance and completion of all assignments *including cultural activities.*

Learning objectives:

- ✓ **Participants understand the fundamental principles of Design Thinking** and can apply them to structure real-world challenges from problem definition to prototyping.
- ✓ **They can identify and interpret user needs**, using basic research and empathy tools such as interviews, observations, and empathy mapping.
- ✓ **They develop creative ideas and simple prototypes** and iteratively test and refine these solutions based on feedback.
- ✓ **They collaborate effectively in international, interdisciplinary, and multi-campus teams**, integrating diverse perspectives into shared project outcomes.
- ✓ **They communicate their results clearly and appropriately for different audiences**, reflect on their working process, and derive personal and professional learning outcomes.

### *Schedule for Physical mobility*

Time	Monday 13.04	Tuesday 14.04	Wednesday 15.04	Thursday 16.04	Friday 17.04
8:30		Full-day excursion into the National Park	Structuring field data from Day 1 and 2	Introduction to prototyping techniques	Final presentation of prototypes and concepts
9:00	Departure from Passau		Define phase: clustering, identifying patterns, 5C method	First prototypes development	Peer and lecturer feedback
	Welcome session + Introduction to the Bavarian Forest National Park		Formulation of a clear problem statement for each team	Internal testing, feedback sessions, and iteration	Reflection on the full Design Thinking process - Closing Session
	First empathize exercises				
12:30	Lunch break		Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break
13:30	Onsite programme overview + team organisation		Introduction to ideation methods	Preparing prototypes for the final presentation	Transfer back to Passau
	Reflection + preparation for the next day		First Ideation rounds		