COURSE OUTLINE

1. Study programme information

1.1 Higher education institution	West University of Timișoara
1.2 Faculty	Chemistry, Biology, Geography
1.3 Department	Geography
1.4 Field of study	Geography
1.5 Level of study	Master
1.6 Study programme / Qualification	Geographic Information Systems

2. Course information

2.1 Course title				**Volunteer activities**			
2.2 Lecture instructor				Lector dr. Ionuţ Zisu			
2.3 Seminar / laboratory instructor				Lector dr. Ionuţ Zisu			
2.4 Study year	II	2.5 Semester	I	2.6 Examination type	Col.	2.7 Course type	DC

3. Estimated study time (number of hours per semester)

3.1 Attendance hours per week	1	out of which: 3.2 lecture	-	3.3. seminar / laboratory	1
3.4 Attendance hours per semester	14	out of which: 3.5 lecture	-	3.6 seminar / laboratory	1
Distribution of the allocated amount of time					**hours**
Study of literature, course handbook and personal notes					
Supplementary documentation at library or using electronic repositories/ on the field					
Preparing for seminars / laboratories, homework, reports etc.					
Tutoring					
Exams					
Other activities: volunteer internship in an NGO of your choice, from the WUT Register of Volunteering.					

3.7 Total number of hours of individual study	**46**
3.8 Total number of hours per semester	**60**
3.9 Number of credits (ECTS)	**2**

4. Prerequisites (if it is the case)

4.1 curriculum	•
4.2 competences	•

5. Requirements (if it is the case)

5.1 to carry out the internship	• The existence of an Institutional Protocol between the WUT and the NGOs concerned • The presence of NGOs in the WUT Register of Volunteering • Development by NGOs of projects in which WUT volunteers can be involved

6. Specific acquired competences

Professional competences	According to the specifics of each faculty.
Transversal competences	1. **Communication in the mother tongue** - the ability to express and interpret concepts, thoughts, feelings, facts and opinions, both orally and in writing (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and to interact linguistically in an appropriate and creative way in a complete series of cultural and social contexts; 2. **Communication in foreign languages** - which, in addition to the main dimensions of communication skills in the mother tongue, also involves the skills of mediation and intercultural understanding. The level of knowledge depends on several factors and the ability to listen, speak, read and write; 3. **Mathematical competences and basic skills in science and technology** - the ability to develop and apply mathematical thinking to solve different problems in everyday situations, with an emphasis on process, activity and knowledge. Basic competences in science and technology refer to the mastery, use and application of knowledge and methodologies to explain the world around. These involve an understanding of the changes caused by human activity and the responsibility of each individual as a citizen; 4. **Digital competences** - confident and critical use of information society technology (IST) and therefore basic skills about information and communication technology (ICT); 5. **"Learning to learn"** - the ability of man to pursue and organize his own learning, either individually or in groups, according to their own needs, as well as awareness of methods and opportunities; 6. **Social and civic competences** - personal, interpersonal and intercultural competences and all forms of behavior that allow each person to participate efficiently and constructively in social and professional life. These skills are related to personal and social well-being. It is essential to understand the codes of conduct and habits of the different environments in which people work. Civic competences, in particular knowledge of social and political concepts and structures (democracy, justice, equality, citizenship and civil rights), make possible the active and democratic participation of the people; 7. **Initiative spirit and entrepreneurship** - the ability to turn ideas into action. This sense involves creativity, innovation and risk-taking, as well as the ability to plan and manage projects to achieve goals. The person is aware of the context of his own activity and is able to capitalize on the opportunities that arise. This is the foundation to acquire more specialized skills and knowledge, which are needed by those who establish or contribute to a social or commercial activity. This should include raising awareness of ethical values and promoting good governance; 8. **Cultural awareness and expression** - appreciation of the importance of cultural expression of ideas, experiences and emotions through a series of ways (music, theater, literature and visual arts).

7. Course objectives (as resulting from the specific competences acquired)

7.1 General objective	• acquiring soft skills in non-formal and informal education contexts through voluntary involvement in activities within non-governmental organizations. • increasing employability by developing competences compatible with the labor market. • improving the quality of volunteer work or as a preliminary step to carrying out more complex volunteering activities.
7.2 Specific objectives	**1. Knowledge and understanding** (knowledge and proper use of discipline-specific notions) • Understanding the relevance of volunteer activity in the context of the profile of the studied specialization; • Highlighting the particularities of different non-governmental organizations in society as a whole; • Understanding the operation mode of public non-governmental organizations in Romania from the perspective of legal regulations in force.
	2. Explanation and interpretation (explanation and interpretation of ideas, projects, processes, as well as the theoretical and practical contents of the discipline) • Explaining the role of volunteer activities from the perspective of current relevance;

	• Interpretation of NGO activities from a critical and comparative perspective; • Critical reporting to life and its real problems following involvement in volunteer activities.
	3. Instrumental-applicative (design, management and evaluation of specific practical activities; use of some methods, techniques and tools for investigation and application) • Participation in concrete volunteering activities according to the activity profile of the NGO and their own interests; • Elaboration of a Volunteer Portfolio.
	4. Attitudinal (manifestation of a positive and responsible attitude towards the scientific field / cultivation of a scientific environment focused on democratic values and relations / promotion of a system of cultural, moral and civic values / optimal and creative capitalization of one's own potential in scientific activities / involvement in institutional development and in promoting scientific innovations / engaging in partnership with other persons-institutions with similar responsibilities / participating in one's own professional development) • Stimulating interest in volunteering, citizenship and social responsibility.

8. Content

Recommended literature: **A. Modele de bune practică sau proiecte relevante derulate la nivel european şi care au vizat componente semnificative centrate pe recunoaşterea competenţelor dezvoltate prin voluntariat:** 1. **Competenţe-cheie pentru învăţarea pe tot parcursul vieţii, Recommendation 2006/962/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 on key competences for lifelong learning [Official Journal L 394 of 30.12.2006]** 2. Lista de competenţe cheie, comune mai multor ocupaţii, aprobată prin Hotărârea CNFPA nr. 86/24.06.2008 3. Competenţe cheie pentru o lume în curs de schimbare, Proiect de raport de activitate comun pentru anul 2010 al Consiliului şi Comisiei privind punerea în aplicare a programului de lucru ”Educaţie şi formare profesională 2010” preluat integral în Jurnalul Oficial al Uniunii Europene 2010/C 117/01. 5.Validation of Prior Learning(VPL) – metodă promovată de Movisie International (Netherlands center for social development) 6. Vskills – abordare promovatăde Volunteer Development Scotland (www.vds.org.uk) 7. Volunteer Card (Ehrenamtskarte) – serviciu promovat de guvernul federal al Regiunii Rhine-Westphalia (Germania) http://www.ehrensache.nrw.de/ 8. Rubric model – model de autoevaluare a competențelor 9. Bilanţul de competenţe(Kompetenzbilanz aus Freiwilligen-Engagement) - model dezvoltat în Germania - http://www.dji.de/5_kompetenznachweis/KB_Kompetenzbilanz_281206.pdf 10. Service Learning – metodă promovată în Slovacia în cadrul Universității Matej Bel 11. Experience, Learning, Description– intrument pentru recunoașterea învățării nonfomale și informale în Suedia - http://eldkompetens.se 12. Certificate Generator (Nachweisgenerator)– serviciu dezvoltat online în Germania - http://www.nachweisgenerator.de/ 13. Komprax – Competences for practice, proiect promovat de Iuventa Slovacia (www.iuventa.sk) 14. Benevol – proiect implementat în Elveția 15. Nefix – proiect implementat în Slovenia 16. Resurse online:www.europass.ro, www.youthpass.eu, www.tvet.ro, www.ise.ro 17. ECTS Users’ Guide - http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/european-skills-passport/diploma-

supplement/info-for-necs/ects-user-guide/pdf.pdf
18. GHID PENTRU RECUNOAŞTEREA COMPETENŢELOR DOBÂNDITE PRIN VOLUNTARIAT - http://www.voluntariat.ro/download/Ghid_pt_recunoasterea_competentelor_dobandite_prin_voluntariat.pdf

B. Rapoarte relevante în domeniul voluntariatului și educației nonformale:
1.Sunshine Report on Non-Formal Education, publicat de European Youth Forum http://www.youthforum.org/OLD/?q=en/node/162
2. "Volunteering Infrastructure in Europe
- http://www.alliance-network.eu/uploads/Alliance%20documents/Other%20documents%20Volunteering%20and%20Youth/CEV_Volunteering%20infrastructure.pdf
3. Raportul conferinței ''Bridges for recognition''(January 2005) www.salto-youth.net
4. Raportul ''European inventory on validation of non formal and informal learning'' (publicat de Cedefop).
5. European portfolio for youth leaders, raport publicat de Consiliul Europei

9. Correlations between the content of the course and the requirements of the professional field and relevant employers

- The content of the discipline is in accordance with the European Union's concerns to encourage volunteer activities and the recognition of the competences acquired through them.

10. Evaluation

Activity type	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Weight in the final mark
10.4 Lecture	Carrying out the volunteer internship. Writing the volunteer portfolio	Volunteer portfolio	70%
10.5 Seminar / laboratory		Evaluation report from the NGO	30%

Date of completion
15.09.2025

Course holder
Lector dr. Ionuţ ZISU

Date of approval in the department

Head of department
Lector dr. Sebastian JUCU