

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

**BLENDED INTENSIVE
PROGRAMME**

Digital Transformation in Higher Education

JUNE 22 - 26, 2026

UNIVERSITÉ CÔTE D'AZUR
CAMPUS SAINT JEAN D'ANGÉLY
5 RUE DU 22ÈME BCA 06300 NICE FRANCE.

Organisers:



Event Patrons:



Official Label:

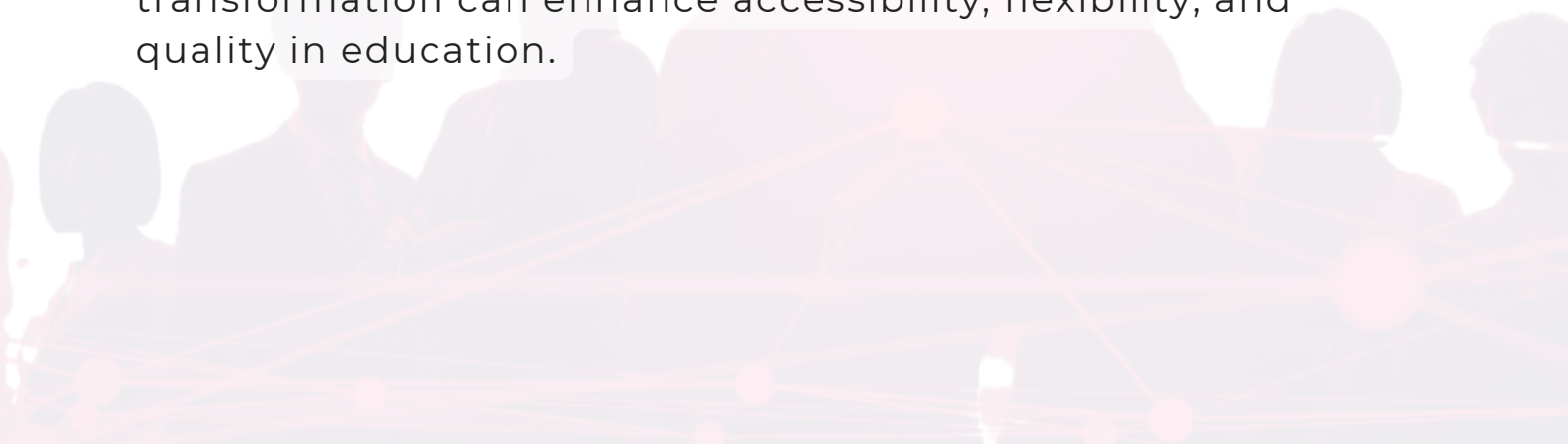


ABOUT THIS EVENT

As part of International Digital Week 2026, Université Côte d'Azur is hosting a Blended Intensive Program (BIP) focused on Digital Transformation in Higher Education. Tailored for academic and administrative staff, this program offers a unique platform to engage with peers from across Europe in addressing the evolving digital landscape of higher education.

This BIP aims to support institutional staff in navigating and shaping digital innovation within their universities. Through a mix of theoretical insights, peer exchange, and hands-on collaboration, participants will understand major trends and technologies impacting higher education institutions today. Additionally, this will allow an opportunity to share strategies and best practices for implementing digital change in teaching, administration, and governance - building institutional readiness for a digitally enhanced, inclusive, and sustainable future.

This track explores how digital technologies are reshaping teaching, learning, and academic management within higher education institutions. Sessions will address emerging tools, pedagogical innovation, digital competences for staff and students, and strategies for integrating technology into curricula. The discussions will highlight how digital transformation can enhance accessibility, flexibility, and quality in education.



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

MONDAY- JUNE 22

10:00 - 10:15	Welcome Address
10:15 - 11:15	Digital Transformation and Course Interoperability in International Higher Education (Ida Velthoven, EUF) Navigating digital transformation and internationalization in a world of uncertainty Giorgio Marinoni (International Association of Universities - IAU) Driving digital transformation in HE: from building digital and AI capabilities to getting the 'blend' right and ensuring digital equity Sarah Knight (JISC)
11:15 - 11:30	<i>Coffee break & Group Photo</i>
11:30 - 12:00	EdTech Companies Pitch Session
12:00 - 13:00	Poster Session 1
13:00 - 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:30 - 15:30	Round table: Universities as Engines of Digital Entrepreneurship and Future Skills for a Global Workforce
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Coffee break & Group Photo</i>
16:00 - 17:00	Round table: AI-Powered Education: Global Opportunities, Societal Risks, & Ethical Implications
17:00 - 18:00	Networking cocktail

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 24

10:00 - 11:00	Poster Session 2
11:00 - 12:00	Poster Session 3
12:00 - 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 - 16:30	Africa Session (Event in French)

TUESDAY - JUNE 23

10:00 - 11:00	Round table "The AI-Augmented Classroom: Rethinking Teaching, Assessment, & Learning"
11:00 - 11:30	EdTech Salon
11:30 - 13:00	Round table "Digital Equity and Access: Ensuring No Learner Is Left Behind"
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 - 15:00	Simultaneous Workshops (check Programme Details for more information)
15:00 - 16:00	Simultaneous Workshops (check Programme Details for more information)

THURSDAY - JUNE 25

10:00 - 11:30	How to promote human development & critical thinking through GAI (Martha Castellanos, Fundación Universitaria del Área Andina)
11:30 - 13:00	Talk
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 - 15:00	Simultaneous Workshops (check Programme Details for more information)
15:00 - 16:00	Simultaneous Workshops (check Programme Details for more information)

FRIDAY - JUNE 26

10:00 - 12:30	Closure Session - IDW Evaluation & LinkedIn Group
---------------	---

JUNE 22 - MONDAY

WELCOME SESSION

Host | Université Côte d'Azur

Time | 10:00 - 10:15

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Time | 10:15 - 11:15

Digital Transformation and Course Interoperability in International Higher Education

Speaker | Ida Velthoven, *Policy and Research Officer at the European University Foundation (EUF)*

Navigating digital transformation and internationalization in a world of uncertainty

Speakers | Giorgi Marinoni, *Manager of Higher Education and Internationalization at the International Association of Universities (IAU)*

Driving digital transformation in HE: from building digital and AI capabilities to getting the 'blend' right and ensuring digital equity

Speaker | Sarah Knight, *Director of Digital Transformation in Higher Education, JISC*

GROUP PHOTO & COFFEE BREAK

Time | 11:15 - 11:30

EDTECH COMPANIES PITCH SESSION

Time | 11:30 - 12:00

POSTER SESSION "DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION"

Time | 12:00 - 13:00

LUNCH BREAK

Time | 13:00 - 14:30

JUNE 22 - MONDAY

ROUND TABLE "UNIVERSITIES AS ENGINES OF DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FUTURE SKILLS FOR A GLOBAL WORKFORCE"

Moderator | Julia Reinhard, *Innovation hub Manager at Haaga Helia University of Applied Sciences*

Time | 14:30 - 15:30

This round table explores how universities can act as global hubs for digital entrepreneurship by developing cross-campus incubators that connect students worldwide and support digital-first startups with international reach. It will also address the challenges student entrepreneurs face while highlighting how institutions can foster collaboration, innovation, and global readiness.

GROUP PHOTO & COFFEE BREAK

Time | 15:30 - 16:00

ROUND TABLE "AI-POWERED EDUCATION: GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES, SOCIETAL RISKS, AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS"


Moderator | Apostolos Altiparmakis, *Project Manager and Co-founder of Syncnify*

Time | 16:00 - 17:00

This round table examines how AI is reshaping global student competitiveness and redefining the skills needed to succeed in an interconnected world. It will explore the balance between innovation and equity, questioning who benefits first from AI-driven education and who risks being left behind. The discussion will also address government readiness and the need for cross-border standards to ensure the responsible, inclusive, and coordinated use of AI in education.

NETWORKING COCKTAIL

Time | 17:00 - 18:00



JUNE 23 - TUESDAY

ROUND TABLE “THE AI-AUGMENTED CLASSROOM: RETHINKING TEACHING, ASSESSMENT, & LEARNING”

Moderator | Kitte Marttinen, *Project Director at Haaga Helia University of Applied Sciences*

Time | 10:00 - 11:00

This round table explores how AI is transforming the classroom by reshaping instructional design toward more personalized, interactive learning experiences. It will examine how assessment can evolve to emphasize critical thinking and authentic tasks in AI-enabled environments, while addressing challenges around academic integrity and the responsible use of generative tools. The discussion will also reflect on the changing role of educators as facilitators and ethical guides, the importance of evaluating AI tools effectively, and the need to address equity risks while equipping students with the skills to use AI critically and responsibly.

EDTECH SALON

Time | 11:30 - 13:00

Location | Parvis St. Jean d'Angely

Explore innovative tools, share practices, and discuss the impact of emerging technologies on teaching and learning.

ROUND TABLE “DIGITAL EQUITY AND ACCESS: ENSURING NO LEARNER IS LEFT BEHIND”

Time | 11:30 - 13:00

This round table explores the key challenges of digital equity and access in education, examining how socio-economic factors shape opportunities for learners in different contexts. It will highlight models that support low-resource environments, while discussing the responsibilities of institutions and governments in addressing structural barriers. The conversation will also consider how equity intersects with AI and the crucial role of digital literacy in ensuring that no learner is left behind.

LUNCH BREAK

Time | 13:00 - 14:30

JUNE 23 - TUESDAY

SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS - 14:00 - 15:00

MAKING SENSE OF AI IN HIGHER EDUCATION: BALANCING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Facilitator | Trine Jensen, Manager, *HE & Digital Transformation, Publication and Events at International Association of Universities - IAU*

In this workshop, participants will work in groups to identify key opportunities for the use of artificial intelligence in higher education, alongside the main challenges it presents. Participants will then categorize these opportunities and challenges and assess which can be addressed at the institutional level and which lie beyond the direct control of individual institutions. The aim of the workshop is to structure and clarify the different layers of challenges and opportunities, and to build shared awareness of where higher education institutions can play a meaningful and strategic role in shaping the future of higher education with AI.

DEVELOPING DIGITAL AND AI CAPABILITIES OF YOUR STAFF AND STUDENTS

Facilitator | Mike Cameron, *Senior Consultant in the Digital Capabilities Team at Jisc*

During the session, Jisc will share a discovery tool, an interactive platform designed to assess and enhance the digital capabilities of both students and education professionals through structured question sets and personalised feedback. By providing data-driven dashboards and strategic insights, the tool enables institutions to translate individual results into meaningful policy changes and organizational transformation. Aligned with frameworks like DigComp, it is widely embedded in HR processes and professional development strategies to foster inclusive, future-ready teaching and learning.

TAKING LEARNING BEYOND BLENDED: INTEGRATING PLACE, PLATFORM AND PACE IN CURRICULUM DESIGN - PART 1

Facilitator | Sarah Knight, *Director of digital transformation & Elizabeth Newall, senior sector specialist digital transformation and Simon Birkett, senior sector specialist digital transformation, Jisc*

This workshop explores findings from a 17-university pilot of Jisc resources designed to enhance blended learning through curriculum and organizational support. It examines how design teams balance flexibility and coherence to address students' evolving relationships with digital and physical learning spaces. Participants will review practical tools and research-driven strategies to create more equitable, engaging, and integrated learning pathways.

FROM OUTDATED TO INTEROPERABLE: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF COURSE CATALOGUES

Facilitator | Ida Velthoven, *Policy and Research Officer at the European University Foundation (EUF)*

AI AS THINKING PARTNER: A HANDS-ON FRAMEWORK

Facilitator | Nadia Sansone, *Associated Professor, Unitelma Sapienza University of Rome*

This workshop introduces rAIsE (Reflect-Ask-Interpret-Source-Evolve), a framework that transforms AI use into reflective dialogue. Participants will engage hands-on with AI and explore how structured interaction enhances critical thinking. They will also adapt the framework to their own context and leave with practical tools. No prior AI experience required.

BUILDING A SECURE INTERNAL AI SYSTEM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION: ARCHITECTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND HUMAN-IN-THE-LOOP DESIGN

Facilitator | Nguyen Thanh Tuan, *University of Danang*

This workshop explores the challenges of using generative AI in higher education, focusing on data protection and academic integrity. It introduces a framework for building secure internal AI systems based on privacy, governance, and human oversight. Participants will examine practical use cases in teaching and research, as well as emerging privacy-preserving technologies. The session offers a roadmap for responsible and secure AI adoption in university settings.

JUNE 23 - TUESDAY

SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS - 15:00 - 16:00

TAKING LEARNING BEYOND BLENDED: INTEGRATING PLACE, PLATFORM AND PACE IN CURRICULUM DESIGN - PART 2

Facilitator | Sarah Knight, *Director of digital transformation & Elizabeth Newall, Senior sector specialist digital transformation and Simon Birkett, senior sector specialist digital transformation, Jisc*

Continuation of workshop - This workshop explores findings from a 17-university pilot of Jisc resources designed to enhance blended learning through curriculum and organizational support. It examines how design teams balance flexibility and coherence to address students' evolving relationships with digital and physical learning spaces. Participants will review practical tools and research-driven strategies to create more equitable, engaging, and integrated learning pathways.

ETHICAL USE OF AI IN UNIVERSITIES

Facilitator | Jochen Dickel, *Scientific Director at Fachhochschule des Mittelstands (FHM)*

The Erasmus+ project AI-ERIT develops ethically grounded approaches to AI competency-building in higher education. This workshop presents key measures such as training programmes, tutorials, and audit guidelines, and reflects on their implementation. Participants will gain insights into opportunities and challenges of integrating AI literacy into research, teaching, and administration, with a focus on responsible and reflective use of AI.

FROM CODING TO CREATING: WHAT SOFTWARE ENGINEERING CAN TEACH US ABOUT THE FUTURE OF LEARNING

Facilitator | Bowen Du, *Director of Center for Academic Development and Global Cooperation at School of Computer Science and Technology at University of Tongji*

This workshop explores how digital tools from software engineering can be applied across disciplines. It presents an ecosystem combining digital textbooks, knowledge graphs, and AI for personalized learning. Participants will examine how these tools support feedback, learning paths, and collaborative activities. The session offers practical insights into using low-code platforms and AI to enhance teaching and learning.

DEVELOPMENT OF A HYBRID COURSE TO OPERATIONALISE A DISSERTATION/RESEARCH PROJECT AT MASTER'S LEVEL.

Facilitator | Aude Deville, *Professor at Université Côte d'Azur*

This workshop presents a course developed to support master's thesis production with the integration of AI. It highlights how structured activities guide students in research, data analysis, and academic writing. The session emphasizes ethical AI use through reflective practices and self-assessment. Participants will gain insights into designing courses that balance AI use with academic integrity.

JUNE 24 - WEDNESDAY

POSTER SESSION "DIGITAL INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP"

Time | 10:00 - 11:00

POSTER SESSION "INTERNATIONALISATION FOR SOCIETY"

Time | 11:00 - 12:00

LUNCH BREAK

Time | 13:00 - 14:00

AFRICA SESSION

Language: French

Time | 14:00 - 16:30

Place | Amphitheatre O. St Jean d'Angely.

LA TRANSFORMATION NUMÉRIQUE EN AFRIQUE: ENJEUX, PERSPECTIVES ET PISTES DE COLLABORATION EU-AFRIQUE

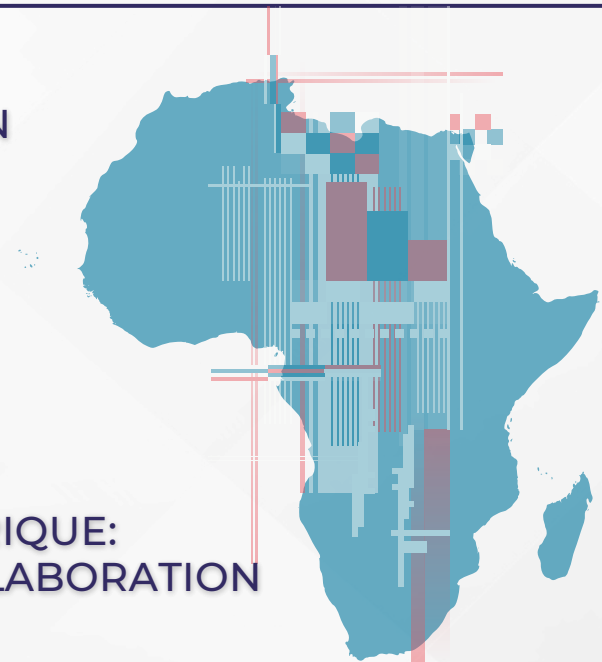
Time | 14:00 - 15:00

COFFEE BREAK

Time | 15:00 - 15:30

JEUNESSE, ENGAGEMENT CITOYEN ET ENJEUX NUMÉRIQUE

Time | 15:30 - 16:30



JUNE 25 - THURSDAY

HOW TO PROMOTE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH GAI

Facilitator | Martha Castellanos, *Academic Vice-Rector at Fundación Universitaria del Área Andina*

Time | 10:00 - 11:30

TALK DELIVERED BY ADEL BENYOUSSEF

Facilitator | Adel Benyoussef, *Professor of Economics at Université Côte d'Azur*

Time | 11:30 - 13:00

LUNCH BREAK

Time | 13:00 - 14:00

JUNE 25 - THURSDAY

SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS - 14:00 - 15:00

WORKSHOP DELIVERED BY ADEL BENYOUSSEF

Facilitator | Adel Benyoussef, *Professor of Economics at Université Côte d'Azur*

DIGITAL GAMIFICATION AS A TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED APPROACH TO GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY LEARNING IN EFL HIGHER EDUCATION

Facilitator | Sofiane Kadem, *Senior Lecturer at École Normale Supérieure d'Oran*

This workshop presents the IVSC (Intercultural Virtual Societal Challenge) as a scalable and inclusive model of virtual collaboration across global contexts. Participants will explore how students engage in digital upskilling through teamwork, research, and media production. The session highlights challenge-based learning and inclusive design to address real-world societal issues. It emphasises the social, pedagogical, and ethical dimensions of digital transformation. Participants will gain insights into building sustainable, globally connected learning experiences.

AI IN EDUCATION : NAVIGATING CHALLENGES, GAPS AND BIASES - PART 1

Facilitator | Laura Franco Ramirez, *Project Manager at Université Côte d'Azur*

WORKSHOP DELIVERED BY KITTE MARTTINEN

Facilitator | Kitte Marttinen, *Project Director at Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences*

LEVERAGING AI FOR TECHNICAL SKILLS FOR EDUCATORS - PART 1

Facilitator | Robin Couture-Matte, *Professor, Université TÉLUQ*

This workshop explores how AI can support educators in designing and implementing their own tools using accessible programming languages. Participants will engage in hands-on activities with AI-assisted coding (Python, HTML), language processing, and data analysis. They will learn to generate functional code, analyze student work at scale, and create meaningful visualizations. No prior programming experience is required, and participants will leave with practical tools for teaching and research.

ASSESSMENT IN THE AGE OF AI: SHARING INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIES & POLICIES

Facilitators | Hanna Tani & Heli Lankinen, *Senior Lecturers, LMS Product Owners, Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences*

This workshop explores how AI is reshaping assessment strategies in higher education and challenging traditional methods. Participants will exchange experiences on institutional responses, including policy changes and new assessment formats. The session will highlight approaches focused on authentic, competency-based, and process-oriented evaluation. Participants will leave with practical ideas to adapt their own assessment practices in line with

JUNE 25 - THURSDAY

SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS - 15:00 - 16:00

TEACHING FOR THE FUTURE: INTEGRATING AI-ERA TRANSVERSAL SKILLS INTO YOUR TEACHING

Facilitators | Heli Lankinen & Hanna Tani, *Senior Lecturers, LMS Product Owners, Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences*

This workshop explores how to integrate AI-era transversal skills into subject-specific teaching. Participants will discuss practical ways to embed critical thinking, digital literacy, and responsible AI use into existing courses. Through collaborative activities, they will share examples and develop innovative approaches. Participants will leave with actionable ideas to align their teaching with future-ready competencies.

BEYOND TECHNOLOGY: THE ROLE OF TEACHERS' GROWTH MINDSET IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Facilitator | Linda Dali Youcef, *Lecturer at Ecole Normale Supérieure d'Oran*

This workshop explores the role of teachers' mindsets in supporting digital transformation in higher education. It highlights how a growth mindset fosters adaptability, innovation, and engagement with digital tools. Participants will experience the rAlse framework to transform AI use into reflective and meaningful dialogue. The session offers practical strategies to develop critical AI literacy and innovative teaching practices.

AI IN EDUCATION : NAVIGATING CHALLENGES, GAPS AND BIASES - PART 2

Facilitator | Laura Franco Ramirez, *Project Manager at Université Côte d'Azur*

HUMAN-CENTRED LEARNING: DESIGNING DIGITAL LEARNING ALIGNED WITH COGNITIVE ARCHITECTURE

Facilitator | Rubina Danilova, *Operation Manager Lecturer at American University of Armenia*

This workshop explores how to design digital learning based on how the human brain actually learns. Participants will engage with principles such as cognitive load, memory, attention, and motivation. The session focuses on improving engagement and retention through better structured digital activities and tools. Participants will gain practical strategies to enhance attention, learning, and overall digital learning experiences.

LEVERAGING AI FOR TECHNICAL SKILLS FOR EDUCATORS - PART 2

Facilitator | Robin Couture-Matte, *Professor, Université TÉLUQ*

This workshop explores how AI can support educators in designing and implementing their own tools using accessible programming languages. Participants will engage in hands-on activities with AI-assisted coding (Python, HTML), language processing, and data analysis. They will learn to generate functional code, analyze student work at scale, and create meaningful visualizations. No prior programming experience is required, and participants will leave with practical tools for teaching and research.

JUNE 25 - FRIDAY

10:00 - 12:30

CLOSURE SESSION - IDW EVALUATION & LINKEDIN GROUP

As we conclude our International Digital Week, this final session serves as our collaborative debrief. We encourage you to give us your feedback and we thank you for your dedicated participation.