United College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Summer Programme at Utrecht University, the Netherlands
(www.utrechtsummerschool.nl)

Programme Features:
This 2-week summer course is organised by Utrecht University (Summer School), the Netherlands, for students of the College. Students can choose to attend one of the following courses:

(1) European Cultures and Identities
(2) European Politics and Economy
(3) Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Europe: Business Models and Financing Models
(4) Essentials of Coaching

Students are required to attend lectures and related activities in the mornings. Seminars, tutorials, presentation sessions and simulation games will be arranged in the afternoons to enable students to have free exchange of ideas.

Duration: 4 - 19 July 2026 (Tentative)

Fees: The fee for Courses (1) and (2) is HK$14,500* per student, for Course (3) it is HK$19,000*, and for Course (4) it is HK$15,500*. This includes academic programme and course materials, compulsory excursions, and accommodation at the student dormitory in Utrecht. Fees such as round-trip air-tickets local transport, visa application, meals, and students' daily expenses are not included. ***Please note that students are responsible for purchasing their own round-trip air tickets. For more information, please refer to the FAQ.***

Accommodation: All students will be housed in the student hostels of Utrecht University.

Eligibility: United College students of all disciplines and years are eligible to apply.

Quota:

50 students for (1), (2) and (3) (with an even distribution of students across each course to ensure a balanced mix and a better learning experience.)**

10 students for (4)**

Scholarships: Upon satisfactory completion of all the programme requirements, students will be eligible for consideration of the United College GOAL Scholarships supported by the College Endowment Fund. The maximum amount per student is HK$7,500 for Course (1) and (2) ,HK$8,500 for Course (3) and HK$7,800 for Course (4).

Credit Transfer: Upon satisfactory completion of the course requirements, students may apply for exemption from the College compulsory General Education Course, GEUC4011 "Senior Seminar." Please note that this exemption is **ONLY** applicable to GEUC4011 and is subject to the College's approval.

Objectives & Content:

(1) European Cultures and Identities
The course will shed some light on the motives for integration as well as the obstacles on the way to European unity. Students will engage with topics such as the emergence and construction of national identities, national identity versus European identity, the cultural heritage of Europe, and the processes of globalisation and transnational collaboration. Lectures will focus on the history, social and economic structures, culture, and current political and social debates within the wider European community. In the light of these last topics we will organise two field trips.

(2) European Politics and Economy
This course offers an introduction to the political landscape of Europe. Central to the course is the European Union (EU), a political partnership which has become a major player in global politics. The aim of this course is to introduce the participants to the historical, economic and political aspects of the nations within the European Community. The course will study both the development towards a united Europe and the enduring diversity of national cultures within the Union. Students will experience an intensive two-week programme with lectures and seminar groups. Together with other students they are expected to work on group presentations and assignments.***This course requires basic knowledge about European politics and history.***

(3) Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Europe: Business Models and Financing Models
This course focuses on the value of knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship in European business and will familiarise students with the interplay between science and technology and the commercialisation of knowledge and design. Building business models from an in-depth understanding of the gap between innovation and business in Europe. Students will explore innovation challenges faced by European companies, gain insights into how governments and business cultures in the European Union influence innovation, and discover the traits of innovative ventures and people. This course is open to students from all disciplines though students with some training in Business and Finance would be more advantageous.

** Conversion Rate: EUR 1 :HK$ 9.50. (for reference only). Exact programme fees and schedule will be confirmed later.*
*** The final decision of acceptance is subject to Utrecht University. You are required to submit a separate application to Utrecht University for their consideration.*

(4) Essentials of Coaching

Offered by the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Science, this course focuses on the basics of coaching in various settings, designed for those eager to kickstart their learning journey as a coach. It covers essential coaching skills through hands-on learning, making it suitable for anyone curious about coaching, no prior experience required. Throughout the course, students will develop skills to recognise behaviour patterns, facilitate positive change, and fostering problem-solving abilities. The course aims to create meaningful connections and inspire others. Key modules include mastering coaching fundamentals, advanced communication skills, strategic goal setting and transformative perspectives and insights, etc. This is a highly interactive requires students to be very engaged in class.

Programme Requirements / Assessment:

All participants are required to:

- attend all the pre-departure lectures, briefings, meetings organised by the College to prepare themselves for the summer Programme;
- attend all the lectures, seminars, presentation and compulsory excursions organised by the Utrecht University, the Netherlands;
- complete all the assignments (oral presentation and written assignments);
- assist the College in the promotion of cultural exchange activities;
- share with other students their experience in Utrecht;
- Complete the post-trip questionnaire and submit a written report to the College after the Programme. The College reserves the right to edit the report for publication purposes.

Application & Deadline:

Please apply on-line here . The deadline for application is 14 January 2026 (14:00). Late applications will not be considered.

Enquiries: goal.uc@cuhk.edu.hk / 3943-7580 / 3943-1947 Dean of Students' Office, United College

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