

Call for titles (lectures / seminars / workshops)

First summer school

of the CEEPUS network *Interreligious Dialogue in Contemporary Perspective*

Religions and Transhumanistic Challenges

June 29-July 4, 2026

Faculty of Philosophy and Religious Studies (University of Zagreb)

Jordanovac 110, HR-10 000 Zagreb

Basic technical info

Summer school *Religions and Transhumanistic Challenges* will take place from June 29 till July 4, 2026, at the Faculty of Philosophy and Religious Studies of University of Zagreb.

It will gather students and teachers from the partner institutions within the CEEPUS network *Interreligious Dialogue in Contemporary Context*, as the active participants of the event. Lectures, seminars and workshops will be provided by teachers from the partner institutions of the network, with the participation of several students from each institution of the network's scope (numbers depending on their overall interest). We have confirmed 6 daily allowances/scholarships for a maximum of 30 students, 4 doctoral students and 12 professors, who will be situated in one of the student dormitories of the University of Zagreb.

Topic description

The question of transhumanism has occupied almost every pore of the contemporary scientific world, as well of our everyday lives, and the recent document of the International Theological Commission, *Quo vadis, Humanitas?* (2026), highlights transhumanism as one of the central challenges of contemporary thought.

Stirring up various religious studies and (bio)ethical questions, issues and guidelines, above other relevant ones – we are putting our research focus to the aspirations to overcome death and eliminate physical deficient and limits, immanently raising and challenges of dehumanization in the form of the denial of the soul and spirituality is what penetrates as a critical note from the religious domains of various denominations.

Through this summer school, we will strive to discuss, critically explore and determine the relationship and mutual influence between transhumanistic and religious positions and directions. Approaching this task through various disciplinary/subtopic perspectives and angles. Focusing mainly on the ones of religious studies, philosophical, theological, bioethical, historical and other relevant cultural backgrounds.

Expected aims of the summer school are:

- exchange of knowledge and experiential insights related to the relationship towards transhumanism within religions and interreligious perspectives and practices present in Central and Eastern Europe (with an emphasis on Christian denominations, Islam and Judaism)
- to evaluate the relationship of particular religions and interreligious denominations towards the irresponsible application of technology and transhumanism toward the human being
- investigate the relationship of transhumanist representatives towards religious and spiritual practices
- student involvement and orientation within the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary teams and groups
- interreligious research dialogue and networking
- initiation of international publications and projects during and after school

All of the proposed we find as a highly important knowledge for humanistic (re)orientation in the era of high technology and the following humanistic challenges, critically approaching the potential reductive instrumentalization of man and humanity within the transhumanistic paradigms and scenarios.

Through this summer school we are emphasizing and promoting the overall relevance and need for religions and religiosity, finally humanism, within the "digital fields" of the contemporary and of the future world.

Suggested thematic areas include (but are not limited to):

- Compatibility/animosity between religious and transhumanistic paradigms and aims
- Place of religion and spirituality in the transhumanistic scenarios and paradigms

- Religions between humanism, transhumanism and posthumanism
- Human nature and human enhancement in the “transhumanistic laboratories”
- Human and machine relations – religious study, bioethics and other cultural perspectives
- Religious studies in the technological societies
- Interreligious dialogue in the digital society
- Impact of religiosity to the issue of life digitalization
- Can transhumanism learn us to be humans?
- Transhumanism as a kind of scientific/materialistic “religious movement”?

Deadline for sending your proposals/submissions

We warmly invite you – and your colleagues from institutions/departments – to contribute as teachers by sending:

- Your name and institution.
- Proposed title(s)
- The format of participation (lecture / seminar / workshop / seminar+workshop)

Please **send your proposals (directly to your local CEEPUS coordinators) by Sunday, March 29.**

Participants should **submit their applications in the CEEPUS system no later than April 5.**

Luka, Janeš, Assistant Profesor