

Summer school **Practicing
RESILIENCE -
Preparing for
RECOVERY**

Šibenik, **Croatia**
June 12 - June 21



ORGANIZERS





The program of the summer school *Practicing Resilience – Preparing for Recovery* will take place in Šibenik from June 12 until June 21, 2026 in the Elementari Catholic School in Šibenik, Croatia. The summer school is intended for 40 students from different Catholic universities interested in learning more about resilience and hope and acquiring new experiences of people and institutions affected by war and destruction. This year's summer school will be held in partnership between the Catholic University of Croatia, the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, University of Notre Dame from the United States, the Ukrainian Catholic University from Ukraine, and the Catholic Universities Partnership. Professors and renowned lecturers from numerous Catholic universities will be gathered together to provide students with a unique learning experience.

The program emphasizes education with 13 hours of lectures, 7 hours of workshops, 6.5 hours of the capstone project, more than 30 hours of reading materials, and more than 13 hours of cultural activities that

will approach resilience and hope from a specific perspective. Teaching topics will be covered through interactive teaching methods using different media for students to be actively involved in the teaching process. Due to its holistic approach, the program also consists of spiritual, social, cultural, and sports activities. Reading materials will be sent by the organizer before the beginning of summer school. The working language of the summer school is English.

At the end of the program, 3 ECTS credits will be awarded to all participants who will attend classes and actively participate in other activities. The participants of the summer school should actively participate in daily prayer and are encouraged to participate in the Holy Mass in English every morning which will be celebrated during the program.

All participants will have the opportunity to enjoy time at the seashore and to get to know each other. The rich cultural heritage of the city of Šibenik enables various cultural activities as part of the program: from visits to the local islands to the city wall, to a visit to the sights and churches. Sports activities will be organized in the sports ground where volleyball, soccer, basketball, badminton, and other sports can be played.



FRIDAY 12 JULY



- 13:00 - 17:00** Arrivals and registration
- 16:30 - 17:30** Lunch
- 18:00 - 19:30** Opening ceremony of the Summer School
- 20:30 - 22:00** Evening gathering/Board games



SATURDAY 13 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 10:30	Lecture 1: Margarida Mano: "Can the Future Be Understood?" - Understanding the Future
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop 1: Margarida Mano
11:30 - 13:00	Lecture 2: Margarida Mano: "Can We Shape the Future We Want?" - Designing Futures
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 19:30	Free time
19:30 - 20:30	Dinner
20:30 - 22:00	Free time

SUNDAY 14 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 13:00	Local trip (Šibenik Sightseeing, Cathedral of St. Jakov's)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 19:30	Free time
19:30 - 20:30	Dinner
20:30 - 22:00	Free time



MONDAY 15 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 10:30	Lecture 3: Francesca Giordano: Applying a Resilience Framework in Helping Relationships: what, why, and how?
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop 2: Francesca Giordano & Lana Batinić
11:30 - 13:00	Lecture 4: Francesca Giordano: Building Resilience in Children, Families, and Communities in Contexts of Adversity and Instability: The PEARLS Principles
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Lecture 5: Lana Batinić: Resilience framework: important factors and processes
15:30 - 19:00	Free time
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
20:00 - 20:30	Capstone project 1
20:30 - 20:45	Evening prayer
20:45 - 22:00	Evening gathering/Board games

TUESDAY 16 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 10:30	Lecture 6: Lana Batinić: Attachment and collective trauma
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop 3: Lana Batinić & Chiara Ottolenghi
11:30 - 13:00	Lecture 7: Chiara Ottolenghi: Business Model Innovation: Risks and Benefits
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Lecture 8: Chiara Ottolenghi: Social and Hybrid Businesses: Development Strategy and Impact
15:30 - 19:00	Free time
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
20:00 - 20:30	Capstone project 2
20:30 - 20:45	Evening prayer
20:45 - 22:00	Evening gathering/Board games

WEDNESDAY 17 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 10:30	Lecture 9: John Deak: Sigmund Freud's Vienna and the Case of Anna O. The Importance of the Talking Cure
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop 4: John Deak & Annie Seul
11:30 - 13:00	Lecture 10: John Deak: Hayden White and Narrativity: History as a Talking Cure
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Lecture 11: Annie Seul: Voltaire, Un philosophe engagé
15:30 - 19:00	Free time
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
20:00 - 20:30	Capstone project 3
20:30 - 20:45	Evening prayer
20:45 - 22:00	Evening gathering/Board games

THURSDAY 18 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 13:00	Local trip (Island of Prvić)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 19:00	Local trip (Island of Prvić)
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
20:00 - 20:30	Capstone project 4
20:30 - 20:45	Evening prayer
20:45 - 22:00	Quiz night



FRIDAY 19 JULY



07:30 - 08:00	Optional: Holy Mass
08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 10:30	Lecture 12: Annie Seul: Strength off the Field
10:30 - 11:30	Workshop 5: Annie Seul & John Deak
11:30 - 13:00	Capstone project finalisation
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Capstone project finalisation
15:00 - 19:00	Capstone project presentation + Closing ceremony
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner
20:00 - 22:00	Evening gathering/Board games

SATURDAY 20 JULY



08:00 - 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 - 11:00	Visit to the Veterans Center
11:00 - 13:30	Local trip (St. Nicholas Fortress)
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 19:30	Free time
19:30 - 20:30	Dinner
20:30 - 22:00	Evening gathering

SUNDAY 21 JULY



08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:00

Departures

List of Lectures



Professor **Margarida Mano**
Catholic University of Portugal

Margarida Mano holds a PhD in Management from the University of Southampton and is Vice-Rector at the Portuguese Catholic University. She has served as Portugal's Minister of Education and Science and as a Member of Parliament, focusing on education, science, culture, youth, and sport.

Her work spans academic leadership and international initiatives in transparency and institutional development. Her teaching and research focus on strategic foresight, scenario planning, and governance innovation, especially in complex, uncertain environments, alongside delivering executive education and developing multidisciplinary learning materials.



Associate Professor **John Deak**
University of Notre Dame

John Deak is Associate Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, where he has taught since 2009. He earned his PhD from the University of Chicago and has held visiting positions in Germany.

His research focuses on the Habsburg Empire, state formation, and the First World War. He is the author of *Forging a Multinational State* (2015), winner of

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the Austrian State Prize for History, and has published widely on imperial governance, nationalism, and state collapse. He has also contributed to major collaborative research projects, including work with RAND on great power competition.

Deak has received numerous fellowships and awards, including a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, and is active in scholarly service and international academic networks.



Assistant Professor **Lana Batinić**
Catholic University of Croatia

Lana Batinić is assistant professor at the Department of Psychology at Catholic University of Croatia (CUC). She has earned her doctoral degree in psychology in 2019 at the University of Zagreb. She has collaborated on several projects regarding family dynamics and quality of life. Most recently she has participated in the CUC's project about Croatian war veterans' health and their family well-being. Her area of scientific and professional interest is social psychology and specifically close relations. Lana is one of the co-founders of the Family Center of the Catholic University of Croatia and she was awarded for promoting catholic identity of CUC for the academic year 2023./2024.

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Assistant Professor **Francesca Giordano**
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

Francesca Giordano is Assistant Professor of Developmental and Educational Psychology at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan. She is a psychologist and psychotherapist, with expertise in developmental processes and education.

Her teaching and research focus on developmental psychology, with particular attention to resilience, youth mental health, and educational contexts. She contributes to international teaching initiatives and has developed training programmes aimed at supporting students' personal growth and well-being in complex environments.

In addition to her academic work, she collaborates on international projects and mobility programmes, engaging with multidisciplinary teams and contributing to cross-cultural research and education in psychology.



Chiara Ottolenghi PhD
LUMSA University

Chiara Ottolenghi is a postdoctoral researcher in Marketing and Management at LUMSA University (Rome, Italy). She previously served as a Research Fellow in Marketing and Management at LUMSA, working on communication and personalization through advanced technologies.

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She holds an Industrial PhD (cum laude) from LUMSA University in collaboration with CRM Partners, with a dissertation on the social, organizational, and economic value of sharing-economy services for SMEs and platform ecosystems.

She was a visiting PhD student at ESCP Business School in Paris (Department of Sustainability).

Her research interests lie at the intersection of marketing, digital transformation, service and business model innovation, and platform-based business models, with particular attention to value creation and stakeholder outcomes. She teaches marketing-related courses at undergraduate and graduate level and has delivered doctoral-level teaching on topics such as personalization and AI.



Annie Seul PhD
University of Notre Dame

Annie Seul is an educator and program manager at the Nanovic Institute for European Studies at the University of Notre Dame, where she supports research grants, student engagement, and international programs.

She holds a PhD in French Language and Literature from Washington University in St. Louis and teaches French and interdisciplinary courses. Her work focuses on inclusive education, global learning, and expanding opportunities for underserved student populations.

