



IDEA League Challenge Programme

The IDEA League Challenge Programme is an extra-curricular course for ambitious and talented students of the IDEA League partner universities, with a focus on developing leadership skills, entrepreneurship, ethics and innovation at the intersection of technology and society.

Working at this intersection requires the analytical mindset of the engineer, but also and in addition: a high tolerance of ambiguity, inherent to human behavior. Students will work with real world problems and practitioners to fully experience the complexity of these problems. This will allow the students to discover what the strengths and weaknesses are of their engineering mindset and will help them to learn and develop a new and broader set of skills.

The programme is design-oriented: students should not only analyze problems, but should also design and present solutions. The extended weekends in the four cities will be like a pressure cooker: at the start students will be faced with a problem and within a few days they should present both a problem analysis and a design of a solution. Inherent to this design assignment, students will learn valuable skills, such as working in an international environment and dealing with limited information. The programme also involves dedicated personal development modules like, for example, personality type profiling and negotiation skills.

Programme content and admission

The Idea League Challenge Programme offers third year bachelor and first year master students the unique opportunity to broaden their horizon and work on personal leadership skills. Students will be admitted to the Challenge Programme based on their outstanding academic performance and interest in interdisciplinary work.

Logistics

The programme consists of four modules and an personal leadership workshop each covering four long weekends at one of the IDEA League partner institutions. Housing is provided by the hosting university. Students will receive a grant to (partially) cover all other travel costs.

More information

Please visit www.idealeague.org/challenge-programme for more information about admission requirements and the content of the four Challenge Programme modules.



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This year I participated in the Challenge Program of the IDEA League. I really enjoyed the weekends in which we worked on projects for and with interesting actors, like electricity grid operator TenneT and security company Gunnebo. They challenged us with relevant problems on the intersection of technology and society. These organizations were very interested in our findings and, to be honest, I was quite impressed with the work we did in our project groups in one weekend. The limited time you have forces you to work together efficiently, which was very educational. However, most of all, it is really cool to travel around Europe and visit multiple universities with an awesome group of international students as part of your studies. We did work hard on our projects, but also had lots of fun during city tours, group dinners and nights out in all four cities. It has to be a good sign that plans for reunions were already made during the program. I would definitely recommend applying for the Challenge Program!



Please visit www.idealeague.org/challenge-programme for more information



About the IDEA League

The IDEA League is a strategic alliance among five leading European universities of technology: TU Delft, ETH Zürich, RWTH Aachen, Chalmers University and Politecnico di Milano.

Each IDEA League member has a respectable research-oriented profile and is the largest producer of engineering and science graduates in its own country. One of the IDEA League's main ambitions is to

re-establish Europe as a technological and scientific leader by bundling academic resources and knowledge.

Our joint activities in education, research and quality assurance, as well as our joint participation in EU programmes and initiatives make us a model of European cooperation. Together, we create added value by pooling resources for collaborative and complementary programmes for our students, researchers and staff.

For more information about the IDEA League or to download the PDF version of this booklet, please visit our website via:
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