



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE**

Internationalisation and Educational Services Division
International services
International Mobility Office



Erasmus+

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS SUMMER UNIVERSITY COURSES – SOMMERKOLLEG – POLETNA ŠOLA BOVEC 2026

All the information and official documents related to this call, instructions and forms are available on the [Bovec 2026 Summer School webpage](#).

Foreword

This summer school is organised by the University of Klagenfurt in collaboration with the Universities of Trieste, Udine, Ljubljana, Koper, Rijeka and Osijek. It aims to strengthen cooperation between neighbouring regions by promoting mutual knowledge among students from universities in the multinational Alps-Adriatic region. Language, politics, culture in its various aspects, communications and diplomacy will be considered as support for democracy, freedom, economic and social wellbeing, and diversity. The aim is to consider borders no longer as factors of division but as opportunities for people and populations to meet. The ultimate goal is the construction of a peaceful coexistence.

This summer school is based on the *tandem principle*, where participating students collaborate in language learning in a bilateral exchange where each participant helps the other to improve in the language they are learning. Each person helps the other by communicating in their mother tongue (or in a language they know very well), thus ensuring mutual learning. The main idea is that both interlocutors learn and practice the language simultaneously, taking advantage of each other's strengths.

The University of Trieste is funding 6 positions for its students to participate in the 2026 edition of the Bovec Summer School.

This summer school will take place in Bovec, a town in the Upper Soča Valley (Gornje Posoje, Slovenia), **from 12th to 25th July 2026**. s

The University of Trieste covers the cost of food, accommodation and participation in language courses, conferences, workshops and excursions. The summer school requires each student to pay EUR 110.00 to the University of Klagenfurt as a contribution towards expenses.

The summer school's educational activities, carried out by native-speaker teachers, are divided into Italian, Slovenian, German, Friulian and Croatian language courses, and group activities such as conferences, seminars, workshops and excursions.

University of Trieste
Piazzale Europa, 1
I - 34127 Trieste
www.units.it - ateneo@pec.units.it

Staff member in charge of this administrative procedure: *Alessia Sforzina*
alessia.sforzina@amm.units.it



Participation in courses earns students 3 extra credits.

Article 1 – Theme

The 2026 edition, entitled 'Bridging Worlds with AI', is set in the context of the globalised world, where languages are both a bridge and a barrier. Languages facilitate international collaboration but keep cultural and identity differences alive. In this scenario, artificial intelligence, in particular multilingual language technologies based on natural language processing and large language models, is transforming interlinguistic communication, making translations and interactions more accurate and context-sensitive.

However, major challenges remain: many minority languages have little digital data, risking exclusion in the era of AI. That is why language preservation initiatives are being developed and why there is a growing need for ethical, equitable and inclusive systems that do not reinforce inequalities between dominant and minority languages.

Multilingual AI also has an increasing impact on education and the business world, improving access to knowledge, international cooperation and adaptation to different markets.

This is precisely the context in which the Bovec 2026 Summer School was born. Located in the Alps-Adriatic region, this school is structured around five languages (Italian, Slovenian, Croatian, Friulian and Ladin). The programme aims to integrate linguistic diversity, digital technologies and intercultural perspectives, providing practical skills in multilingual communication, digital literacy and critical thinking. The main theme (Bridging Worlds with AI) suggests that languages shouldn't be viewed as obstacles, but as resources. Responsibly developed AI can foster inclusion and cooperation and protect cultural diversity in the digital future.

Article 2 – Working languages

The languages used during group activities, seminars and workshops are Italian, Slovenian, German, Croatian and Friulian.

Article 3 – Admission requirements and applications

To participate in the selection, students must:

- be regularly enrolled on a bachelor's or master's degree programme at the University of Trieste until the end of the Bovec Summer School 2026;
- have obtained a minimum of 8 ECTS in the first term of academic year 2025-2026 or have an average of at least 5 ECTS in the last 3 terms;



- have a very good knowledge of one of the summer school official languages (Italian, Slovenian, Croatian, German and Friulian) for the *tandem principle to apply*;
- have a basic knowledge of the language selected for the language course. Total beginners cannot participate.

As regards the language course they wish to attend, candidates must indicate two languages among those proposed (German, Slovenian, Croatian and Friulian) in order of priority (first choice first). The application form to indicate their choice is published on the 2026 Bovec Summer School webpage.

Student can attach any relevant certificates or linguistic assessments to their application. If candidates attended language courses organised by their university and/or by another institution, they must specify when the course was held (period of time) as well as the total number of hours it lasted. They may do this in the self-declaration form available on the 2026 Bovec Summer School webpage.

Candidates interested in attending the Friulian language course are not required to prove their proficiency in that language.

Candidates must login to UniTS online academic services (Esse3) and submit their applications from the time of publication of this notice until **2nd April 2026 at 12:00 (CET)**. Detailed instructions for completing the application in Esse3 will be published on the 2026 Bovec Summer School webpage.

Article 4 – Evaluation of applications and selection results

Candidates will be selected by the University Internationalisation Committee appointed by Rector's Decree No 510/2025 of 31st October 2025 (recorded in the official University Register under No 192281/2005). Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- language skills;
- average of the marks and number of credits;
- motivation;
- any educational and/or professional experiences related to the 2026 Bovec Summer School theme indicated in the application form.

In case of two or more candidates having earned the same mark, priority will be given to candidates meeting the following criteria:

- no participation in previous editions;
- alignment with exam schedule;
- younger age.

The Committee may also take into consideration the overall balance of languages within the group.



The rankings will be published on the official register of the University and on the call webpage. The online publication of this list has legal value.

Successful candidates are considered to have automatically accepted to participate in the summer school.

Any refusals must be promptly communicated and duly justified to outgoing.students@amm.units.it.

Successful candidates will have to pay the expense contribution of EUR 110.00 to the University of Klagenfurt through bank transfer no later than **29th May 2026**. Bank details: Raiffeisenlandesbank Kärnten (address: Nautilusweg 11, 9020 Klagenfurt) Bank account in the name of: Universität Klagenfurt

IBAN: AT42 3900 0000 0251 5039 BIC: RZKTAT2K Reference: Summer School Bovec 2026 – Candidate's name and surname.

If a candidate withdraws after 29th May 2026, the contribution towards expenses will not be reimbursed, except for serious documented reasons that will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Article 5 – Credit recognition

Participation in courses earns students 3 extra credits. Credits will be recognised at the end of the mobility period, as soon as the coordinating university has sent the final documentation proving the student's attendance at the summer school.

Upon return from their mobility period, students are responsible for sending a short final report on their experience to the International Mobility Office.

The final report must be duly signed, dated and sent as a PDF file by email from the student's institutional email address, with the following subject line: 'Final report on 2026 Bovec Summer School', to the following address: outgoing.students@amm.units.it.

Article 6 – Insurance

During their mobility period, recipients are covered by the following insurances:

Health insurance guaranteed by the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). For further information, please visit this page (mobility to EU countries). All recipients, and in particular non-EU citizens, are invited to contact the local health authority (*azienda sanitaria locale* – ASL) to verify the health care in their destination country.



- Civil liability: the University of Trieste offers insurance for civil liability to all regularly enrolled students through a policy signed by relevant insurance companies.
- Insurance for accidents at work: the University of Trieste offers insurance coverage for accidents at work through the national insurance system (consolidated law on the National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work [INAIL], Italian presidential decrees No 1124/65 and 156/99).

University insurance cover for accidents at work and civil liability only covers accidents which occur during study and internship activities. It does not cover any risks associated with the medical profession and the use of health facilities. Therefore, recipients who fall into this category must provide a supplementary insurance at their own expense.

In the event of any ongoing health emergencies candidates will have to:

- constantly monitor the situation in their destination country so as to remain up to date about the health and safety provisions in force and to ensure that they comply with all resulting requirements, restrictions and the specific rules of the host institution;
- If necessary, they will provide additional health and/or travel insurance covering the risks related to any ongoing emergencies. The University will not be liable for any risks, inconveniences or exceptional or unexpected costs incurred due to the interruption or cancellation of mobility periods.

Article 7 – Access to official documents, data processing and staff member in charge of the administrative procedure

The personal data collected for the purposes of this selection will be processed in accordance with the European Regulation No 2016/679 on the protection of personal data. Data may also be processed using IT. Aggregate data may also be used for statistical purposes by the Italian Ministry of University and Research.

When necessary, personal data may be transferred to universities located in non-EU countries. In this case, the University will adopt an adequacy decision pursuant to Article 45 of the General Data Protection Regulation – Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1773 of 28 June 2021.

Candidates are guaranteed access to the records of the selection procedure pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of personal data.

The data controller is the University of Trieste – Piazzale Europa, 1 – 34127 Trieste, acting through its legal representative, the Rector.

The Head of the International Mobility Office at the University of Trieste is responsible for data processing.



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE**

**Internationalisation and Educational Services Division
International services
International Mobility Office**



Erasmus+

Pursuant to Italian Law No 241/90 and subsequent amendments and additions, the staff member in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the International Mobility Office at the University of Trieste.

For anything not specified in this call, please refer to the current legislation on the subject, to the Regulation on international student mobility and to other provisions in force at the University of Trieste.

Updated information on Regulation (EU) 2016/679 is available on the [dedicated section](#) of the University website.

University of Trieste
Piazzale Europa, 1
I - 34127 Trieste
www.units.it - ateneo@pec.units.it

*Staff member in charge of this administrative procedure: Alessia
Sforzina
alessia.sforzina@amm.units.it*