



Circle U.
European University Alliance



Soutien aux approches interdisciplinaires et transdisciplinaires dans le cadre de l'alliance Circle U.

Prof. Olivier Standaert (Chaire académique Circle U. – Démocratie)

Prof. Edoardo Traversa (Chaire académique Circle U. – Open School of Public Governance)

Prof. Sandy Tubeuf (Chaire académique Circle U. – Santé Globale)

Prof. Marnik Vanclooster (Chaire académique Circle U. – Climat)

Circle U. Knowledge Hubs



- *Knowledge Hubs* in Climate Change, Democracy, Global Health
- Objectives
 - Establish an innovative collaboration model linking education and research across partner universities (European campus)
 - Empowering students and staff with appropriate knowledge to tackle big challenges and make the world a better place
- Activities
 - Thematic seminars, events, interdisciplinary summer schools
 - Joint course, programmes
 - Interdisciplinary collaborative research and networks

Global Health

Prof. Sandy Tubeuf



- **Knowledge Hubs in Global Health**

- Disciplines among the Chairs: Pharmacy, Epidemiology: CVD, Mental Health, Ageing , Medical Humanities & Politics, History & Neurology, Health Economics, Infectious diseases
- Activities
 - Seminar series to be launched in 2022
 - Summer School in July 2022
 - *“Rethinking Global Health” – Politics, Inclusion & Diversity, History & Future*
 - Université de Paris (4-8th July 2022 TBC)
 - *Application and selection of attendees*
 - Collaborative thinking on medical and health-related curricula that account for global health challenges

Climate

Prof. Marnik Vanclooster



- Objective: To boost inter-, multi- and transdisciplinary knowledge on climate change and climate change affected systems (ecosystems, social constructs, institutions, regions, ...) in the realm of Circle U.
- Key words (personal): Water – Food Nexus ; Global South
- Current disciplines: environmental scientist, agronomist, geography education, geomicrobiology, climate change law, senior social scientists
- Targeted extra academic actors: ONG, public and private actors working in water and food production projects in the Global South
- The big challenge: Good priority setting during the scoping of Circle U activities

Democracy

Prof. Olivier Standaert



- **Democracies in digital news markets: An interdisciplinary action to tackle information challenges in European democracies**
 - **Information:** disinformation & (dis)trust - digital platforms/networks - the (ir)relevance of traditional epistemologies of journalism in times of crisis - the globalization (migration “crisis” of 2015-2016, anti-terrorist policies, climate change, health crisis)
 - **Interdisciplinarity:** going beyond a specific research field or a teaching program → building frameworks that can do more than just add new perspectives. Information challenges includes
 - Learning from other **cultural perspectives** : Information is culturally located – medias systems and journalistic cultures → Circle U. = a huge opportunity in that perspective.

Democracy

Prof. Olivier Standaert



Who is involved (research & teaching fields) ?

Information and Communication (media and journalism studies, media literacy and audience studies); Engineering (NLP, machine learning, algorithms); Political sciences (role of the public authorities, media & political systems); Economics (new business models); Law (regulation & ethical issues, national *versus* international perspectives).

Who is involved (beyond universities) ?

Authorities in charge of media (regulation); Legacy media and « new » actors; Audiences and their representatives; Teachers and media observers.

Democracy

Prof. Olivier Standaert



The (very old) challenge of interdisciplinarity

Nowadays, information is most often a source of tension and polarization

Biggest challenge: Going beyond the compiling of disciplinary perspectives - all of which are useful and relevant - and manage to identify compatible research & teaching designs; creating new practical and theoretical inputs to the understanding of information issues; expressing these inputs into activities with stakeholders and shaping new collective programs/activities on information challenges (which are expected to constantly evolve...).

Open School of Public Governance

Prof. Edoardo Traversa



Circle U.
European University Alliance



- *Open School of Public Governance* : objectives
 - “even brilliant ideas and ground-breaking technologies for solving societal problems have little value if the public does not accept them, if they are not translated into policy decisions or if there is too little capacity to implement them”.
 - public governance and the ability to protect the public good is consequently a precondition to tackle complex issues highlighted by, for example, the Sustainable Development Goals
 - build new educational offers that profit from the innovative approaches to problem-based learning (Master courses and programs, Ph.d. courses, Summer Schools, lifelong education)

Open School of Public Governance



- *Open School of Public Governance* : means
 - Cooperation with external stakeholders (public, civil and private) to mobilise knowledge into transformative actions
 - Pool knowledge resources – mostly in relation with the 3 hubs
 - Cut across disciplines and will also consist of staff and students outside the core public governance disciplines (political science and public administration, public and European law, public economics, European studies, history of institutions, communication and data science, sociology, psychology, ...)
 - Biggest challenge for UCLouvain : to build a working transdisciplinary public governance studies network within our university

Louvain School of Democracy