

COLOURS Blended Intensive Program (BIP)

Scientific Project Management: From Idea to Funded EU Project

Le Mans, France, 26 June – 5 July 2025
Host University: Le Mans University, France

GENERAL INFORMATION

Designed to bridge academic knowledge with real-world applications, this program offers participants the unique opportunity to collaborate with peers from various disciplines and countries, enhancing both their academic experience and professional skills. This dynamic program combines theoretical knowledge and practical skills essential for managing scientific projects, particularly within European funding frameworks.

Participants will benefit from expert-led workshops, interactive sessions, and practical exercises specifically crafted to address key aspects of scientific project management, including project planning, risk assessment, budgeting, stakeholder engagement, and effective communication strategies. Additionally, the program leverages the rich heritage and innovative environment of Le Mans, providing exclusive access to events and experts associated with the renowned Le Mans Classic car show.

The main coordinator of the program is Prof. Florent Calvayrac, Head of the Sciences and Techniques Department at Le Mans University and an expert in project management. The program will include lectures from professors and researchers from the University of Osijek (UNIOS) and Ferrara (UNIFE).

Target Groups: Undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students (all ISCED subject areas)

Language: English (B1-B2 CEFR level proficiency required)

ECTS credits: 3

Learning Outcomes:

- Master essential project management tools (Gantt, PERT, Agile)
- Draft comprehensive risk and impact matrices
- Develop compliant budgets for Horizon Europe funding
- Craft effective proposals and deliver impactful pitches

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

ONLINE ACTIVITIES

(Online via Zoom)

ZOOM Link provided by LMU

The virtual component introduces participants to foundational knowledge essential for effective scientific project management, focusing on key theoretical frameworks and practical methodologies. Participants will engage with experienced professionals through interactive sessions, providing a solid grounding before the on-site activities.

Program Schedule:

Thursday, 26 June 2025:

- 09:00–12:00: Project life-cycle, EU evaluation criteria, bibliography mapping
- 14:00–17:00: Gantt, PERT critical-path analysis

Friday, 27 June 2025:

- 09:00–12:00: Risk analysis & contingency planning
- 14:00–17:00: Budgeting, HR & quantitative impact assessment

Aim of Online Activities:

- Provide an in-depth understanding of EU project management fundamentals.
- Equip participants with the ability to perform critical-path analysis and strategic project planning.
- Develop skills for assessing risks and managing contingencies.
- Foster competence in creating accurate and comprehensive project budgets.

ON-SITE ACTIVITIES

(Le Mans University Campus & Le Mans Circuit)

Tuesday, 1 July 2025:

- Morning: Welcome Refreshers and Introduction to the Academic project management
- Afternoon: Workshop on Stakeholder Mapping
- Evening: Guided tour of Cité Plantagenêt, medieval historic quarter in Le Mans and group dinner

Wednesday, 2 July 2025:

- Morning: European Research projects and SciMoVe project coordination experience, Workshop scheduling tools (PERT) and Horizon funding calls specifics
- Afternoon: Visit to 24 Hours Race Museum & meeting with curators
- Evening: Film night

Thursday, 3 July 2025:

- Morning: Workshop risk grids, student presentations
- Afternoon: Le Mans Classic paddock tour, risk assignment workshop with organisers
- Evening: Free Time



Friday, 4 July 2025:

- Morning: Workshop budgeting rules, budget clinic, student presentations
- Afternoon: Final student presentations, awards & closing ceremony
- Evening: Concert Le Mans circuit

Saturday, 5 July 2025:

- Field Study: Le Mans Bugatti circuit and meeting with the organisers of the Le Mans Classic race

VISIT TO LE MANS CLASSIC

The Le Mans Classic event is an integral part of this programme, providing participants with an exclusive opportunity to experience the iconic Circuit des 24 Heures firsthand. This prestigious international event highlights the historical significance and contemporary innovation associated with automotive racing and technology. Participants will learn directly from the Automobile Club de l'Ouest (ACO) representatives, gaining insights into their organizational practices, event management, and the technical and logistical complexities of hosting a world-renowned racing event. This practical exposure complements the programme's theoretical components, ensuring a comprehensive educational experience.

ASSESSMENT Participants will be assessed after each module, while a dedicated jury will evaluate the final presentations.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- No participation fee. Participants cover their own travel, accommodation, health insurance, and subsistence costs.
- Erasmus+ scholarships are available for eligible participants.
- The number of participants **is limited to 15**.
- Rooms in student residences have been pre-reserved for all participants (total cost per participant = 190€)
- **By accepting to participate, all participants agree to reside in these designated accommodations.**

ABOUT THE CITY OF LE MANS

Le Mans is a city rich in history and cultural heritage, located in northwestern France. Known worldwide for its 24 Hours of Le Mans automobile race, the city also offers a wealth of historical sites, including a beautifully preserved medieval city center (Cité Plantagenêt). The vibrant city life includes museums, cultural events, picturesque cafés, and diverse culinary experiences. The combination of historical charm and modern amenities makes Le Mans an ideal setting for educational programmes and international gatherings.

ABOUT LE MANS UNIVERSITÉ

Le Mans Université, established in 1977, is renowned for its interdisciplinary approach, innovative research, and dedication to academic excellence. Home to approximately 12,000 students, the university offers a vibrant learning environment with state-of-the-art facilities and an international outlook. Located in the Pays de la Loire region, the university strongly supports collaborations with regional and international partners, fostering a diverse and dynamic academic community.



HOW TO REACH LE MANS

Le Mans is easily accessible from several international airports serving Paris. If you land at Charles de Gaulle (CDG), simply follow the signs to the Aéroport Charles de Gaulle 2 TGV station and board a high-speed TGV bound for Le Mans. In just under an hour and a half you will find yourself at Le Mans station, where taxis and local buses await to transfer you to campus or your residence. Trains depart regularly throughout the day, and tickets can be booked in advance to secure the best fares.

Travelers arriving at Orly Airport (ORY) can take the Orlyval light rail to Antony station, then switch to the RER B line towards Massy-Palaiseau. From there, a direct TGV will whisk you to Le Mans in approximately two and a half hours. Alternatively, the new Metro Line 14 connects the airport to central Paris in minutes, simply transfer at Gare de Lyon to a TGV at Paris Montparnasse to reach Le Mans with ease.

For those flying into Beauvais (BVA), a shuttle bus service will bring you to Paris Porte Maillot, from where you can connect by metro or bus to Paris Montparnasse. Once at Montparnasse, regular TGV services cover the journey to Le Mans in roughly four and a half hours. Although slightly longer, this route offers budget-friendly bus and shuttle options that suit a variety of schedules.

No matter which airport you choose, car-rental desks at each terminal provide the freedom to drive to Le Mans (distances range from about 200 to 240 km, with driving times between two and four hours depending on origin). Whether by rail, road, or bus, your journey to Le Mans promises to be smooth and scenic.

CONTACT

For further details and registration, contact your local COLOURS Office.

Information available on COLOURS Website :

• <https://colours-alliance.eu/>

We look forward to welcoming you to Le Mans!

Warm regards, Le Mans Université & COLOURS Alliance Team

