

Ulysseus Seed Fund Call for Teachers!

Co-teach, Co-create, Connect:
Unite your students in a virtual classroom

Are you passionate about innovation in education? Do you want to collaborate internationally and enhance your students' learning experience through a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)? [Ulysseus European University](#) invites teaching staff from all disciplines to apply for **Seed Fund Call V!**

Take this opportunity to:

- Collaborate with an international colleague from another Ulysseus European University
- Pilot a COIL, as an innovative online learning experience (virtual classroom) for your students
- Provide your students a global perspective through an enriching virtual exchange

***New in this call:** Seed Funding supports travel and related expenses for in-person meetings, **enabling two-way mobility** for participating teachers to visit the Ulysseus partner university and fostering valuable opportunities to connect, collaborate, and co-create.*

Applications are open

until 30 June 2026!

[Apply now!](#)



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Introduction to COIL

In this Seed fund call applicants may apply for funding for a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) in existing academic courses.

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) connects **existing** academic courses **across institutions through virtual collaboration, fostering** cross-cultural exchange **among students and teachers**. A COIL is not a new course; rather, it is an innovative methodology designed to enhance the delivery of an existing course in a virtual classroom setting.

Seed funding is available to support teachers from at least two different Ulysseus partner universities in the joint design and delivery of a COIL. Eligible costs may include travel and related expenses for in-person meeting(s) at the partner universities, providing space and time to collaboratively shape this innovative educational format.

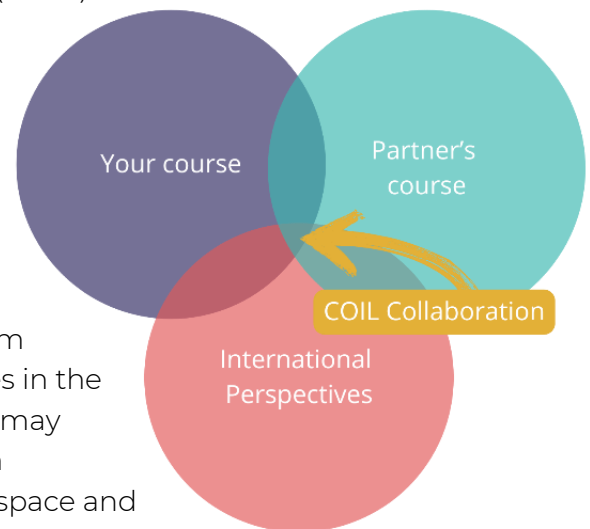


Figure 1 COIL graph (source: Ulysseus)

Key Features

- **Collaboration between teachers** from two or more Ulysseus universities, **in any discipline**.
- **Integrated into** existing academic courses (similar topic or transversal).
- **Delivered** synchronously, asynchronously, or **both**.
- **Students work together online, and receive ECTS and are graded by their** home university.
- **Must be an** integral part of the curriculum with a duration of 1 week to 1 semester (recommended 5-14 weeks).

See the [Ulysseus COIL Handbook: A Practical Guide for Educators](#) for guidance.

COIL Framework

Table 1 COIL Features

	COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)
Definition	Connects at least two <u>existing</u> courses from Ulysseus partners, where teachers collaborate to include an international, online component. It fosters intercultural competence and global engagement without requiring physical travel.
Course structure	Built into an already existing course at each participating institution.
Teacher collaboration	Teachers from different institutions work together to design and facilitate the international collaboration element. Involves at least one partner from the Ulysseus alliance.
Student groups	Students from each institution participate in their respective courses but collaborate on specific international tasks or projects.
Student value	Provide your students with an enriching international experience from within the classroom while fostering collaboration across disciplines and partner universities.
Student interaction	International interaction in specific collaborative tasks or projects.
Curriculum Integration	COIL is not a standalone course; it should be embedded within an existing course, with the focus on integrating international collaboration into the current curriculum.
Student recognition	Students receive ECTS and are graded by their home university.
Flexibility	Flexible, as it adapts to existing course structures and schedules.
Institutional effort	Requires moderate effort to integrate the international collaboration/element into existing courses.
Duration	The duration can range from a minimum of 1 week to a full semester, with a recommended length of 5 to 14 weeks.

Example	Joint projects, discussions, or case studies integrated into existing courses.
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Funding & Financial Procedures

This seed funding supports academics in co-creating a COIL, enabling teachers to meet in person for joint design and planning. By applying to this call, applicants agree to the following conditions:

- The applicant may receive up to **€2,500** in financial support for planning and designing the COIL together with the collaborating partner.
- The funds will be paid to the applicant(s) (i.e. the travelling teacher) by their Ulysseus home university. Mobility can take place in both directions, meaning that each Ulysseus partner may travel to the other Ulysseus partner university, allowing for up to two separate visits where relevant. **If both parties decide to travel, each must submit an application via their respective home university's proposal form.** Each applicant may receive up to €2,500 in funding.
- Expenditures will be reimbursed on the basis of actual costs incurred, supported by documentation (e.g. invoices, travel tickets).
- Travel costs must comply with the local university's travel policies and regulations, and must be economically justifiable.
- **Proof of delivery:** After the COIL has taken place, the granted teacher submits a short report including:
 - An overview of expenditures
 - A brief reflection via the [Project Report Form](#) on outcomes and lessons learnt (please note that your institution may require a different form or procedure).
 - Optional: sharing of additional written documentation and/or photos.
- If the agreed COIL outcome is not delivered, the eight Ulysseus higher education institutions reserve the right to demand repayment of any expenditures incurred or disbursed by the applicant.

Overview of Grant

Table 2 Grant Details

Eligible applicants	Teachers and Lecturers of the 8 Ulysseus partner universities
Expected Output	Applicants may request funding to plan and design a COIL.
Language of application & instruction	English (as lingua franca)
Seed fund of accepted proposal in this call	Max. 2500€
Deadline for proposals:	11 September 2026
Announcement of results:	by Mid-October 2026
Funding period for this call:	The COIL must be implemented by 1 October 2027 , with all expenses claimed by 1 September 2027.
Link to Application Form	Application details per institution can be found in table 3 on page 8

Partner Collaboration & Matchmaking

When applying for the Seed Fund applicants must have already reached an agreement with their collaborating colleague(s) from other Ulysseus partner universities.

If you are interested in collaborating but have not yet identified a partner, you are encouraged to explore the following **matchmaking opportunities**:

1. Sign up for the [Ulysseus Online Matchmaking Event for COIL Collaboration](#) taking place on 22 April October 2026 (online)!
2. [Collaboration Matchmaking Form](#): Please note that this is a **general collaboration form**, also intended for other types of collaboration not supported by the Seed Fund Call.
3. Reach out to your [Local Mobility Officer](#) for questions or assistance with matchmaking opportunities.

Application Procedure

Checklist: Submission Requirement

- **Submission:** Confirm a mutually agreed collaboration with a Ulysseus partner teacher to co-create a COIL. Applications must be submitted exclusively by the travelling partner, using the local application form (see Table 3). The application window remains open **until 11 September 2026**.
- *Mobility can take place in both directions, meaning that each partner may travel to the other, allowing for up to two separate visits where relevant. If both parties decide to travel, each must submit an application via their respective home university's proposal form. Each applicant may receive up to €2,500 in funding.* **Host university department approval:** Obtain an endorsement letter from the Head of Department at the host university (see annex for example).
- **Supervisor approval:** Obtain approval from your supervisor (email confirmation is sufficient).
- **Course abstract:** Provide a course abstract that includes a course description and a work plan (max. 500 words).
- **Budget allocation:** Include a detailed explanation of the budget allocation.

Local Application Form

Table 3 Application Form

Ulysseus European University	Proposal Submission Form
Technical University of Košice	Seed Fund Application Form for TUKE Lecturers

Questions? Contact your [Local Mobility Officer!](#)

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria

- Expected added value for teaching and learning in Ulysseus (benefitting students/staff)
- Relevance of academic expertise on the topic
- Clearly formulated budget and goals
- Realistic work plan with clear deliverables

- Letter of support from partner university

Selection Process

The selection process consists of two phases:

1. Each partner university's local selection committee will review applications and nominate candidates.
2. The Ulysseus Joint Educational Committee, with representatives from all eight partner universities, will review selections and decide on conditional acceptance, approval, or rejection.

Overview Timeline

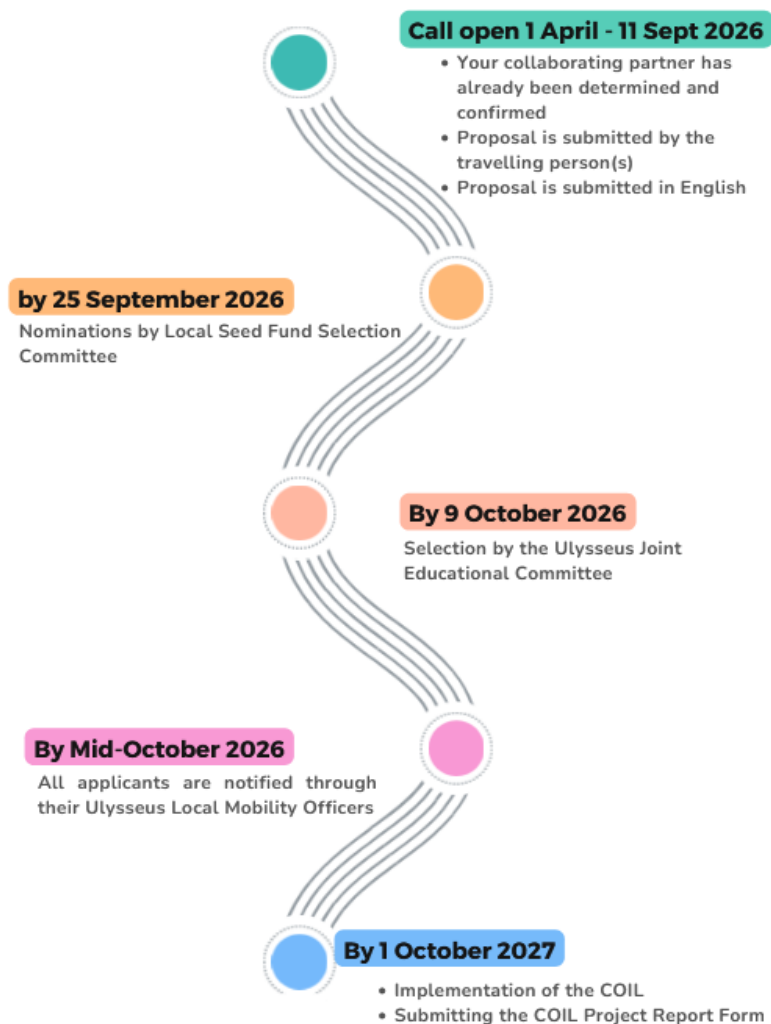


Figure 2 Seed Fund Call Timeline

Resources & Links

- [Ulysseus COIL Handbook: A Practical Guide for Educators](#)
- Registration for [Ulysseus Online Matchmaking Event for COIL Collaboration](#) (22 April 2026, online)
- [Collaboration Matchmaking Form](#) (please note that this is a general collaboration form, also intended for other types of collaboration not supported by the Seed Fund Call)
- Contact details [Ulysseus Local Mobility Officer!](#)