

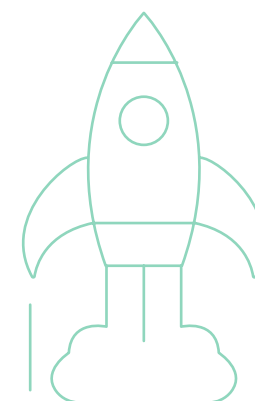
MICROCREDENTIALS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Strategies, Standards and Institutional Practice for
Internationalisation and Lifelong Learning

18 SEPTEMBER 2026
09:00–14:15 (CEST)
ONLINE

REGISTER [HERE](#) FOR THE TRAINING

ABOUT THE TRAINING



Microcredentials are becoming a key instrument for lifelong learning, internationalisation and innovation in European higher education. They enable universities to respond flexibly to rapidly changing skills needs while creating new opportunities for learners, employers and society. But how can universities move from European policy to institutional implementation?

This interactive online training brings together leading European experts and practitioners to explore the strategic foundations, institutional frameworks and practical design of Microcredentials. Through inspiring practice showcases and a hands-on design workshop, participants will gain practical insights.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This training is designed for academic staff as well as professional services staff supporting teaching and learning, internationalisation, continuing education, knowledge transfer and innovation at higher education institutions.



WHAT YOU'LL GAIN

After the training, participants will:

- understand the European policy framework for Microcredentials
- become familiar with European standards and quality principles
- learn from successful institutional and alliance-based implementation examples
- discover different application scenarios for teaching, lifelong learning and staff development
- design a first concept for a Microcredential using the ABC Learning Design methodology



09:00–09:15

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Welcome, Objectives & Programme Overview

A brief welcome introduces the objectives and structure of the training and provides an overview of the day's key themes – from European perspectives and institutional practice to the practical design of Microcredentials.

09:15–09:45

EXPERT INPUT

Microcredentials and the Future University: A European Vision for Flexible Learning, Recognition and Future Skills

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Ulf-Daniel Ehlers

Prof. Dr. Ulf-Daniel Ehlers is Professor of Educational Management and Lifelong Learning at Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW) and founder of NextEducation. A former Vice-President of EURASHE and member of the European Commission's consultation group on *A European Approach to Micro-Credentials*, his work focuses on Future Skills, lifelong learning and the transformation of higher education.



In this expert input, Ulf-Daniel Ehlers places microcredentials within a broader vision of the future university. Rather than approaching them as isolated short courses, he explores their potential as strategic building blocks for flexible curricula and open learning ecosystems. Microcredentials can support lifelong learning, enable individual learning pathways, make diverse learning achievements visible and recognisable, and strengthen mobility and cooperation across the European Higher Education Area.

Connecting this vision with the European policy framework, the session introduces core design principles such as learning outcomes, ECTS, assessment, quality assurance, stackability, portability and cross-border recognition. Particular attention is given to the future potential of microcredentials to enable, document and recognise Future Skills—and to the institutional choices required to translate this potential into coherent educational practice.

09:45–10:15

PRACTICE SHOWCASE I

Building Future Skills through Microcredentials

Speaker: Thu Van Le Thi

Thu Van Le Thi is responsible for the development and implementation of Future Skills and Microcredential programmes at the Center for Teaching and Learning of Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Georg-Simon-Ohm. She leads the interdisciplinary MC4 programme portfolio. Through the "Kollab4MC" project, she collaborates with internal and external partners to strengthen the institutional embedding of microcredentials, with a focus on agile quality assurance, digital credentialing and system integration, curriculum integration, and employer acceptance.



This session presents practical examples of how Future Skills can be embedded into Microcredential programmes and flexible learning pathways in areas such as Generative AI, Data Analytics and Sustainable Personal Development. It highlights approaches to curriculum integration, scalable programme design and institutional implementation, and reflects on lessons learned from ongoing development processes.

10:15–10:30

COFFEE BREAK

10:30–11:00

PRACTICE SHOWCASE II

European University Alliances as Microcredential Ecosystems

Speakers: Alejandra Gámez Abascal, Emiliane Rubat du Mérac & Dr. Glaucia Peres da Silva

Alejandra Gámez Abascal and Emiliane Rubat du Mérac co-lead the CIVIS Work Package on Microcredentials and Modular Learning, driving the alliance’s strategic approach to flexible, learner-centred educational pathways. Dr. Glaucia Peres da Silva contributes to the development and implementation of CIVIS educational programmes and will present one of the alliance’s flagship Micro-Programmes.

In this session, the speakers will first introduce the CIVIS approach to Microcredentials and Modular Learning, highlighting how the alliance is creating flexible, transnational learning opportunities across its member universities. They will then present the CIVIS Micro-Programme “Global Awareness” as a practical example of how this approach is implemented in practice. Participants will gain insights into the collaborative design of joint Microcredentials, interdisciplinary curriculum development, virtual and blended mobility, cross-border recognition, and the role of digital credentialing in supporting flexible European learning pathways.

The session will also give a first insight into how CIVIS is preparing its next call on Microcredentials, and what the alliance hopes to learn from it about assessment and recognition.



11:00–11:30

PRACTICE SHOWCASE III

Microcredentials for Lifelong Learning and Staff Development

Speaker: Dr. Silvia Gallagher

Dr. Silvia Gallagher is a Research Fellow at Trinity College Dublin and CHARM-EU, where she contributes to the development of innovative educational approaches and professional learning within the European University Alliance. Her work focuses on teaching and learning innovation, curriculum development and capacity building for academic staff in transnational higher education.



In this session, Dr. Gallagher presents CHARM-EU’s Microcredential “Innovative Teaching in Inter-Institutional Hybrid Classrooms” as a practical example of how Microcredentials can support the professional development of academic staff. Participants will gain insights into the design and implementation of staff-focused Microcredentials and explore how they can strengthen teaching innovation, foster collaboration across universities and contribute to institutional capacity building and lifelong learning strategies.

11:30–12:30

LUNCH BREAK

12:30–14:00

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

From Idea to Design: Creating Your First Microcredential

Facilitators: Nataša Perović & Leo Havemann

ABC Learning Design is a rapid and collaborative curriculum design method developed at University College London (UCL). It enables teams to quickly design and visualise learning journeys through structured, activity-based workshops.

In this session, participants will work in small groups to design a first concept for a Microcredential using the ABC Learning Design framework.



Participants will:

- identify target learners and learning outcomes
- design learning activities and assessment approaches
- map a coherent learner journey
- create a visual storyboard for a Microcredential concept

14:00–14:15

CLOSING & REFLECTION

From Pilots to Ecosystems

A brief closing reflection brings together the key insights of the day and invites participants to consider how they can translate them into first steps towards Microcredential development and implementation at their institutions.