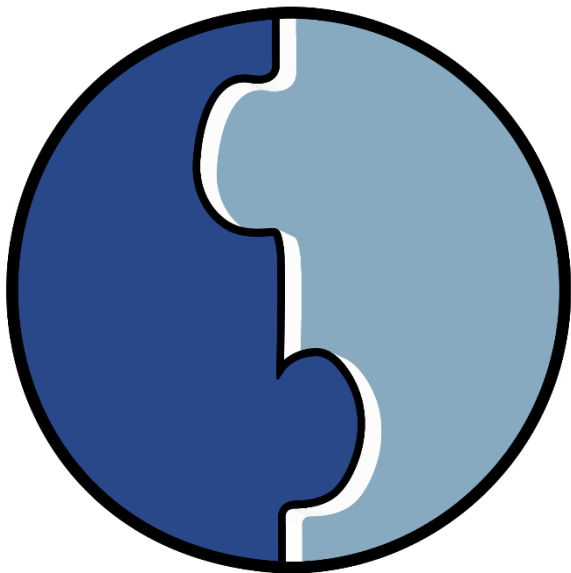


# COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECT



FALL 2023

---

Constructor University

**C>ONSTRUCTOR**  
UNIVERSITY



**COMMUNITY  
IMPACT  
PROJECT**

---

# Community Impact Project (CIP)

## Syllabus

### Table of Contents

- Short Course Introduction
- CIP Coordination Team
- Course Overview
- Course Requirements

---

## Short Course Introduction

The community impact (CIP) is a 5 ECTS project, mandatory for all undergraduate students (exception: IEM), class of 2024 and higher in their 5<sup>th</sup> semester. It is neither an internship, nor a commercial service, but rather an opportunity to connect your academic achievements to social realities in specific targeted projects. It is designed to enhance the study experience of our students, to strengthen their employability on German or European labor markets and to emphasize the importance of our integration into the region. Each CIP entails working in interdisciplinary teams, joining or developing a project that is useful to our region (implies that you find a regional partner) and applying what you have learned academically in a problem-solving context (implies that your project is connected to your major/minor).

## CIP Coordination Team

The Community Impact Project (CIP) is led and coordinated by **Dr. Jakob Fruchtmann** (CIP Chair and Academic Leader), **Dr. Freia Hardt** (Administration), and **Alena Klein** (CIP Coordinator). To ensure the academic relevance of a project, every CIP is supervised and assessed by one of the faculty members:

**Dr. Jakob Fruchtmann** - University Lecturer in Sociology  
(School of Business, Social & Decision Sciences)

**Prof. Dr. Vikram Unnithan** - Professor of Geosciences Physics & Earth Sciences  
(School of Science)

**Dr. Omid Fatahi Valilai** - University Lecturer in Industrial Engineering  
(School of Business, Social & Decision Sciences)

**Max Schlenker** - Head of Language and Culture Center (LCC) and Language Lecturer (German)

STEM-related CIPs that belong to a separate project cluster, called meerMINT are led, supervised, and assessed by:

**Juliane Kuhlmann**  
(Base Manager meerMINT-Dock Nord)

If you have any ideas or questions, feel free to contact us.

## Course Overview

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Course</b>                               | JTCI-CI-950 Community Impact Project  |
| <b>Term</b>                                 | Fall 2023   |
| <b>Type</b>                                 | A group project-based learning module. There are no classes taking place within this course.  |
| <b>Administrative Aspects</b>               | <b>Director of Student Affairs</b><br><b>Name:</b> Dr. Freia Hardt<br><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:fhardt@constructor.university.de">fhardt@constructor.university.de</a>  |
| <b>CIP Chair Academic Leader Instructor</b> | <b>Name:</b> Dr. Jakob Fruchtmann<br><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:jfruchtmann@constructor.university.de">jfruchtmann@constructor.university.de</a><br><br>Book an online meeting: <a href="https://cggzwlxoskptcnmxf.10to8.com">https://cggzwlxoskptcnmxf.10to8.com</a>  |
| <b>CIP Coordinator</b>                      | <b>Name:</b> Alena Klein<br><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:aklein@constructor.university.de">aklein@constructor.university.de</a>  |
| <b>Faculty Supervision</b>                  | <p>Every project is accompanied by a faculty member (Faculty Co-Chair) to make sure projects make both practical and academic sense and that students set themselves realistic goals that are a good match for their academic profile. Faculty oversee students in their development of initiative by providing their expertise where needed and supervise external communication. They also approve student's participation in a chosen project and grade the successful completion of CIPs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Faculty members supervising CIPs:</u></b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Dr. Jakob Fruchtmann<br/><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:jfruchtmann@constructor-university.de">jfruchtmann@constructor-university.de</a></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Prof. Dr. Vikram Unnithan<br/><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:vunnithan@constructor.university">vunnithan@constructor.university</a></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Dr. Omid Fatahi Valilai<br/><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:ofatahivalilai@constructor.university">ofatahivalilai@constructor.university</a></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Max Schlenker<br/><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:mschlenker@constructor.university">mschlenker@constructor.university</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Base Manager meerMINT-Dock Nord:</u></b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> Juliane Kuhlmann<br/><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:jkuhlmann@constructor.university">jkuhlmann@constructor.university</a></p> |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>                        | None  |

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Academic Workload</b>           | 125 hours  |
| <b>Grading</b>                     | Pass/fail  |
| <b>Credits</b>                     | 5 ECTS   |
| <b>Official Course Description</b> | <p>CIPs are self-organized, major related and problem centered applications of the students' acquired knowledge and skills. The activities will ideally be connected to their majors, so that they will challenge the students' sense of practical relevance and social responsibility within the field of their studies. Projects will tackle real issues in their direct and/or broader social environment. They aim to connect the campus community to other communities, companies, organizations in a mutually beneficial way. Students are encouraged to create their own projects and find regional partners (e.g. companies, schools, NGOs), but will get help by the CIP Coordination Team in doing so. They can also join an existing CIP and collaborate in interdisciplinary groups that tackle a given issue from different disciplinary perspectives. Student activities are self-organized but can draw on support and guidance by the CIP Coordinator, the CIP Chair and Faculty Co-Chairs, and the CIP Student Assistants (SAs).</p>  |
| <b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>  | <p>The Community Impact Project is designed to convey the required personal and social competencies to enable students to finish their studies at Constructor University as socially conscious and responsible graduates and to convey social and personal competencies to the students, including a practical awareness for the societal context and relevance of their academic discipline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand real life issues of communities, organizations and industries and relate them to concepts of the own discipline;</li> <li>• enhance problem-solving skills and develop critical faculty, create solutions to problems and communicate them appropriately to their audience;</li> <li>• apply media and communication skills in diverse and non-peer social contexts;</li> <li>• develop awareness for the societal relevance of own scientific action and a sense of social;</li> <li>• responsibility for the social surrounding;</li> <li>• reflect own behavior critically in relation to social expectations and consequences;</li> <li>• ability to work in a team and deal with diversity, develop cooperation and conflict skills, strengthen empathy and ambiguity tolerance.</li> </ul> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Usability and Relationship to other Modules</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory for all undergraduate study programs (except IEM) in the 5<sup>th</sup> semester.</li> <li>• Constructor University students who spend their 5<sup>th</sup> semester studying abroad are exempt from taking the CIP.</li> <li>• Students from partner universities may take the CIP during their semester (abroad) at CUB, if accepted by their home university. Prior to their participation in the course, students need to confirm with their home university that the CIP is eligible for credit. While the CIP is worth 5 ECTS in our academic curriculum, it is a partner university that decides how many credits will transfer back.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Recommendations for Preparation</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second-year students are allowed to take the CIP already in their 4<sup>th</sup> semester. These students will then have 2 semesters (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> semester) to complete the course.</li> <li>• Second-year students are encouraged to develop or join a CIP, based on the introductory events during their 4<sup>th</sup> semester, using the database of projects, communicating with fellow students and faculty, and finding potential companies, organizations or communities to target.</li> <li>• Third-year students who have accomplished their CIP are encouraged to support their fellow second-year students during the development phase of the next generations' projects.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Additional Information</b>                      | <p>Knowledge, abilities, or skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of the main concepts and methodological instruments of the respective disciplines.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Assessment</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The evaluation of student's performance in the CIP course is based on three assessments and is conducted by the CIP Faculty (co)-Chair(s):<br/><br/> <u>Assessment 1:</u> Successful completion of the project's planned outcome<br/> <u>Assessment 2:</u> Reflection report (300 – 350 words)<br/> <u>Assessment 3:</u> Group presentation of project results at the CIP Fair in February '24 **<br/><br/> <b>**Assessment 3 does not apply to students from partner universities.</b> </li> </ul>  |
| <b>Release Course Information</b>                  | <p>13.07.2023</p>   |

## Course Requirements

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Course Registration</b></p>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every student should officially register for the CIP module + component on CampusNet during the course registration phase or during the drop-add period.</li> <li>• If you experience problems during the registration procedure, please contact the registrar office directly:<br/><br/><a href="mailto:registrar@constructor.university">registrar@constructor.university</a>.</li> <li>• Late registration requests are allowed in exceptional cases and are as well processed by the registrar office.</li> <li>• A student remains registered for the CIP until the course is successfully completed. There is no need to re-register for the course if a student did not manage to complete the CIP within one semester.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Online Learning Platform: Moodle</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CIP course is conducted through Moodle platform. To access the course, please log into Moodle:<br/><a href="https://elearning.jacobs-university.de/login/index.php">https://elearning.jacobs-university.de/login/index.php</a></li> <li>• Moodle gives access to all necessary resources, course materials and tools. It allows to download and submit assignments, participate in forums and quizzes, track individual progress and share feedback.</li> <li>• To successfully complete the course, every student is required to follow weekly instructions provided in Moodle.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Recommended Tools</b></p>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>MS Teams</u></b><br/><br/>The CIP has its own Team in MS Teams. All registered CIP students get added to this Team at the beginning of semester. They are encouraged to use that platform for online meetings, communication and documentation purposes. MS Teams offers all kinds of applications, tools and system to help students successfully operate their CIP, one being:<br/><br/><b><u>To-Do (Planner)</u></b><br/><br/>This is a very simple tool, available as a plug-in in every CIPs channel. It can be used to create, assign and track tasks and to set deadlines.</li> <li>• <b><u>Notion</u></b><br/><br/>Notion is a project management tool, available as a plug-in in Moodle. While not obligatory, students are encouraged to use it to run their projects. It is highly recommended for bigger project-groups.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Interdisciplinary Collaboration</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are encouraged to work in interdisciplinary teams. It shall allow them to tackle a given issue from different disciplinary perspectives.</li> </ul>  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Academic Relevance</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students' role/task(s) within the CIP of their choice, should ideally be related to their field of studies (major/minor).</li> <li>• The academic relevance is to be proofed by the faculty Co-Chairs.</li> <li>• Students may seek advice from faculty and the CIP Coordination Team if they struggle to find a suitable project.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Regional Cooperation</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each CIP should be useful to the region of Bremen (and "umzu") – which implies that every project needs to have a local partner.</li> <li>• Not every CIP has a partner per default; it is a task of a student project team to find one. Students are encouraged to do their own research and explore possible cooperation opportunities in the region. They may however, seek advice from university professors /lecturers /staff members /externals and the CIP Coordination Team.</li> <li>• Cooperation with organizations, institutions, companies or even, under specific conditions, individuals off campus are very much welcomed. The major requirement is that students contribute to the solution of problems in our region with what they have learnt so far. Intra-institutional corporations that are solely based on campus can only be permitted in exceptional cases.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Self-organization and Self-management</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each project team holds responsibility for the development of its project, its execution and successful finalization.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Elected Project Manager</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every project team needs to have a manger. The project manager is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communication with the respective Faculty Co-Chair, regional partner and the CIP Coordination Team;</li> <li>- reporting to all stakeholders (mentioned above) if problems arise;</li> <li>- communication with team members;</li> <li>- organization of weekly meetings;</li> <li>- allocation of tasks within the project team and making sure that these are accomplished in a timely manner;</li> <li>- verifying that each student provides the expected results;</li> <li>- ensuring that cooperation with the partner meets its intended goal;</li> <li>- overseeing the recruitment of the succeeding project manager;</li> <li>- supervision of knowledge transfer during hand-over of the project (referring to the next generation of students).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To ensure that your project stays on track, the CIP Coordination team will set up regular meetings with the elected managers of each team.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Distribution of Tasks</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each member of the team should have an individual function/role that is somehow connected to their major.</li> </ul>   |



---

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
|                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student is responsible for attending team meeting and completing assigned tasks on time, and informing their project manager when difficulties occur.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Deadlines</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student is responsible for attending mandatory events (CIP Info Session and CIP Fair) and submitting all course related assignments on time and personally contacting the CIP Coordinator Alena Klein when difficulties occur.</li></ul> |
| <b>Grading Requirements</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We will expect you to 1. succeed in your cooperation, 2. write up your experience in a brief report, and 3. present the project results in a public event in February. The CIP is graded with a pass/fail.</li></ul>                          |



**COMMUNITY  
IMPACT  
PROJECT**

# **GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR CIP**



**We look forward for your  
active participation!**