

Call for Application

Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) on Spinoza's Philosophy

Summer term 2025: Hortus Spinozanum – Diversity beyond Borders, 19–30 May 2025

Send us your application by 2 March 2025

<https://site.unibo.it/sivenatura/it/progetti/bip-hortus-spinozanum-ii-diversity-beyond-borders>

Hardly any other Western philosopher of the early modern era developed more unconventional theories than Baruch de Spinoza. The heterodoxy of his philosophy stems from several doctrines, among others, the capacity of matter to form itself, the parallelism of body and mind, the excessiveness of positive affects and their power to induce the production of rational ideas, as well as the potentiality of the multitude to govern itself, to destroy dysfunctional institutions and create new ones from below.

The Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) provides critical tools for interpreting the present era from a Spinozian perspective, but also offers an opportunity to study multiple aspects of Spinozism and Spinoza's thought, also regarding their position in the history of philosophy. In addition, you will gain insights into why Spinoza received such outstanding attention from various currents of contemporary critical thought, from post-structuralism and post-Marxism to New Materialism.

The professorship Cultural Philosophy/ Philosophies of Culture invite MA and doctoral students to apply for the BIP on Spinoza, taught by lecturers from twelve European universities. You will spend two weeks in Bologna with international students from universities who are a part of the Hortus Spinozanum network. The innovative format of combining online sessions with a two weeks period for face-to-face teaching is an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their understanding of Spinoza's thought, sources, and reception. It provides a chance to meet colleagues and scholars in a thriving and international context.

- The program carries 6 ECTS for a total of 30 teaching hours (F2F and online);
- the summer school takes place at the University of Bologna from 19 – 30 May 2025;
- date of virtual mobility: 02/06/2025 (closing seminar)
- activities will be conducted in English or French;
- for the transfer of your credits to Frankfurt, you have to submit a course paper (10 pages);
- your stay in Bologna will be financially supported by Erasmus funds (79 €/ day);
- you receive an additional travel cost compensation of 275 €;
- further subsidies for green travel or to compensate for disadvantages are possible;
- apply for one out of 6 scholarships available (deadline March, 2nd).

Please send your brief and informal application to Prof. Dr. Katja Diefenbach: diefenbach@europa-uni.de. A couple of lines are sufficient (in English or German):

- Why are you interested in the programme?
- Do you already have knowledge of Spinoza's philosophy (which is **not** necessary in order to apply) and if so, regarding which aspects?

Viadrina programme head: Prof. Dr. Katja Diefenbach, diefenbach@europa-uni.de

Course offer: Becoming Imperceptible: Spinoza in Deleuze and Guattari's *A Thousand Plateaus*, 27.–28.05.25, 14:30–16:30, University of Bologna

Coordination: Monika Stekowski, International Office, outgoing@europa-uni.de



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DEPARTMENT
OF PHILOSOPHY

hortus spinozanum



SIVE NATURA
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR
SPINOZAN STUDIES



HORTUS SPINOZANUM II: DIVERSITY BEYOND BORDERS Blended Intensive Programme (BIP)

Department of Philosophy | Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
From 19th May to 2nd June, 2025

What is a BIP?

The Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) is a short, intensive programme with innovative ways of learning and teaching, including a mix of F2F and online activities.

The BIP program is a unique educational experience incorporating online teaching with a period of physical mobility. As part of the programme, you will spend two weeks in Bologna with international students from universities who are a part of the Hortus Spinozanum network. The innovative format of combining online sessions with a short period for face-to-face teaching is an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their understanding of Spinoza's thought, sources, and reception. It provides a chance to meet colleagues and scholars in a thriving and international context.

Who can participate and how will my participation be recognised?

- Hortus Spinozanum II is open to students from all three cycles of study (Bachelor/Master/PhD), but enrollment in one of the partner universities is required.
- The programme carries 6 ECTS credits, for a total of 30 teaching hours (between F2F and online). A certificate of attendance will be delivered at the end of the programme.

How do I apply?

The program, as part of Erasmus+, follows the same deadlines. To apply, check with your university to find out the deadlines for the Erasmus+ 2025-26 Call for Applications.

More info: <https://site.unibo.it/sivenatura/it/progetti/bip-hortus-spinozanum-ii-diversity-beyond-borders>



Partner universities:

Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Université Paris Nanterre, Université de Picardie Jules Verne, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Galatasaray Üniversitesi, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Europa-Universität Viadrina, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, Université de Reims, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität