



Global Project and Change Management

Course offer for exchange students

Academic year 2026/2027



Global Project and Change Management

Following Global Project and Change Management (GPCM) as an exchange student will allow you to follow a diverse range of integrated (theoretical) topics whilst also working on real-life projects. During your semester in the GPCM programme, you will learn how to look at complex sustainability issues from many different disciplines by working on local and global issues from your future field of work. You will learn to approach issues from among others; an economic, technological, social, and environmental perspective. Throughout the semester you will be provided with knowledge, skills, and practical experience to grow as a change agent.

For the academic year 2026-2027, GPCM is offering **three** semesters – [two in the spring](#) and [one in the fall](#). Each semester offers a variety of courses aimed at a specialization in creating change within the energy transition, food transition or vitality. A key component of each semester includes a unique experience of applying change and project management knowledge through a Living Lab. The Living Lab is designed to give students practical experience, building on their theoretical knowledge, through collaboration with external organizations in a real-life project.

Each semester accounts for 30 ECs and is taught in English.

Details of each course offering can be found below.

For complete information on our whole Global Project and Change Management programme can be found [here](#).

Timeline of HZ, courses and tests

Under Dutch law, every student is entitled to re-sit each test once per year. It is crucially important that you do not schedule your travel home before the re-sit opportunity. Test dates are usually finalized three to four weeks in advance. Test weeks, however, are already known now. The full year plan can be found [here](#).

Course offer FALL semester 2026-2027

Following the Global Project and Change Management programme as an exchange student in the fall of 2026/ 2027 means that you focus on the overarching theme of vitality.

Change Management in the field of vitality is offered to full-time Global Project and Change Management students in the third semester, i.e. second year of their studies.

In this semester, you will follow six diverse courses (including a Living Lab) that will prepare you to understand, analyse, and facilitate change within the field of transitions and sustainability.

This semester of 30 ECs is made up of the following courses:

Applied Change management II (10 ECs)

In this 10 EC course, students will deepen their knowledge and skills of Change Management within a real-world context. They develop a systems thinking mindset, exploring frameworks for systems transformation and using scenario planning as a tool to envision and navigate complex futures. Students also build a critical awareness of how sustainability-driven change shapes human behavior and examine emerging trends and innovations in the field of vitality.

An important part of this course is the **Living Lab on vitality** that is designed to give students practical experience, building on their theoretical knowledge, through collaboration with external organizations in a real-life project.

Living Lab Vitality

In the Living Lab offered in the fall semester of 2026-2027, students work together with external stakeholders on a wicked problem in the field of vitality. Students apply their research and advisory skills to investigate real-life health and wellbeing challenges, working on behalf of actual clients or organizations in the region.

The goals of this Living Lab are:

- To experience what vitality and preventive health means for organizations and gain insight into the enablers and barriers to a healthier environment and society;
- To apply and practice theories and methods the students will learn in the courses;
- To build experience in teamwork, systems thinking and change management.

Examples of previous projects include increasing the use of physical activity facilities on the HZ campus, exploration of how the leisure and tourism industry can contribute to the health of residents and supporting domestic care personnel in the early detection of health deterioration among elderly clients in Zeeland.

Climate, society and sustainable development II (5 ECs)

In this course, students will deepen their understanding of the relationship between climate change, geography, and society. They will investigate how shifting environmental conditions ripple through communities affecting livelihoods and social structures. Students will develop concrete advice reports for a real city or region, identifying strategies communities can adopt to build long-term resilience in the face of climate change.

Innovation for Sustainability (5 ECs)

This 5 EC course is a comprehensive exploration of the relationship between technology and society, focusing on how technological innovations can be used to create positive social change. Students explore the historical, philosophical, and ethical dimensions of technology, as well as its potential to drive social innovation in a wide array of sectors/themes. They learn to critically evaluate the effectiveness of technological innovations, identify opportunities to use research outcomes and innovations, and integrate ethical considerations into the solutions that address wicked problems and/or the unintended effects of such technological solutions.

Communication and facilitation techniques (5 ECs)

In this 5 EC course, students develop the interpersonal and professional skills needed to drive change effectively in complex, multi-stakeholder environments. They explore key communication

techniques, learn the principles of negotiation and persuasion, and practice how to facilitate group processes and team dynamics. Through hands-on exercises and real-world scenarios, students build confidence in navigating difficult conversations, aligning diverse perspectives, and mobilizing others toward shared goals.

Personal and professional development III (3.75 ECs)

This course is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge required for personal growth and professional success. It encompasses a broad range of topics aimed at enhancing presentation skills, developing a digital identity and other key professional competencies. Additionally, students will be given the opportunity to discover global challenges that enlighten their passion for change making. This is done through Inspiration Fridays where students organize events (ranging from guest lectures, debates, field activities etc.) to build a strong community of changemakers and inspire each other to enhance their network and broaden their perspectives. This course holds 3.75 EC.

HZ Explore (1.25 ECs)

HZ offers a wide range of pre-defined activities that contribute to their personal growth and development. A key feature of these activities is meeting and connecting with other students at HZ beyond GPCM. The activities on offer range from 1.25 to 2.5 EC and are developed and organized by teaching teams, support services, research groups, and research professors within HZ. Students have the autonomy to choose an activity that is in line with their interests and growth objectives offering them the ability to personalize their learning goals.

Course offer SPRING semester 2026-2027

Following the Global Project and Change Management programme as an exchange student in the spring of 2026/2027 means that you can decide between the semester with the overarching theme of energy or the semester with the overarching theme on food.

- Change Management in the field of energy is offered to full-time Global Project and Change Management students in the second semester of the first year of their studies.
- Project Management in the field of food is offered to full-time Global Project and Change Management students in the second semester of the second year of their studies.

In each semester, you will follow six diverse courses (including a Living Lab) that will prepare you to understand, analyze, and facilitate change within the field of (energy) transitions and sustainability.

Option 1: Change management in the field of energy

This semester of 30 ECs is made up of the following courses:

Applied change management I (10 ECs)

In this 10 EC course, students will be introduced to the foundational knowledge and skills of change management within a real-world context. They will engage with theoretical concepts of change management, enhance their comprehension of systems thinking and change management

theory. They will also expand their knowledge and research skills concerning trends and innovations in the energy field, while simultaneously developing their project management capabilities.

An important part of this course is the **Living Lab on energy**. The Living Lab is designed to give students practical experience, building on their theoretical knowledge, through collaboration with external organizations in a real-life project.

Living Lab Energy

HZ University of Applied Sciences, located in the Province of Zeeland, has strong ties to many organizations situated in the broader region of the delta area. It is an area characterized by organizations who are pioneering in the fields of food, water, climate change, and energy transition. In this Living Lab, students can contribute to the most current challenges of these organizations, working together with external stakeholders on a wicked problem in the field of **energy transition**.

The goals of Living Lab offered in the spring semester of 2026-2027 are:

- To experience what energy transition means for organizations and get insight into enablers and blockers of the energy transition;
- To apply and practice theories and methods the students will learn in the courses;
- To gain experience in teamwork and project management.

Research methods I (5 ECs)

This 5 EC course focuses on foundational research concepts, knowledge, and skills essential for conducting practice-oriented research. Students will be taught quantitative research methods and qualitative research methods, both needed to have a well-equipped and well-rounded understanding and abilities of research.

Sustainable business (5 ECs)

In this 5 EC course, students will expand upon their initial introduction to sustainable business practices. To facilitate this, they will acquire a comprehensive understanding of economic principles and the foundational aspects of the contemporary global economy. Students will investigate the emerging paradigm of the Purpose Economy, wherein societal and environmental impacts are integral to economic success. They will delve into the theoretical foundations and practical applications of purpose-driven business models, analyzing how organizations can create value beyond profit. Furthermore, they will be instructed in product design through the principles of design thinking to help them become proficient in prototyping and evaluating product lifecycles.

Cultural communication and behaviour (5 ECs)

Students will acquire various leadership skills and theoretical knowledge to establish a foundation for becoming effective communicators who are culturally sensitive. They will develop a profound understanding of cultural awareness, nonviolent communication, and the dynamics of intercultural interactions within organizational contexts. They will develop behavioural skills that enable them to reflect on cultural sensitivity in and outside of the workplace and make decisions from the perspective of inclusiveness. This course holds 5 EC.

Personal and professional development II (3.75 ECs)

This course is designed to equip students with the essential skills and knowledge required for personal growth and professional success. It encompasses a broad range of topics aimed at fostering self-development, enhancing interpersonal skills, and developing professional competencies. Additionally, students will be given the opportunity to discover global challenges that enlighten their passion for change making. This is done through Inspiration Fridays where students organize events (ranging from guest lectures, debates, field activities) to build a strong community of changemakers and inspire each other to enhance their network and broaden their perspectives. This course holds 3.75 EC.

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Option 2: Change Management in the field of food

This semester of 30 ECs is made up of the following courses:

Applied Project Management II (10 ECs)

In this 10 EC course, students will apply their knowledge and skills of project management and deepen their understanding of the food sector by critically examining its ethics, emerging trends, and innovations. They also develop their personal leadership approach, building self-awareness and reflective capacity as future changemakers.

A key part of this course is the **Living Lab on food** that is designed to give students practical experience, building on their theoretical knowledge, through collaboration with external organizations in a real-life project.

Living Lab Food

In the Living Lab offered in this spring semester of 2026-2027, students work on a wicked problem in the field of food. Unlike the Living Lab of energy where students work on a pre-arranged project, in this living lab, students team up and set up their own project to create change in the field of food. This will give them hands-on experience to apply their networking skills to find external stakeholders to work with, focusing on transition in the food sector.

Governance of Sustainability (5 ECs)

In this 5 EC course, students explore the foundations of governance, law, and policy in a global context. They examine different forms of governance, the evolving role of governments and critically assess how 'good governance' drives sustainable development and who the key actors are in that process. Students also build knowledge of informal governance structures and how they shape social movements across issues such as climate change, migration, and racial justice.

Alongside this, they develop a working understanding of law and build practical skills in policy analysis, enabling them to critically evaluate how policies are made and what drives change.

Research Methods II (5 ECs)

In this 5 EC course, students will be taught quantitative research methods, qualitative and mixed methods research methods, and analyze data systematically. Furthermore, they will learn about different types of statistical concepts and calculations (e.g. descriptive statistics, normal distribution, p-values, power analysis, F-test, t-test). Students apply this knowledge directly by setting up and executing an experiment, analyzing the results and sharing their results in a written research report.

Entrepreneurship (5 ECs)

In this 5 EC course, students are introduced to the mindset and skills of entrepreneurship as a vehicle for driving meaningful change. Students can expect to explore what it takes to be a future-ready entrepreneur, developing out-of-the-box thinking and learning how to build sustainable business models. Drawing on their existing knowledge of sustainability, project and change management, they will discover how to channel these competencies into ventures that create real impact in the world.

Personal and professional development IV (3.75 ECs)

This course is designed to provide hands-on skills and knowledge that are essential for personal growth and professional success. It encompasses a broad range of topics aimed at enhancing presentation skills, career coaching, and developing professional competencies. Additionally, students will be given the opportunity to discover global challenges that enlighten their passion for change making. This is done through Inspiration Fridays where students organize events (ranging from guest lectures, debates, field activities etc.) to build a strong community of changemakers and inspire each other to enhance their network and broaden their perspectives. This course holds 3.75 EC.

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Additional Course for EXCHANGE students

CU34638 Dutch Culture & Language (2.5 ECs)

This class helps you to become knowledgeable in basic Dutch and introduces you to Dutch culture and history.

Your contacts at HZ



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