Locations

Wroclaw Tech University Campus
Wybrzeże Wyspiańskiego 27, 50-370 Wrocław, Poland
Important dates

Start virtual component

End of February 2024

In-person classroom

18-22 March 2024

End virtual component

Middle of May 2024
Details and contact

Target group

Bachelor/Eng. (from 3rd year) and master (chemical, biochemical or materials) engineering students (minimum requirement: completed course on organic chemistry and polymers)

Credits and Administration fees

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CREDITS</th>
<th>Erasmus Plus students</th>
<th>Non-Erasmus Plus students</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 ECTS</td>
<td>No fee</td>
<td>250€</td>
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Contact

Anna Jakubiak-Marcinkowska, PhD
anna.jakubiak.marcinkowska@pwr.edu.pl

Anna Siekierka, PhD
anna.siekierka@pwr.edu.pl
At the beginning of the twentieth century, human civilisation stepped into the new Age of Plastics - materials that dominated all aspects of society. Nowadays, no progress has been made in new technologies, and simple life activities cannot be done without polymeric materials. This naturally led to the development of modern polymer chemistry and processing technologies, but at the same time, set engineers and societies facing severe challenges connected with the growing amount of plastic wastes, macro- and micropollutants in landscapes, oceans, air and human bodies, large energy consumption, limited resources for polymer production and lack of legal regulations dedicated to the complete life cycle of plastics. Those challenges led to the goal for upcoming years – to make plastic production and management of their life cycle more sustainable and effective – and to reach it, intensive cooperation between scientists, engineers, politicians and society is needed.
The aim of „The Circularity of Polymers” program is to propose a state-of-the-art circular value chain for various polymer types, taking into account the material’s properties, complexity of common plastic materials, recent innovations in the given field (e.g. recycling types, new sorting technologies, bio-based materials and bioplastics etc.) and currently existing waste management schemes. During this Blended Intensive Program visions, methodologies and best practices will be shared and discussed between professors and students virtually as well as face to face in order to set the new horizon for circular polymers. Special session with industrial experts will be dedicated to the today’s challenges in plastics waste types.
Details and contact

Tentative program

Virtual part

- theoretical preparation to in-person week (introductory reading on polymer synthesis, properties and processing techniques)
- international team work on defined topics under supervision of BIP lecturers and doctoral students

In-person international week (Wroclaw Tech)

Day 1 (evening): registration, general introduction to the BIP program
Day 2: polymer synthesis and plastics preparation, polymer additives
Day 3: recycling of plastics, sorting techniques and MFA
Day 4: heteropolymers, bio-based materials and biopolymers
Day 5: today’s challenges
  * presentations session
Day 6: sustainability assessments and policy

Virtual part and evaluation

- Hand-in of written report, presentations of the assignments
The students will make an assignment in international groups with three main targets:

1. get familiar with real plastic waste objects or ideas/techniques used for the management of their life cycle and use this for reflection on the course,
2. make an international comparison,
3. integrate the learnings of the course lectures into practical examples.

In the assignments, the students collect their own waste or industrial samples and characterise them on a material level basis (e.g. which polymers are used), using statistics to compare their datasets or investigate some further processing technologies used to improve their life cycle. They put this into the perspective of national statistics on post-consumer plastic waste. Furthermore, they investigate how plastic waste is currently treated in their respective countries, and finally, they describe future evolutions.

All instructors of organising partners are expected to participate in the (1) supervision of the groups and (2) evaluation of the final papers and presentations in May 2024.
**BIP 2024 Application Procedure**

*please make sure there is an inter-institutional agreement between our Universities*

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<th>Application Step</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1st</strong>: recruitment at Home Universities</td>
<td>according to the individual requirements of each partner University</td>
<td>given by Partners</td>
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| **2nd**: nomination to Wroclaw Tech | Information about nominated students should be sent to Wroclaw Tech International Office via e-mail (to anna.wojcik@pwr.edu.pl or barbara.jarosz@pwr.edu.pl) or directly via IRC system (for partners who used IRC before). Nomination should include following information:  
• student’s name  
• student’s e-mail address  
• type of mobility (BIP) and period | 30.10 — 30.11.2023 |
| **3rd**: students application via IRC system | Students will receive email with information about application process in our online IRC system (we require scanned documents in on-line IRC system)  
Students will have to provide the following documents in the registration system as well as fill in their personal data in the IRC profile:  
Learning Agreement for BIP (general BIP study plan, duly signed and stamped by Home University Departmental Coordinator)  
Copy of health insurance (e.g. European Health Insurance Card) | Deadline: **10.12.2023** |
| **4th**: approval by WroclawTech | List of accepted students will be announced by mail to Partner Universities. | 22.12.2023 |
| **5th**: announcements about team members | Students will be ascribed to particular project groups and informed directly by the organizers. | 19.01.2024 |