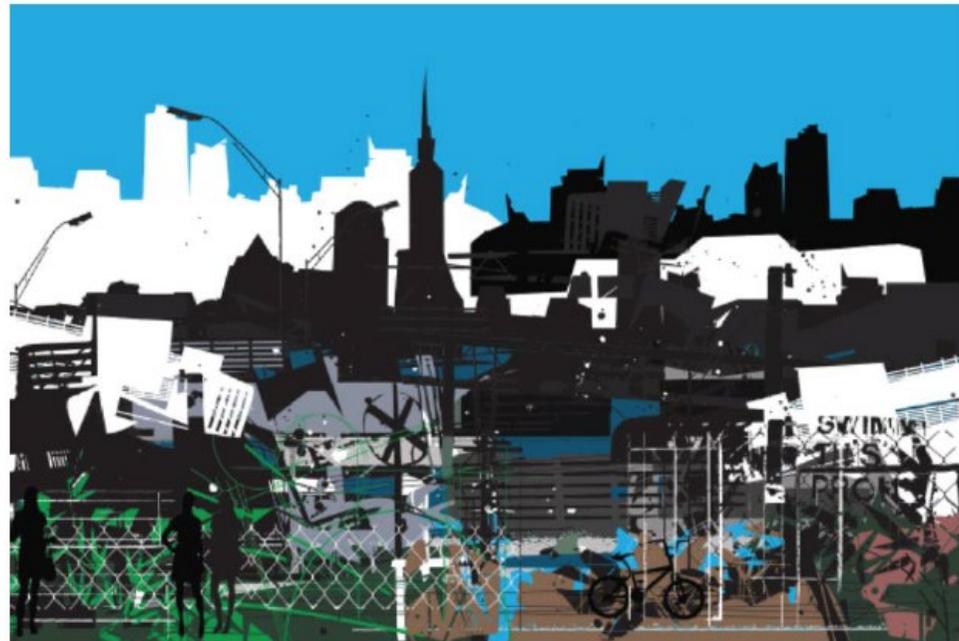# Preliminary programme overview summercourse Smart Sustainable Cities - August 2025 – Utrecht, NL

What does the city of the future look like? Since the beginning of the 21st century the majority of the world population have lived in urban areas. The Summer School course Smart Sustainable Cities discusses how to boost the sustainable development of cities. In almost two weeks, we will dive into several highly relevant themes such as clean air, mobility, waste, energy, health and also innovation, inclusiveness, participation and smart solutions to these issues.

Participants will be introduced into several themes for developing smart sustainable cities. During the course students will be working with the handbook for applied sciences Smart Sustainable Cities (Rietbergen, Velzing & Van Stigt (eds), 2021). In combination with an integral assignment, students will capture theories, methods and tools relevant for analysing Smart Sustainable Cities and developing smart solutions for sustainable challenges within cities.

Real life assignment; the assignment will be carried out in teams and students will work on a current and actual project in the city of Utrecht. They will apply the models and theory on this project. In addition to the theories learned, with the assignment, participants will present an innovative solution for one of the challenges within the project.

Preliminary programme overview summercourse Smart Sustainable Cities 12 – 21 augustus 2026 – Utrecht, NL

Monday August 10, 2026		Wednesday August 12 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Thursday August 13 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Friday August 14 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99
Online meet up - Utrecht Science Park and Centre of Expertise - Handbook - Getting to know the students and lecturers; - Programme - First short introduction on the assignment		**Course introduction** -Introduction on Smart Sustainable Cites -Introduction to the programme, explanation of the assignment, tools for inventarisation area -Getting to know eachother further **Visit of Utrecht centre** -Excursion	**Healthy Urban Development** -Create green and quiet places in areas with urban densification -How to participate residents in design? -Use instruments to scan positive or negative impact on health and wellbeing **Excursion Utrecht Science Park** -Work on assignment, apply Place Standard	**Systemic Design Thinking** -Viewing and structuring the design process by iterations -Double Diamond Model -Involve complex contexts -Present assignment approach **Visit of Utrecht Science Park** -Work on assignment, interviews -Prepare questions for lecture on Mobility
Monday August 17 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Tuesday August 18 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Wednesday August 19 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Thursday August 20 09:00-17:00 hr at Padualaan 99	Friday August 21 09:00-13:00 hr at Padualaan 99
Energy & Carbon Accounting -Energy use in cities and energy neutral cities -Understanding and categorizing main sources of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions -Energy poverty **Playing the UN game on effects of measures for sustainability** -Prepare questions for lecture on Circular Economy	**Mobility** -Plan, monitor and evaluate mobility projects -Translate general targets into quantifiable goals -Discover how to focus mobility projects on the desired behavioral change **Excursion City of Utrecht; Central station area & bike hub** -work on assignment -Prepare questions for lecture on Energy & Carbon Accounting	**Circular Economy: Material and Value Flows in Cities** -Principles, urgency and relevance -Apply CE on cities -Understand and apply Material Flow mapping -Distinguish and apply circular strategies **Excursion on circularity, visit of a project** - work on assignment -Prepare ideas for Design Thinking, prototyping	**Systemic Design Thinking** -Looking back with the Double Diamond Model -What was the focus of your assignment? -How to visualize your ideas? -Can you test your results? **Prototyping in lab** -Work on your visualizations -Prepare presentations for seminar Friday	**Wrap up & Seminar** -Summary of the course, lessons learned -Final presentations: -Seminar about Smart Sustainable Cities -with external partners -certificates

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