General information

IGC Courses: Calls, Proposals and Funding

IGC Course Development and Selection

IGC courses are initiated and supported by the Academic Board of the IGC.

Calls for new IGC courses are open to all SSPH+ Faculty Members, who are invited to submit course proposals. The Academic Board reviews all proposals and decides which courses will be implemented.

Selected courses are initially offered for **five editions**. The Academic Board reserves the right to discontinue a course earlier if it does not meet demand or the expected standards. After five editions, a new call for proposals is issued. The current course facilitator is welcome to submit a new proposal.

Course Proposal Submission

Please submit your course proposal by email to the IGC Manager:
Ann Walser: **awalser@ssphplus.ch**

Funding

Course Development

The selected candidate receives **CHF 3,000** for developing the full course concept.

Course Delivery

The course budget is **CHF 5,000 per ECTS**, regardless of the number of lecturers.
This budget covers:

- Lecturer remuneration, including honoraria and expenses
- Course materials
- Room costs
- Coffee breaks
- Local course organization

Additional Travel and Accommodation Allowance

For **onsite courses**, an additional travel and accommodation allowance is available **per in-class course day**, regardless of the number of lecturers:

Course Day with:	**Allowance per course day**
Lecturer(s) from SSPH+ partner universities	CHF 0
Guest lecturer(s) from Switzerland	CHF 100
Guest lecturer(s) from Europe	CHF 300
Guest lecturer(s) from overseas	CHF 600

SSPH+ INTER-UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CAMPUS SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Call for a new course in the course program of the SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus (IGC)

Course Topic: "Misinformation and Information Quality in Public Health"

Basic idea

The course aims to provide participants with a theoretically grounded and practice-oriented understanding of how health information is produced, circulated, interpreted, and contested within contemporary digital information ecosystems. The course responds to the growing need for public health professionals who are capable not only of communicating evidence effectively, but also of critically understanding the mechanisms through which misleading, manipulative, or low-quality health information shapes health behaviors, institutional trust, and public decision-making.

Drawing on perspectives from public health, health communication, cognitive and behavioral sciences, argumentation theory, ethics, philosophy, and digital media studies, the course should examine the dynamics of health misinformation and information quality from both conceptual and applied perspectives. The course should address contemporary debates surrounding misinformation, disinformation, trust, freedom of expression, institutional legitimacy, and the governance of health information environments.

Particular attention should be devoted to emerging technologies, especially generative artificial intelligence, and their implications for the production, amplification, evaluation, and management of health information. The course should also address evidence-based strategies for strengthening resilience against misinformation and promoting trustworthy and ethically grounded public health communication.

The pedagogical approach will combine conceptual depth with practical relevance through lectures, critical appraisal exercises, structured discussions, collaborative group work, and analysis of contemporary case studies.

Objectives

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Understand the mechanisms through which misinformation and low-quality health information emerge, circulate, and influence public health outcomes.
- Analyze health information environments using frameworks e.g. from public health or health communication and appraise empirical research and methodological approaches used to study misinformation and health information ecosystems.
- Evaluate the opportunities and risks associated with generative artificial intelligence and emerging digital technologies in health communication.
- Develop evidence-informed approaches to strategic communication and misinformation management within public health contexts.
- Reflect critically on ethical and governance issues related to trust, freedom of expression, censorship, and institutional legitimacy.

Planned date

2028 / 2029

Planned duration

2 to 5 day-course (1 or 2 ECTS)

Teaching formats

Teaching modalities may include pre-course readings or preparation, E-learning, blended learning, in-person lectures, practical exercises, workshops, group work, and assessments

Submission date

30 November 2026

Course Proposal Submission

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Ann Walser: **awalser@ssphplus.ch**