

International Summer School 2019
Universities of Freiburg – Nagoya – Strasbourg
September 16 – 20, 2019

Sustainability, Ethics and Transformation

Theme

How can open societies adapt their life styles to the imperatives of sustainable development, as ultimately defined by finite resources, and by the fragility not only of our natural habitat but also of our political institutions and consent? Is this to be achieved under the perspective of “globalization”, with its innate rationality leaving little room for actual political choice, or are the ethical principles those open societies are built on to be reinstated? Which is the societal consensus against which to gauge the transformative power and pull of new technologies in unison with economic interests?

This year's edition of the universities' of Strasbourg, Nagoya and Freiburg trilateral summer school will reflect upon these questions, focusing on recently available or emerging, and certainly disruptive, technologies – digitalization and quantum science –, as well as on key issues of global policy making like health, energy and food. Students will have the opportunity to engage with cutting-edge expertise from the social sciences, ethics, politics, engineering and physics, and will be encouraged to build and sharpen their own perspectives in diverse formats structuring the debate.

Participant requirements

Applicants should have a keen motivation to engage in a substantiated transdisciplinary debate on the Summer School's topic. Candidates must be available for the entire duration of the Summer School, and must be prepared to participate in all activities. All sessions will be conducted in English, and therefore fluency in both spoken and written English is essential.

Scientific Directors

Prof. Dr. Andreas Buchleitner, Institute of Physics

Prof. Dr. Gunther Neuhaus, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation