**Student Information Sheet**

**INTER-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH -- SOLIYA CONNECT PROGRAM**

**Orientation Video**: [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJhJRP-hbR8&feature=youtu.be**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJhJRP-hbR8&feature=youtu.be)

**For students in any Master program of the Université Paris-Saclay, with level B2+ or more.**

**(coordinator:** [gina.larocca@u-psud.fr**)**](mailto:gina.larocca@u-psud.fr))

15-18 students will be selected to participate in the Soliya Connect online inter-cultural communication program ***instead of attending regular English classes****.*

WHO/WHAT ? : Soliya is an international nonprofit organization preparing the next generation with the skills, attitudes, and commitment to engage with difference constructively.

Selon la Direction de l’Innovation Pédagogique de l’Université, *« …les attentes en termes d’acquis d’apprentissage des étudiants ne se limitent parfois plus aux savoirs pour aller vers les savoir-faire,* ***les savoir-être****, des compétences alors que l’évolution des connaissances scientifiques sur l’apprentissage invite à penser des formes d’enseignement reposant sur les* ***interactions****, au moment où la transformation pédagogique dans l’enseignement supérieur est encouragée et valorisée. »*

Soliya contributes to this teaching innovation by encouraging the above mentioned interactions, to develop the « savoir être » (social/interpersonal skills) that has become crucial in the global context we live in today by creating a safe environment to interact.

Soliya operates at the intersection of technology, peacebuilding, and global education to foster local awareness and global perspectives. Soliya collaborates with several renowned institutions in the world, such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the United Nations Alliance for Civilisations, the UN Habitat, etc (see <https://www.soliya.net/about/partners>).

Selection of **masters students** participating in this pilot program will be based on **English level and motivation** **to participate in the online communication program**. Students selected will be communicating with students from universities in the USA, Europe, the Middle East, Asia…. (see a list here: https://www.soliya.net/about/university-partners )

\*Students who have successfully completed the Connect program will be able to add the intercultural communication experience onto their *Curriculum Vitae*.

Below is a short summary of how the online program works:

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**SOLIYA CONNECT : Online Cross Cultural communication program**

Connect Program Video and Soliya website :<https://www.soliya.net/programs/connect-program>, <https://www.soliya.net> )

The Connect Program is an online cross-cultural education program integrated into curriculum that provides young adults with a unique opportunity to:

* Establish a deeper understanding for the perspectives of others around the world on important socio-political- environmental issues.
* Develop 21st Century skills such as critical thinking, cross-cultural communication, and media literacy.

Through a webconferencing application, students speak face-to-face in groups of 8-10 global peers, with no more than two students from a *physical* classroom assigned to the same *online* group so as to ensure a deeply **multilateral learning experience**. Each group is led by one or two facilitators trained, by Soliya, to sustain dialogue and support an environment where students can comfortably explore perspectives, uncover biases, and arrive at a better understanding of cultures, with the goal of developing the global competence essential to thriving in an interconnected world.

**Schedule and requirements for students participating in the program:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| When & Where | What | Who is concerned |
| By Monday 24th September, or Tuesday 25th at the latest. | - Send an email to gina.larocca@u-psud.fr if you are interested in participating in the Soliya Connect program.  Include:  a) Why you would like to participate (motivation)  - All applicants will receive, **a Soliya Student Information Brochure to read to understand the expectations, this Information Sheet about our course, and a Commitment Contract to sign and return, showing that you are commited to the program.** | Students interested in the Soliya connect program |
| By Tuesday 25th at the latest  **(you will know by Tuesday 25th Sept. or earlier) 🡨** | **- Return the signed Commitment Contract to Gina La Rocca. (email above)**  ***\*\*If you do not have immediate access to a scanner, just type in your name on the document and send it back to me by email, and you can print it, sign it, scan it and then return it to me (Gina) when you are able.***  **\*\*\*As soon as I get this from you,** and if you are accepted in the program, **I will send you an email with the registration and tech test links plus program information you will need.** | Students interested in the Soliya connect program |
| By Thursday 27th September  **URGENT !**  \*you will need to act quickly!  **\*\*This deadline is essential, imposed on us by Soliya because they start creating the webconferencing groups on this date.** | 1/ Do the **Tech test** for connection to the Soliya Connect webconferencing platform **from the place you want to do the web conferencing**  \*see below for instructions  (10 minutes)  2/ **Register** to the program, *(using the link you received)*, giving the time slots you can commit to over 8 weeks  \*see information about dates and slots below  (10 minutes)  **THEN YOU ARE IN! BRAVO!** | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
| Monday 01/10, 17h30-20H30 (3 hrs)  - FACE-TO-FACE CLASS, Centre de Langues Mutualisé, Bâtiment Eiffel (3ème étage, s.LC316),Ecole CentraleSupélec,8 à 10 rue Joliot Curie,Gif sur Yvette (Plateau de Moulon) | Introduction to basics of cross cultural communication | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
| Monday 08/10, 17h30-19h30 (2 hrs)  - FACE-TO-FACE CLASS, Centre de Langues Mutualisé, Bâtiment Eiffel (3ème étage, s.LC316),Ecole CentraleSupélec,8 à 10 rue Joliot Curie,Gif sur Yvette (Plateau de Moulon) | Myers-Briggs Personality models and test | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
| Week starting:  15/10/18 | Beginning of the web conferences | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
| Monday 5/11, 17h30-19h30 (2hrs)  - FACE-TO-FACE CLASS, Centre de Langues Mutualisé, Bâtiment Eiffel (3ème étage, s.LC316),Ecole CentraleSupélec,8 à 10 rue Joliot Curie,Gif sur Yvette (Plateau de Moulon) | - Feedback on the program  - How to prepare your TED talk about the Connect program | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
| **December 7th**,  - by E-mail | End of the Connect program  **\*Final (written) Project Due (for Soliya AND for your English teacher (Gina La Rocca)** | Students selected for the Soliya Connect program |
|  |  |  |
| Monday 24th January, 17h30-20h30 (3hrs)  -- FACE-TO-FACE CLASS, Centre de Langues Mutualisé, Bâtiment Eiffel (3ème étage, s.LC316),Ecole CentraleSupélec,8 à 10 rue Joliot Curie,Gif sur Yvette (Plateau de Moulon) | **- Ted Talks Due** (10 minutes per pair of students) delivered by the participants of the Connect program = you and your partner! | All students |
| **TOTAL**: 10hrs class+16hrs Webconferencing = 26hrs |  |  |

**REGISTRATION : SLOTS for web conferencing:**

The program starts on October 15th and ends on December 7thEach student will have to choose one of the slots below for the entire 8 week program.

These times are available Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

1st block: 12:30-16:00 (also broken down into either 12:30-15:30 or 13:00-16:00)

2nd block: 14:45-18:15 (also broken down into either 14:45-17:45 or 15:15-18:15)

3rd block: 17:00-20:30 (also broken down into either 17:00-20:00 or 17:30-20:30)

Each web conference will last 2 hours within the 3 ½-hour slots you have chosen to allow for changes when winter time is introduced.

**LOCATIONS/PLACES for web conferencing:**

You can do the web conferences from anywhere where the connection is possible.

* 5 PCs with webcams will be reserved for the Connect program in building 336, (in the valley), Service des Langues, room 240; However the room is not open for the evening slot (17h-20h30)
* 5 PCs with webcams will also be installed in the ‘Centre des Langues’ room LC316, (3ème étage Bâtiment Eiffel, Ecole Centrale Supélec, 8 à 10 rue Joliot Curie, Gif sur Yvette (Plateau de Moulon)
* BEST SOLUTION, from your home! *\*If you are not sure your computer is compatible, TRY to test it with Soliya first, it will be more comfortable doing it from your own home. If it does not work, then you know you will have access to computers as mentioned in the first 2 points.*

**Technical Testing Information:** Here are the instructions students will need to complete their technical test/set-up. (it’s quite simple!)

1. Make sure you are testing from the location and internet connection you’ll be using during your participation in the Connect Program
2. Make sure you have a headset / headphones with a mic, and a webcam (internal or external)
3. Make sure you have downloaded and installed the latest copy of [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/). \*Please note: you will not need Adobe Flash Player for your participation in the Connect Program, but you will need it in order to complete the technical test.
4. Go to the following link to complete a quick diagnostic test: <http://35.168.103.161/diagnostic/student/> (\*note down the confirmation number they give you)

\*After you complete the tech test, send your ***confirmation number*** to [students@soliya.net](mailto:students@soliya.net) together with full name and university name (University Paris Saclay, CLM Plateau) in the email, as well.

1. \*If you experience any trouble completing the technical test or with your technical setup, please email [student-tech@soliya.net](mailto:student-tech@soliya.net) with full details of the problem(s) you experienced, and they will be able to help you resolve the issue and complete the test.

**EVALUATION of students participating in the Connect program:**

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| --- | --- |
| - Attendance and participation (Soliya will provide a weekly report on this) | **20%** |
| - TED talk | **35%** |
| - Oral Report of Myers-Briggs evaluations (https://www.myersbriggs.org/my-mbti-personality-type/mbti-basics/home.htm?bhcp=1 ) | **10%** |
| - Final Project/written report (30pts) -in formal style, 500-700 words (the required elements will be communicated in class) | **35%** |

**What do you get out of this program?**

At the end of their participation, all students who successfully complete the program will receive 2 pieces of recognition (which can be indicated on a curriculum vitae) :

1) a Certificate of Participation from Soliya that recognizes the skills and experience gained through their participation in the Program

2) a virtual exchange participation badge from Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange, distributed by Soliya.  *\*Successful completion of the Program includes attending a minimum of 75% of sessions, completing the end of semester evaluation survey, and submitting their final project.*