

APPLIED BLENDED CHALLENGE PROGRAMME (ABC)

FAKE NEWS AND SOCIAL IMPACT

26-30 October 2026 | Târgu Jiu, Romania

DAY 1 - MONDAY | 26 OCTOBER 2026

Time	Activity
09:00	Arrival & Registration Location: Rectorate Hall
09:30	Welcome & Introduction Location: Amphitheater, Rectorate, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu
10:00	Opening Lab: Building the Investigation Teams — All teachers Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Getting to know each other, team formation, house rules and ethical learning agreement.
10:45	Coffee Break Location: Rectorate
11:00	The Information Disorder Briefing: Why Fake News Becomes a Social Challenge — Flavius Mărcău, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Course overview, agenda briefing, recap of the online preparation and introduction to the social impact perspective.
12:00	Lunch Location: UCB Cantina
13:00	Truth Under Construction: Concepts, Sources and the Final Challenge: Read Between the Lines – When Information Becomes Disinformation — Aona Antara Calistru, National Audiovisual Council & Flavius Mărcău, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Workshop integrating Chapters II and III: misinformation, disinformation, malinformation, ethical implications, fact-checking and critical evaluation of sources. Introducing the final student challenge.
16:00	Reflection Lab: What Changed in My Information Habits? Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu
17:00	City Tour Location: Târgu Jiu

DAY 2 - TUESDAY | 27 OCTOBER 2026

Time	Activity
09:00	Trust Builders: Team Roles and Ethics Pact Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu
09:30	Influence or Manipulation? Ethics of Digital Visibility — Andreea-Mihaela Cilibiu, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu & Aona Antara Calistru, National Audiovisual Council Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Interactive workshop on influencers, responsibility, persuasive communication and the ethical limits of attention-seeking content.
10:45	Coffee Break

	Location: <i>Rectorate</i>
11:00	When Fear Goes Viral: Psychology, Public Health and Counter-Strategies — Aona Antara Calistru, National Audiovisual Council & Flavius Mărcău, “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu Location: <i>Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu</i> Workshop integrating Chapters IV, V and VI: cognitive biases, emotional triggers, social vulnerability, prevention strategies and fake news in public health crises.
12:00	Lunch Location: <i>UCB Cantina</i>
13:00	Trust in the Digital Signal: Cybersecurity, Phishing and Responsible Communication — Stakeholder workshop with Special Telecommunications Service - STS Gorj Location: <i>Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu</i> Practical session on secure communication, online trust, data protection, phishing, social engineering and responsible behaviour in digital environments.
16:00	Reflection Lab: Evidence, Emotions and Digital Trust Location: <i>Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu</i>
17:30	Free Time
18:00	International Welcome Evening: Food, Culture and Conversation Location: <i>UCB Cantina</i>

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY | 28 OCTOBER 2026

Time	Activity
09:00	Leaving from Târgu Jiu to Craiova Location: <i>Meeting point: Rectorate, Tineretului Street, no.4, Târgu Jiu</i>
11:00	Inside the Newsroom: Verification, Editorial Judgement and Public Trust — Stakeholder workshop at TVR Craiova Location: <i>TVR Craiova</i>
12:00	Break Location: <i>Craiova</i>
12:30	On Air, On Record: Responsible Storytelling, Voice and Public Service Media — Stakeholder workshop at Radio România Oltenia - Craiova Location: <i>Radio România Oltenia - Craiova</i>
14:00	Lunch Location: <i>Craiova</i>
15:00	Observation Walk: Media, Memory and Public Narratives in the City Location: <i>Craiova</i>
17:15	Reflection Lab: What Does Public Trust Sound and Look Like? Location: <i>Meeting point: Romanescu Park, main entrance, Craiova</i>
18:30	Return from Craiova to Târgu Jiu Location: <i>Meeting point: Romanescu Park, main entrance, Craiova</i>

DAY 4 - THURSDAY | 29 OCTOBER 2026

Time	Activity
09:00	Energizer: From Reaction to Reflection Location: <i>Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu</i>

09:15	Algorithms, Media Literacy and Law: Responsible Responses to Disinformation — Igor Stojanov, Goce Delcev University, North Macedonia Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu Workshop integrating Chapters VIII, IX and X: platform algorithms, media literacy, education, regulation, institutional responses and freedom of expression.
11:30	Coffee Break Location: Rectorate
12:00	Impact Studio: Read Between the Lines – When Information Becomes Disinformation — All teachers Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu Guided teamwork for the final challenge: evidence review, ethical rewriting and preparation of stakeholder-ready outputs.
13:30	Lunch Location: UCB Cantina
15:00	From Manuscript to Public Message: Publishing Ethics and Information Responsibility — Stakeholder visit: PRODCOM Publishing House Location: PRODCOM Publishing House
17:00	Reflection Lab: Responsibility, Regulation and Public Communication Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu

DAY 5 - FRIDAY | 30 OCTOBER 2026

Time	Activity
09:00	Energizer: One Claim, Three Interpretations Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu
09:15	Final Challenge Pitch: Read Between the Lines – When Information Becomes Disinformation — Student teams, teachers and stakeholders Location: Rectorate / CD21 (2nd floor), “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu Teams present their project / output and receive feedback on evidence, social impact, clarity and ethical responsibility. One project / output will be chosen to be presented during the Annual Congress
10:30	Coffee Break Location: Rectorate
11:00	ACE²-EU Annual Congress Location: Amphitheater, Rectorate, “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu Joint session with the wider ACE ² -EU community. The winning students’ team will present their project / output
13:30	Lunch Time
15:30	City Exhibition Location: Târgu Jiu Optional cultural activity.
19:00	Classic Music Show & Grand Closing Location: Amphitheater, Rectorate, “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu