



ONE THRIVE



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

First Future School @ ONE THRIVE

AI Use Cases along the Food Value Chain: Strengthening One Health from Production to Consumption – Blended Intensive Program

Background and Institutional Context:

The transformation of agri-food systems through Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers significant potential to enhance sustainability, efficiency, and resilience while addressing the interconnected challenges of human, animal, and environmental health within a One Health framework. In this context, the ONE THRIVE initiative establishes a Future School as an innovative teaching and research format that systematically links academic excellence with real-world application and societal relevance. The First Future School @ ONE THRIVE is academically embedded at the Bernburg campus of Hochschule Anhalt and builds on the interdisciplinary expertise of programmes and professorships in International Business (Prof. Dr. Christiane Naumann), Food and Agribusiness (Prof. Dr. Elena Kashtanova), Agriculture (Prof. Dr. Scholz), Nature Conservation and Landscape Planning (Prof. Dr. Annett Baasch), Landscape Architecture (Prof. Dr. Nicole Uhrig), and the joint Bachelor programme in AI Engineering Agricultural Economics and Technology (Prof. Dr. Uwe Knauer).

Concept of the Future School:

The Future School is implemented as a 5 ECTS academic module, corresponding to a full semester course workload, and is open to international participants from different disciplinary backgrounds, including artificial intelligence, agricultural sciences, environmental sciences, economics, and social sciences. The format supports the development of analytical, methodological, and communication skills, while enabling participants to assess technological innovation in light of ethical, ecological, economic, and social considerations.

Objectives and Research Perspective:

The central objective of the First Future School @ ONE THRIVE is to analyse and evaluate AI-enabled solutions along the entire food value chain, from primary production and processing to logistics, markets, and end consumers, through the lens of the One Health approach. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding how AI applications can simultaneously support human, animal, and environmental health while remaining economically viable and socially acceptable. Furthermore, the Future School aims to highlight how the One Health framework brings together fragmented interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary fields into one integrated pipeline, enabling a more holistic and impact-driven approach to innovation in the agri-food sector.



ONE THRIVE



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Structure and Methodological Design:

The Future School follows a three-phase structure. In the first phase, conducted through four interactive, virtual, online sessions in April and May, participants build a shared conceptual foundation in Artificial Intelligence, agri-food systems, and the One Health framework, complemented by training in qualitative research methods, stakeholder mapping, and interview design.

The second phase consists of an intensive on-site week in Bernburg, planned to be aligned with the DLG Field Days (16–18 June 2026), one of Europe's leading agricultural field exhibitions. This setting provides a real-world learning and research environment in which participants can engage directly with technology providers, agricultural practitioners, industry representatives and other stakeholders along the food value chain. During this phase, students attend impulse presentations by scientists and industry experts, observe innovative technologies and AI-related applications in practice, and can conduct guided field visits as well as semi-structured interviews with exhibiting companies and stakeholders. The DLG Field Days thus serve as the empirical foundation for the analysis of AI use cases, current challenges, bottlenecks and solution approaches within food and agricultural systems.

In the third phase, the collected empirical material is systematically analysed and synthesised. Students develop structured AI use-case profiles and assess them from a One Health and sustainability perspective, reflecting on economic, societal, and market implications

Contribution to ONE THRIVE and Expected Impact:

The First Future School @ ONE THRIVE contributes to the project's overarching goal of strengthening transdisciplinary collaboration and evidence-based innovation in the field of AI and sustainable food systems. The Future School will provide a structured learning environment in which students, researchers, and practitioners jointly explore AI use cases along the food value chain and critically assess their contribution to sustainability, One Health objectives, and economic value creation.

The expected outcomes include enhanced student competencies in interdisciplinary analysis, a portfolio of validated AI use cases assessed from a One Health perspective, strengthened links between science and practice, and strategic knowledge on market acceptance and consumer value perception of AI-enabled food solutions.