

# SOAK

## Biomimicry

### VORARLBERG

# SUMMER ACADEMY

## 2 0 2 5

**Biomimicry Immersion Week**

**Dornbirn — Boedele — Fohrámoos**

Lake Constance Region, Vorarlberg, Austria

**13 — 19 July 2025**

**Preparatory Online Sessions**  
11, 18, 24 June + 1 July 2025

[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025)  
[www.fhv.at/SOAK2025](http://www.fhv.at/SOAK2025)

**Application Deadline**  
**31 March 2025**

»To be whole. To be complete. Wildness reminds us what it means to be human, what we are connected to rather than what we are separate from.«

TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS, NATURALIST AND "CITIZEN WRITER" (1955)

Life is everywhere.  
Everywhere is life.



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## About SOAK

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**SOAK (SOmmer AKademie)** is an initiative of the **COOP Sustainable Universities**— a cooperative of 15 Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences that collaborate with other Austrian and international universities toward sustainable futures. The COOP runs this summer academy every year in different regions.



**From 2023 to 2025 the focus is placed on climate change**, one of the greatest challenges for humanity and life-threatening to all species. All living beings, including people and communities, must develop and implement ways to respond to the changing conditions that are present already and will accelerate in the foreseeable future.

**In these three years**, the **SOAK Biomimicry Trilogy** is explored through the Biomimicry Innovation Process in order to propose potential solutions to human problems connected to climate change. Biomimicry is a philosophy and praxis for sustainable innovation inspired by Nature. SOAK participants learn about the strategies Nature has developed to survive and thrive on this planet and apply them to human systems.

# SOAK Biomimicry 2025

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**SOAK Biomimicry Summer Academy 2025** is taking place in Vorarlberg, Austria. It is led by the **University of Applied Sciences Burgenland**, organized and hosted by the **FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences**. In this effort, they partner with the **University of Applied Arts Vienna**.



The **focus** of SOAK Biomimicry 2025 concerns the **climate crisis**, in particular, the local woodlands and forests. Foundational learnings include understanding how Nature responds to these problems.

The **vision** of SOAK Biomimicry 2025 is **a)** to motivate people to integrate Nature-inspired, regenerative concepts and actions when thinking about how to mitigate the climate crisis and **b)** to empower them to demand, initiate and contribute to the necessary sustainability actions in their spheres of influence.

SOAK Biomimicry 2025 **participants** will be engaged in all steps of the **Biomimicry Innovation Process** in order to develop ideas and design concepts for triggering a transformation in people's ways of thinking and behaving.

For this collaboration to be successful, the COOP Sustainable Universities is bringing into dialogue a number of disciplines, sustainability experts and innovation facilitators. SOAK Biomimicry 2025 is sure to evolve into an unforgettable week of learning, experiencing Nature and building community across boundaries.

SOAK OUTDOOR NATURE LAB  
Understanding and learning how Nature responds to climate change



# Focus of SOAK Biomimicry 2025

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## Theme & Aim

Responding to the **climate crisis** is the focus of SOAK Biomimicry 2025. Interesting to note: this focus represents only one of the **nine interacting planetary boundaries** that humanity should not cross – as defined by the Stockholm Resilience Institute: <https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/planetary-boundaries.html>. From the latest research (2023) it is obvious that the deterioration of the living systems as we know them is advancing dramatically and much faster than we thought. Concerning the crossing of these boundaries, there may be other more pressing issues to address than climate change, but we chose the climate crisis as the focus because there is much attention on this issue in the media, and therefore we assume it is „ready to be worked on“ by society at large.

The consequences of human-caused climate change have been known for quite a while and have begun to unravel as can be experienced all over the world in form of droughts, floods, avalanches, wet landslides all the way to collapsing of mountains. Some even assert that we have passed the point of no return. By now, it should be clear to any person who is paying attention that we have to radically and quickly change **“how we live”** and **“how we make a living.”** Therefore, we need: (1) on the individual level: transformational behavior change, and 2) on the system level: a (re-)design of structures that guide daily practices (business, education, health care, socio-cultural and socio-political dynamics, ... basically everything) – a proposition that most of us find overwhelming and unmanageable.

However, progress is being made in various industries, and sustainability-oriented solutions are emerging. They are, however, often perceived as “too expensive” and/or “too inconvenient” and therefore not readily applied. This orientation is short-sighted because the costs for inadequate action or inaction are increasing dramatically the longer we wait, while associated consequences get worse by the minute.

For SOAK 2025, we assume that we lack – on an individual level – emotional and physical connection to the natural world, causing blindness vis-à-vis our innate connection to the living system(s) upon which our lives depend. **The aim of SOAK Biomimicry 2025 is thus to re-connect a defined stakeholder group (and ourselves) to “Nature’s way of doing life successfully”** with the intent to motivate the target audience (as well as SOAK participants) to look to Nature for solutions when thinking about how to mitigate



the climate crisis. **In a nutshell, the task is one of sensibilization.** To be clear, we will not work on economic or technical or other tangible solutions; instead, our focus will fall upon social transformation, ushered in by showcasing how nature responds to opportunities and threats like climate change.

### Driving Questions

#### On a Human Level:

*How might we transform our thinking and acting in the world to better fit into the ecosystem(s) that we are part of and upon which resilience our lives depend?*

#### On the Level of Nature:

*When conditions opportune or dangerous to an ecosystem emerge in the system, how does Nature signal and spread new important information, so that actors are prompted to respond appropriately in order to keep the system regenerative, resilient, thriving and conducive to life?*

### Biomimicry Innovation Process

The Biomimicry Innovation Process is composed of four phases: **scoping, discovering, creating, evaluating**. Some of the work will be front-loaded through online engagement, so that the hands-on experience during the immersion week in Vorarlberg can be fully explored and concluded.

### Working Language

English

### Participants

The Biomimicry Innovation Process works best with optimum diversity in the room. Hence different levels of education, disciplines, generations, work and life experiences need to be present. Participants will be selected according to this notion.

### SOAK Webpages

COOP Sustainable Universities: [www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025)  
FHV – Vorarlberg: [www.fhv.at/SOAK2025](http://www.fhv.at/SOAK2025)

## Biomimicry Online Preparatory Sessions

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### Dates

**11 June, 2025 | 18:30–20:30**

Online Lecture, followed by weekly assignments

**18 June, 24 June, 1 July, 2025 | 19:00~19:30**

Online Q&A Sessions to answer questions that arose while completing assignments

### Online Platform

**Microsoft TEAMS**

Link will be provided

# Biomimicry Immersion Week

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<b>Date</b>	<b>13–19 July 2025</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Dornbirn—Bödele—Fohramoos</b> <b>Lake Constance Region, Vorarlberg, Austria</b>
<b>University</b>	The SOAK Biomimicry Immersion Week 2025 will be held at <b>FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences</b> in Dornbirn, Austria
<b>Indoor Studio</b>	<b>SOAK DESIGN STUDIO</b> FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences
<b>Outdoor Studios</b>	<b>SOAK URBAN NATURE LAB</b> Natural environments near the university <b>SOAK ALPINE NATURE LAB</b> Bödele, Fohramoos
<b>The Region</b>	<b>Vorarlberg</b> is Austria's smallest, westernmost province bordering Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. Due to the innovative spirit of its population, Vorarlberg counts among the strongest economic regions in the European Union housing many globally successful companies. Despite its small size of only 2,600 km <sup>2</sup> , Vorarlberg offers an amazing variety of landscapes. With its impressive alpine formations, fresh waters and inspiring cultural landscapes Vorarlberg is a true natural treasure.
<b>The City</b>	<b>Dornbirn</b> Dornbirn is simultaneously international and traditional, urban and rural. Numerous companies — including global players — have settled in Dornbirn. Nevertheless, Dornbirn has retained its village character in some parts of the city. The city of Dornbirn is characterized by a young, colorful and very active cultural scene, and sports enthusiasts also get their money's worth due to the alpine surroundings and a wide range of sport activities offered. Thanks to its manageable size, almost everything is easily accessible on foot, by bicycle or by an excellent public transport system.
<b>The Mountains</b>	The <b>Fohramoos European Nature Reserve</b> is a "Natura 2000" site. It is located on the Losenpass Bödele between Dornbirn and Schwarzenberg at an altitude of over 1000m. Beautiful hiking trails over roots, planks and meadows lead through the high moor landscape. The loop around the Bödelesee, a small dammed moorland lake, is also popular. This nature reserve is habitat to many plants and animals, some endangered. Caring for it properly and treating it with respect is important for the survival of the species living there.

Dornbirn  
Lake Constance Region, Vorarlberg, Austria





Dornbirn Boedele  
Fohramoos Nature Reserve



# Learning Journey

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The Biomimicry core team consists of a Biomimicry Expert who leads and facilitates the innovation process, a Scientist at the Design Table who guides the scientific research tasks and assures that the information is ecologically and biologically accurate and a communication expert who assists with thoughtful visual concepts that increase the learning potential and lead to better communication of ideas during final presentations. Others may join the core team as needed or opportune, for instance, other faculty members, local subject matter experts and stakeholders.

## Online

### General Information

#### Public Webinar

Thurs, 20 March, 18:30–20:00

ONLINE

To join the meeting use this Microsoft TEAMS link:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3aEE3qAKFXMF2GqvIXTq5bP\\_qaNU-0oqZ8L3e1u7nw-PgI1%40thread.tacv2/1733389780659?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22f1a37aa0-95bd-45c6-bf99-c9b063cdba18%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2204e3c486-217f-43f4-a8e8-c8ff8097cf25%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3aEE3qAKFXMF2GqvIXTq5bP_qaNU-0oqZ8L3e1u7nw-PgI1%40thread.tacv2/1733389780659?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22f1a37aa0-95bd-45c6-bf99-c9b063cdba18%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%2204e3c486-217f-43f4-a8e8-c8ff8097cf25%22%7d)

## Application

### Deadline

**Monday, 31 March, 2025**

**APPLY HERE**

<https://forms.office.com/e/X3Wra43N7f>

## Online

### For Accepted Participants

#### 4 Preparatory Webinars

Prior to the Biomimicry Immersion Week in July there will be one 2-hour intro online lecture, followed by three online Q&A sessions (to help with questions that may arise during the completion of assignments). Weekly assignments will expand the knowledge base, anchor the learnings and prepare the group for the immersion week. Each weekly set of assignments will require 3-4 hours of work.

#### SOAK Day 1

Thurs, 11 June, 18:30-20:30

ONLINE

- Welcome to SOAK Biomimicry 2025
- Basics of Biomimicry
- Chosen Design Challenge
- Intro to independent assignment: Climate Change Dynamics

#### SOAK Day 2

Thurs, 18 June, 19:00

ONLINE

- Q&A Climate Change Dynamics (no lecture!)
- Intro to independent assignment: the Biomimicry Life Principles & the Alphabet of Life

#### SOAK Day 3

Thurs, 24 June, 19:00

ONLINE

- Q&A Biomimicry Life Principles & the Alphabet of Life (no lecture!)
- Intro to independent assignment: Scoping the Project

SOAK Day 4  
Thurs, 1 July, 19:00

- ONLINE
- Q&A Scoping the Project (no lecture!)
  - Last logistics before immersion week begins

**Face to Face**

**13–19 July 2025**

**Biomimicry Immersion Week**

**Dornbirn–Rheintal–Bödele**

**Lake Constance Region, Vorarlberg, Austria**

Hosted by FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences

Stepping into an intensive face-to-face immersion week participants will experience exciting excursions into Nature and challenging design opportunities. Workdays start early, punctually and end in the evenings. Participants are expected to arrive on time and participate fully until the very end of the Biomimicry Immersion Week.

Sun, 13 July 18:30

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

**Welcome Session**

SOAK Day 5  
Mon, 14 July 8:30

**Beginning of the Biomimicry Immersion Week**

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

**Scoping Phase**

Diving into the Defined Problem State  
Discussing Design Challenge and Design Criteria  
Forshadowing Discovering Phase

OUTDOOR NATURE LAB

**(Re-)Connecting to Nature**

Biomimicry Life Principles, Live!

SOAK Day 6  
Tue, 15 July 8:30

**Research Phase**

**Whole-Day Excursion**

OUTDOOR NATURE LAB

Experiencing the Natural Environment in the Region / Ecosystem Forest  
Exploring the Consequences of Climate Crisis in the Region  
Looking for Functions (Biologized Research Question)

SOAK Day 7  
Wed, 16 July 8:30

**Research Phase**

ATTUNING TO NATURE

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

Discovering Nature's Ways for addressing the Defined Design Challenge

OUTDOOR NATURE LAB & FHV DESIGN STUDIO

Abstracting Nature's Strategies

SOAK Day 8  
Thurs, 17 July 8:30

### Creating Phase

ATTUNING TO NATURE

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

Brainstorming and Ideation Processes  
Creating Design Concepts by Applying Nature's Strategies

SOAK Day 9  
Fri, 18 July 8:30

### Creating Phase

ATTUNING TO NATURE

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

Developing Design Concepts into Innovation Concepts  
Refining Innovation Concepts

SOAK Day 10  
Sat, 19 July 8:30

### Evaluating Phase

FHV DESIGN STUDIO

Benchmarking Innovation Concepts against Biomimicry Sustainability Mandate and all Design Criteria  
Finalizing Innovation Concepts  
15:00 Presenting Innovation Concepts  
17:00 Evaluating SOAK Biomimicry 2025 Experience & Fare Well  
18:00 End of SOAK Biomimicry 2025  
& Closing Celebration (optional)

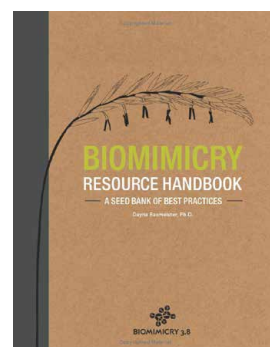
## Book Purchase

In order to complete the work during all of SOAK Biomimicry 2025, these two books must be purchased by participants (they are needed at the beginning of the online phase, June 11, for completing assignments!!):

"Biomimicry Resource Handbook:  
A Seed Bank of Best Practices"  
by Dayna Baumeister, 2014

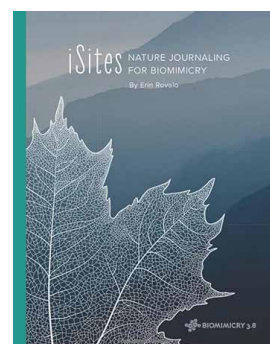
Digital: <https://biomimicry.net/product/digital-handbook/>

Hardcopy (in Europe only available on Amazon.de):  
[https://www.amazon.de/Biomimicry-Resource-Handbook-Seed-Practices/dp/1505634644/ref=asc\\_df\\_1505634644/?tag=googshop-de-21&linkCode=df0&hvadid=310644330856&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=3724618007512318827&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=1000711&hvtargid=pla-433006204009&psc=1&mcid=e17cc880bd273e4e9ba8b0dd11caa0a&th=1&psc=1&tag=&ref=&adgrp\\_id=57334095730&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvadid=310644330856&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=3724618007512318827&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=1000711&hvtargid=pla-433006204009](https://www.amazon.de/Biomimicry-Resource-Handbook-Seed-Practices/dp/1505634644/ref=asc_df_1505634644/?tag=googshop-de-21&linkCode=df0&hvadid=310644330856&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=3724618007512318827&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=1000711&hvtargid=pla-433006204009&psc=1&mcid=e17cc880bd273e4e9ba8b0dd11caa0a&th=1&psc=1&tag=&ref=&adgrp_id=57334095730&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvadid=310644330856&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=3724618007512318827&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=1000711&hvtargid=pla-433006204009)



"iSites: Nature Journaling for Biomimicry"  
by Erin Rovalo, 2019

Hardcopy (in Europe only available on Amazon.de):  
[https://www.amazon.de/iSites-Journaling-Biomimicry-Erin-Rovalo/dp/1795052112/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?\\_\\_mk\\_de\\_DE=%C3%85M%C3%85%C5%BD%C3%95%C3%91&crd=G1Y9B6ZTRIXL&keywords=iSites%3A+Nature+Journaling+for+Biomimicry&qid=1703089093&srefix=isites+nature+journaling+for+biomimicry%2Caps%2C123&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.de/iSites-Journaling-Biomimicry-Erin-Rovalo/dp/1795052112/ref=sr_1_1?__mk_de_DE=%C3%85M%C3%85%C5%BD%C3%95%C3%91&crd=G1Y9B6ZTRIXL&keywords=iSites%3A+Nature+Journaling+for+Biomimicry&qid=1703089093&srefix=isites+nature+journaling+for+biomimicry%2Caps%2C123&sr=8-1)





# Biomimicry Links and Lectures

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## Biomimicry

**Biomimicry 3.8** [www.biomimicry.net](http://www.biomimicry.net)

**Biomimicry Institute** [www.biomimicry.org](http://www.biomimicry.org)

**Janine Benyus, Co-founder of Biomimicry** [www.n2k.world/biomimicry](http://www.n2k.world/biomimicry)

## Lectures

**Regina Rowland, Biomimicry Expert, SOAK Lead**

[www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/biomimicry\\_thinking.html](http://www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/biomimicry_thinking.html)



**Dayna Baumeister, Co-founder of Biomimicry 3.8 and**

**Thomas Baumeister, Biologist** [www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/biomimicry\\_thinking.html](http://www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/biomimicry_thinking.html)



## Alphabet of Life Tutorials

**Daniel Bayer, SOAK Scientist at the Design Table, National Park & Climate Ranger**

[www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/ecosystem\\_tree.html](http://www.alphabet-des-lebens.net/ecosystem_tree.html)



# Review SOAK Biomimicry 2024 and 2023

**SOAK Biomimicry 2024** took place in the Karwendel Region in Tirol, Austria.  
If you would like to review SOAK Biomimicry 2024 Events

visit Image Bank:  
[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2024/](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2024/)

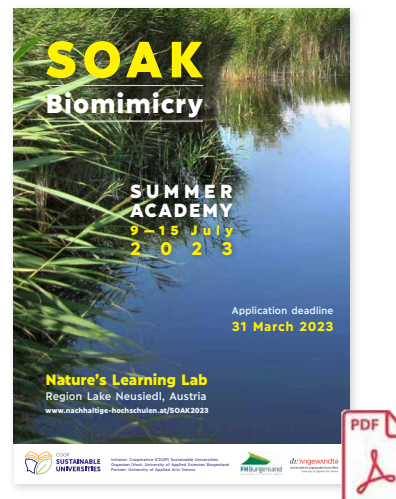
view the Program:  
[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2024/](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2024/)



**SOAK Biomimicry 2023** took place in the Region Lake Neusiedl in Burgenland, Austria.  
If you would like to review SOAK Biomimicry 2023 Events.

go to YouTube:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRIVF9kaLcg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRIVF9kaLcg)

view the Program:  
[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2023/](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2023/)



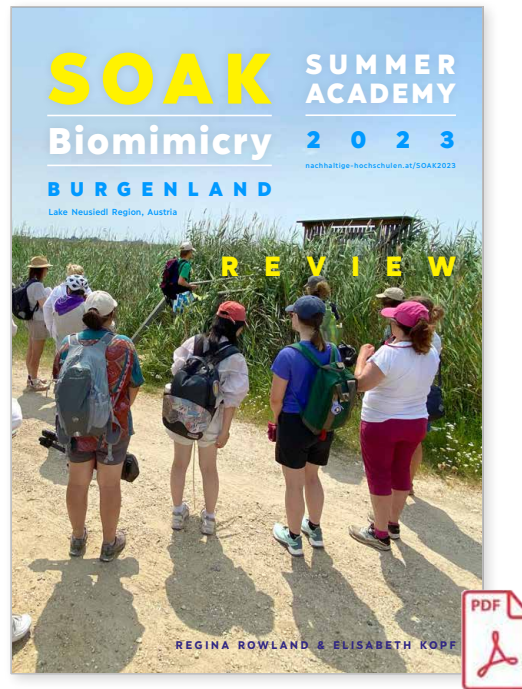




# SOAK Biomimicry 2023 Publication

## View the Publication:

[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2023/](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/soak2023/)



The SOAK Biomimicry 2023 Review showcases the Biomimicry Innovation Process.

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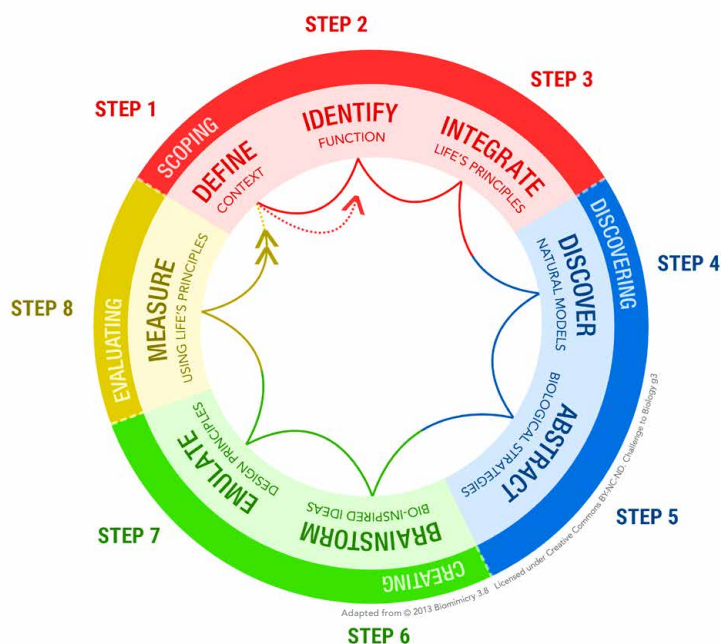
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# Learning Objectives

**By the end of the Biomimicry Immersion Week, participants will:**

- Have (re-)connected to Nature
- Have had the chance to realize how life creates conditions conducive to life and connect this realization to the climate crisis and the associated design challenge
- Be able to discuss the Biomimicry Approach
- Have explored the three essential elements of the Biomimicry Framework
- Have become familiar with the Biomimicry Sustainability Mandate
- Have practiced the four phases of the Biomimicry Innovation Process, including multi-sensory creative design steps
- Have explored the natural environment in the region
- Have discussed the dynamics of climate change in the region
- Have been exposed to the problems in the region caused by the climate crisis
- Have researched, abstracted and applied Nature's strategies to address the defined design challenge
- Have had the chance to build community, in a deep way, with co-participants, the SOAK Biomimicry 2025 Team, and local experts and stakeholders
- Have been challenged to shift their perspectives and transform their hearts and minds
- Have the tools in their pockets and resources at their fingertips to integrate Biomimicry in their future work

**4 PHASES  
OF THE  
BIOMIMICRY  
INNOVATION  
PROCESS**



# Certificate with Academic Credit Recommendation

The **COOP Sustainable Universities** is in itself not an academic institution, but an association of 15 collaborating universities. It can therefore not grant but only recommend academic credit.

The **COOP** and partnering **University of Applied Arts Vienna** will jointly issue **SOAK Biomimicry Certificates of Participation** including a recommendation for 3 ECTS academic (graduate and undergraduate) credit—which can be negotiated by participants with their home universities.

To earn a **SOAK Biomimicry Certificate of Participation** it is necessary to have participated\* in, completed and submitted

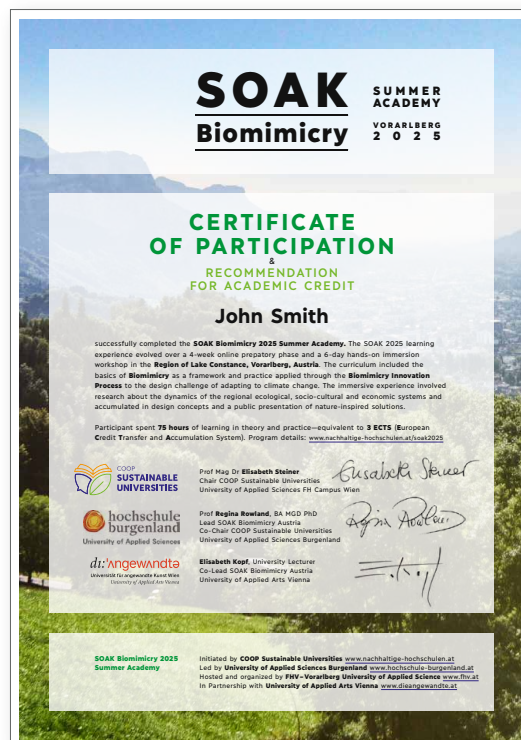
- all the online work and associated individual assignments (Days 1-10)
- all the team work during the Biomimicry Immersion Week (Days 5-10)

\* Participation means:

- full participation in the work of Days 1-10
- full physical (and punctual) attendance during Days 5-10 of the Biomimicry Immersion Week

## Note

SOAK guarantees that the depth and quantity of required performance and assigned work will be representative of the ECTS standard as listed above. The quality of the submitted deliverables will have to be evaluated by the credit-giving institutions.



# General Information

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## Costs

<b>Tuition</b>	Free! Participation in SOAK Biomimicry 2025 is free of charge. The COOP Sustainable Universities and partnering University of Applied Arts Vienna believe in the importance of collaborative sustainability efforts for the common good and are therefore using their own resources to organize this summer academy. However, all personal costs occurring during the Biomimicry Immersion Week must be paid by participants directly.
<b>Registration Fee</b>	EUR 199.- non-refundable
<b>Work-related Expenses</b>	Minor expenses may occur associated with learning activities
<b>Personal Expenses</b>	Transportation to and from and during immersion week Accommodation Meals
<b>Scholarship</b>	If financial support is needed, stipends or other funding sources might be available at home universities or funding organizations (to be self organized)

## Legal Issues

<b>General</b>	Participants need to confirm that they take responsibility for their own safety (form to sign will be provided in notification letter)
<b>Insurance</b>	Participants need to have their own health insurance that is valid in Austria (form to sign will be provided in notification letter)
<b>Copyrights</b>	Participants need to waive copyright in favor of Creative Commons Licence (CC0) for all work created during SOAK Biomimicry 2025 (form to sign will be provided in notification letter)
<b>Model Release</b>	Participants need to sign a model release form allowing the organizers of SOAK to use images of participants and their work in all media and in all kinds of materials (form to sign will be provided in notification letter)



**Gear**

- Outdoor clothing and shoes for any type of summer weather and hiking opportunity
- Protection against sun and insects (incl. ticks)
- Backpack
- Water bottle (reusable)
- Flash light (recommended)
- Binoculars (recommended)

**Provisions**

- Snacks that can easily be carried in the backpack
- Drinks (nonalcoholic)

**Tools & Materials**

- Personal sketchbook (bound, white pages, no lines)
- Photo and film camera (mobile phone will suffice)
- Design tools and design materials (list will be provided)
- Special workshop materials to build creative models or prototypes: tchotchkes/small objects (list will be provided)

**Accommodation & Travel & Meals****IMPORTANT**

All travel arrangements and accommodation need to be self-organized and paid by participants. Meals will also be paid by participants themselves.

**Travel**

Travel options to FHV can be found on the FHV-SOAK Webpage: [www.fhv.at/SOAK2025](http://www.fhv.at/SOAK2025)

**Hotel/airbnb/B&B**

Accommodation recommendations in the area can be found on the FHV-SOAK Webpage: [www.fhv.at/SOAK2025](http://www.fhv.at/SOAK2025)

# Application & Registration

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Maximum Number of Participants: 25

Application Deadline **31 March 2025**

- Who can apply**
- Students/alumni of all levels or employees from all Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences
  - Students/alumni of all levels or employees from the University of Applied Arts Vienna
  - Students/alumni of all levels or employees from other universities and tertiary educational institutions

- How to apply**
- STEP 1 Go to the SOAK Biomimicry 2025 webpage and complete the application by **31 March 2025**.
- STEP 2 You will receive notification by **25 April 2025** to let you know whether or not you have been accepted to participate.

**Important**

In order to become a confirmed participant you must register (see STEP 3). **Attention:** The Biomimicry Immersion Week takes place during high season in the popular travel destination of Dornbirn. Be aware that timely arrangement of accommodation and travel may be critical!

- How to register**
- STEP 3 If you have been accepted follow the instructions for registration (provided in the notification letter), pay the **non-refundable registration fee of EUR 199.-** and submit **legal forms and emergency contact** at the latest by **16 May 2025**.

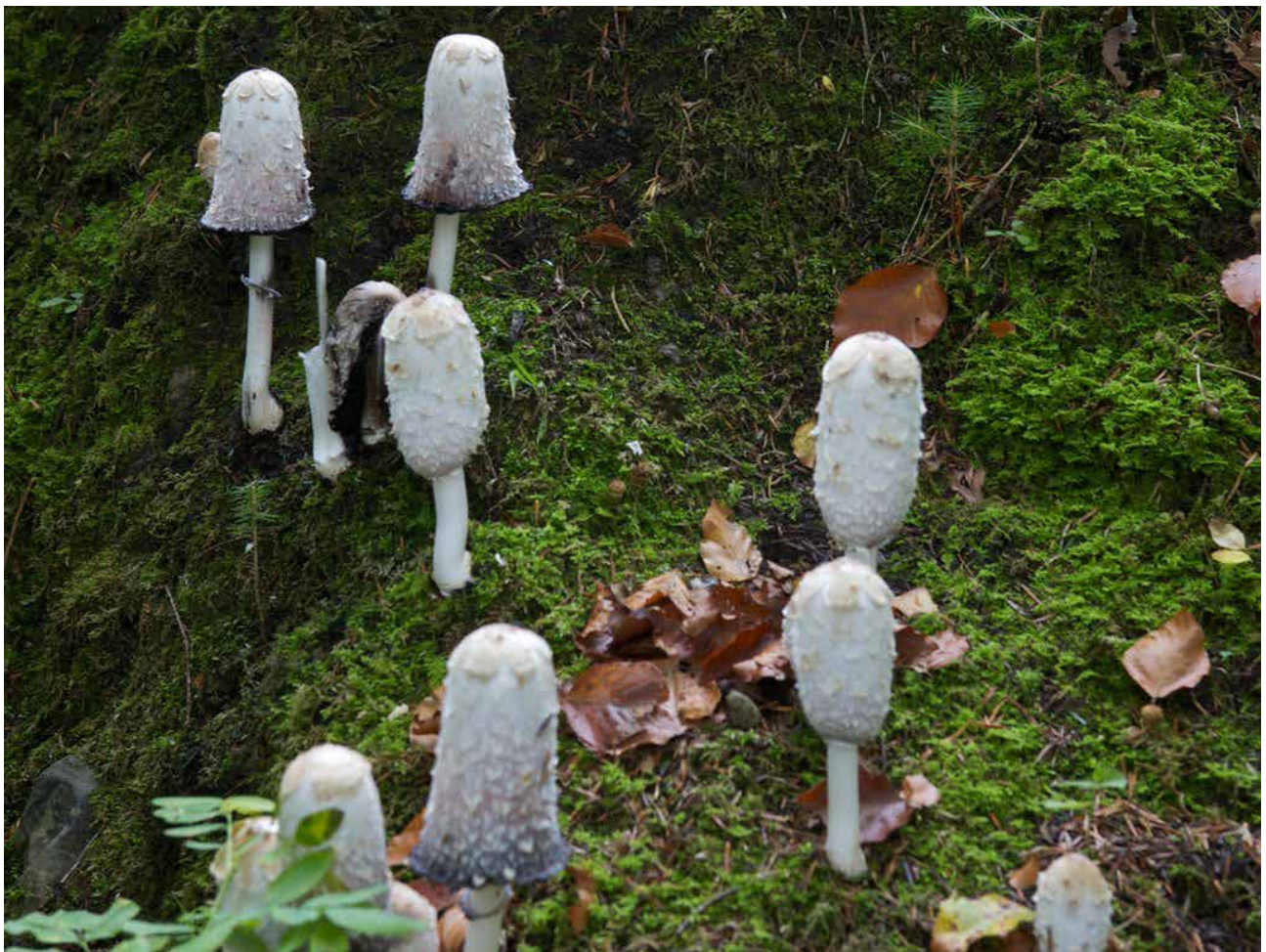
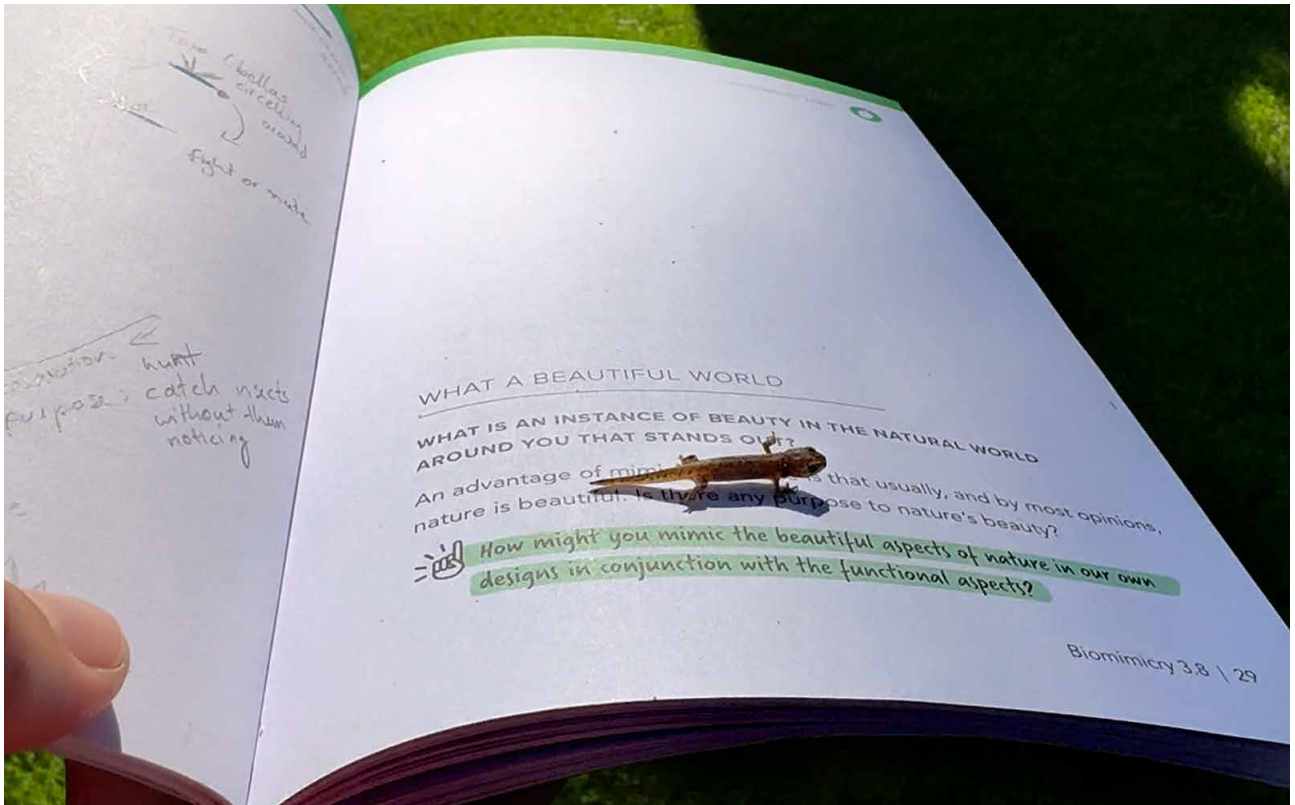
If you miss this deadline your seat may be given to the next person on the waiting list.

- STEP 4 The completion of your registration will be confirmed by **23 May 2025** with a final acceptance letter and further details.

**APPLY NOW**

<https://forms.office.com/e/X3Wra43N7f>

What a Beautiful World  
How might you mimic Nature's strategies into your design?



# SOAK Biomimicry 2025 Organizers & Partner

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## Initiator

Cooperative (COOP) Sustainable Universities, Austria  
[www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at](http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at)



## SOAK Lead

University of Applied Sciences Burgenland, Austria  
[www.hochschule-burgenland.at](http://www.hochschule-burgenland.at)



## Host & Organizer

FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences, Austria  
[www.fhv.at](http://www.fhv.at)



## Partner & Co-Organizer

University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria  
[www.dieangewandte.at](http://www.dieangewandte.at)



# SOAK Biomimicry 2025 Team

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## Biomimicry Team

### Lead, Biomimicry Expert

**Regina Rowland**, University of Applied Sciences Burgenland  
Professor Emeritus for Innovation, Process Designer,  
COOP Sustainable Universities, Co-Chair

### Co-Lead, Scientist at the Design Table

**Daniel Bayer**, National Park Lake Neusiedl–Seewinkel  
National Park Ranger, Climate Ranger, Naturalist, Agricultural Scientist

### Co-Lead, Communication Expert

**Elisabeth Kopf**, University of Applied Arts Vienna/IPSD  
Project and Communication Designer, Lecturer for International  
Programmes in Sustainable Developments, UniNEtZ Member

## Teaching Support Team

**Margarita Köhl**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Head of the Design Department, Programme Director BA InterMedia  
and MA Design and Creative Leadership

**Magdalena Burtscher-Rauter**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Programme Director BSc Environment and Engineering

**Marilena Tumler**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Assistant Lecturer in the Study Programmes BA InterMedia and MA Design  
and Creative Leadership

**Maria Haberny**, Academy of Fine Arts Cracow, Industrial Design, PhD Candidate,  
Cracow University of Technology, Department of Mechanical Design, Lecturer  
for Transportation Design

## Organization Team

### Team Lead

**Jasmin Nußbaumer**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Design Department Assistant

**Frauke Bieck**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Administrator BSc Environment and Engineering

### Team Support

**Beate Pawle**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Executive Assistant, Head of Sustainability

**Annette Nußbaumer-Martinovic**, FHV–Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences  
Assistant to the Rector

## External Experts

### Scientist at the Design Table

**Lukas Rinnhofer**, Alpinus  
Biologist, Naturalist, Nature and Hiking Guide

# Addresses, Contacts, Imprint

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## SOAK Biomimicry 2025

### Web Addresses

COOP Sustainable Universities	<a href="http://www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025">www.nachhaltige-hochschulen.at/SOAK2025</a>
University of Applied Sciences Burgenland	<a href="http://www.hochschule-burgenland.at">www.hochschule-burgenland.at</a>
FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences	<a href="http://www.fhv.at/SOAK2025">www.fhv.at/SOAK2025</a>
University of Applied Arts Vienna	<a href="http://base.uni-ak.ac.at/courses/2025S/S04072/">base.uni-ak.ac.at/courses/2025S/S04072/</a>

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### Contacts

Administration  
& Logistics

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Biomimicry Process  
& Academic Matters

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Biomimicry Process  
& Biology Matters

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Communication Matters

**Elisabeth Kopf**, SOAK Biomimicry 2025 Co-Lead  
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### Imprint

Content

Regina Rowland, University of Applied Sciences Burgenland  
Elisabeth Kopf, University of Applied Arts Vienna

Communication Design

Elisabeth Kopf, Design Buero Baustelle

SOAK Webpages

COOP: Harald Wipfler  
FHV: FHV – Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences

## Photos

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## UN Agenda 2030

**SOAK** contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



**SOAK Biomimicry 2025** contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):



**Sustainable Development Goals**

[sdgs.un.org](https://sdgs.un.org)

»Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world.«

MARGARET MEAD, ANTHROPOLOGIST (1901-1978)