

ZeroPM summer school

PFAS: from occurrence and monitoring, to policy and remediation

Date: 9th – 11th June 2026

Location: The University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece

Zero pollution of persistent, mobile substances, ZeroPM is pleased to invite you to a summer school on PFAS

The summer school is aimed at masters and PhD students who have a basic knowledge of PFAS. During the three day summer school you will learn about:

- An overview of the chemical properties of PFAS
- Current and future legislation that affect PFAS management practices
- Environmental and human health effects of PFAS
- Conventional and innovative analytical methods for PFAS, including TFA
- The role big data approaches can play in classifying the PFAS universe
- The remediation of drinking water
- The remediation of sewage sludge

In addition the summer school will include the following

- A hands on deployment of passive samplers to monitor PFAS
- Laboratory work related to the analysis of PFAS in passive samplers and water samples
- A field trip to the ZeroPM pilot plant which treats PFAS in sewage sludge using anaerobic digestion and hydrothermal carbonization
- A field trip to the HYDROUSA pilot plant which combines anaerobic processes with constructed wetlands and disinfection to treat and reuse domestic wastewater from agricultural purposes

The summer school will be taught by the following people

- Professor Athanasios (Nasos) Stasinakis, University of the Aegean
- Associate Professor Olga-Ioanna Kalantzi, University of the Aegean
- Dr Georgia Gatidou, University of the Aegean
- Dr Ian Allan, Norwegian Institute for Water Research
- Dr Emma Knight, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute
- Associate Professor Michalis Fountoulakis, Technical University of Crete
- Assistant Professor Stergios Vakalis, National Technical University of Athens
- Eurydice Bersi, Reporters United
- Dr Nikoletta Xanthopoulou, Thessaloniki Water Supply and Sewerage Co. S.A
- Professor Emma Schymanski, University of Luxembourg
- Dr Mattias Öberg, Karolinska institute
- Dr Karsten Nödler, German Water Centre
- Dr Marcel Riegel, German Water Centre
- Dr Sarah Hale, German Water Centre



The agenda

9th

June

Morning sessions

- PFAS occurrence and legislative frameworks
- PFAS analytics and big data approaches

Afternoon sessions

- Passive sampler deployment
- Laboratory work

10th

June

Morning sessions

- PFAS effects on human health and the environment

Afternoon sessions

- PFAS remediation from water and sewage sludge

11th

June

Field visits to pilot plants



ZeroPM pilot plant



HYDROUSA pilot plant

Application procedure

ZeroPM is pleased to be able to support 10 students by covering costs of accommodation and travel to the value of 650 Euros. If you would like to be considered for such support, please send an application and enclose the following

- A cover letter explaining your motivation to join the summer school and how you would benefit from participating
- A CV, of up to 4 pages, detailing your academic experience, research experience and proficiency in English (providing documented evidence if possible)

The application deadline to be considered for financial support is the 1st March 2026. Decisions will be made by the 19th of March 2026.

Please send applications and any questions to Dr Sarah Hale: sarah.hale@tzw.de

Please indicate whether you would like to be considered for financial support when applying.

ZeroPM is a H2020 research project which interlinks prevention, prioritization and removal strategies to protect the environment and human health from persistent and mobile substances. Work is focused on identifying alternatives to harmful persistent, mobile and toxic and very persistent and very mobile (PMT/vPvM) substances, supporting industry to adopt the alternatives, identifying opportunities and gaps in the current legislative framework, developing methods to group PMT/vPvM substances, improving risk assessment methods and implementing innovative and sustainable remediation methods for water and sludge.