

# JOIN US IN MALAYSIA FOR THE VU MASTER COURSE "ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIELD"

WHEN: JUNE 2018

WHERE: SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

WHAT: 6 ECTS ELECTIVE MASTER COURSE, JOINTLY GIVEN BY  
VU AND UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK (UNIMAS).

YOU WILL BE ACCOMMODATED AT THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS  
IN KUCHING, SARAWAK FOR A PERIOD OF 4-5 WEEKS. THE  
COURSE INCLUDES 2-3 WEEKS OF ICT4D FIELD WORK IN A  
"KAMPUNG" COMMUNITY. THE COURSE IS OPEN FOR  
SELECTED MASTER STUDENTS OF INFORMATION SCIENCES,  
COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

VU AWARDS SEVERAL STUDENT GRANTS FOR THIS COURSE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING AND IN RECEIVING  
A GRANT, PLEASE SEND A MOTIVATION LETTER TO  
ANNA BON (A.BON@VU.NL ), NOT LATER THAN 2 MARCH 2018.



[W4RA.ORG](http://W4RA.ORG), [VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM](http://VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM), [UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK](http://UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK)

IS VERDER KIJKEN

## Community Service Learning Abroad

In June 2018 a new VU master course "ICT for Development In The Field" will be given on location, in Sarawak, Malaysia, jointly with UNIMAS, the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.

This course offers master students a unique experience abroad, as it takes place on location in Malaysia, involves close collaboration with local rural and often poor communities, and aims for a full cycle of design, development and deployment/roll-out *in the field* of an ICT project, information system or service that is demonstrably valuable for local communities.

It is a follow-on course related to the existing course ICT4D (X\_405101, period 5). The latter will include various possibilities for studying the community use cases and their implementation in Malaysia, so that students are well prepared for the field work to be done. The first, pilot edition of this course will take place in June 2018 in Malaysia (period 6).

### Financials

VU strongly encourages engagement in societally important research and education, and therefore awards several VU student grants for participation in this course. The course will therefore be very affordable for participating students, although an own contribution of EUR 395 to cover local subsistence is to be expected. Students will be accommodated at the university campus in Kuching, Sarawak for a period of 4-5 weeks in June 2018.

### Course content

ICT4D addresses problems of and solutions for the "unconnected people in the world". Currently, this is about 47 % of the world's population, of whom the majority lives in poor, remote regions of the world.

The course has a Community Service Learning character, and gives students the opportunity to carry out and learn from a field-based ICT development, implementation and deployment project in and with a local rural community.

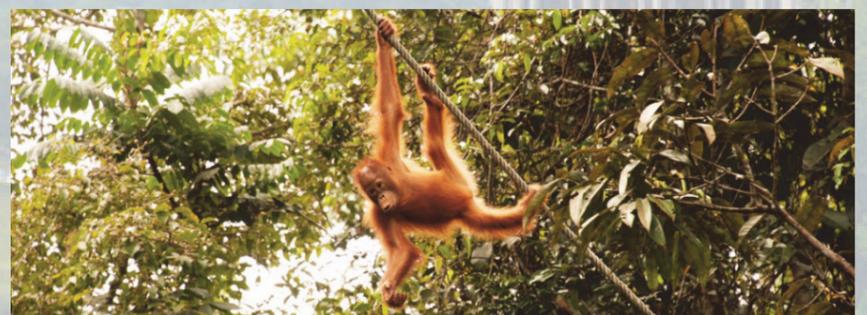
The course will be taught and supervised jointly by academic staff from the VU Informatics Department and academic staff from the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology of UNIMAS.

The main body of this course consists of 2-3 weeks of field work in a local "kampung" community in Sarawak, Malaysia, related to an ICT development project on a specific use case, and aiming for a real-world implementation, roll-out and test.

As a preparation to the field work, there is a first week of introductory lectures and assignments, including (i) use case, context and requirements elicitation and analysis; (ii) conceptual modelling of

information systems; (iii) selected technical aspects of ICT4D projects; (iv) value modelling and economic sustainability analysis; (v) guidelines and protocols for working with local communities.

In the last week, a final plenary conference will be held, in which all course participants present, share and discuss their ICT4D In The Field project results and experiences.



### ICT4D In The Field entry requirements

- (1) The ICT4D-1 course X\_405101 is strongly recommended (or demonstrable knowledge equivalent to it);
- (2) A motivation letter and interview is required.

Students interested in participating in the course in Malaysia are requested to contact Anna Bon (a.bon@vu.nl), and to submit a motivation letter, not later than 2 March 2018.