

COURSE TITLE: **HUMAN FACTORS IN TRAFFIC:
WHY WE ACT IN THE TRAFFIC THE WAY WE DO**

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MINIMAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS:: 5 **ECTS CREDITS:** 3

ABOUT THE COURSE:

Did you ever wonder why people act in traffic the way they do? Why do pedestrians jaywalk in New York City and not in Copenhagen? Well, in New York City it's a way to distinguish yourself from the crowd, while in Copenhagen it's an illegal act. In New York City pedestrians look at the cars, not the lights. Or why does sounding your horn in Rome not mean the same thing as sounding it in Stockholm, why is flashing your headlights at another driver understood one way on a German autobahn and quite another way in Los Angeles? How do people drive, how do people cross the street, how are power relations made manifest in those interactions, and what sorts of patterns emerge from traffic? If you have ever asked yourself these questions, this is the course for you to sign up for!

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Areas that are covered in the curriculum:

- introduction to traffic psychology and its history
- road users, vulnerable road users and their behaviour
- risky behaviour in traffic and risky groups
- communication between road users
- social and cultural aspects
- the driver's personality and its assessment
- psychological fitness to drive and the ways to assess it
- rehabilitation of drivers
- driving under the influence of drugs (DUI)
- infrastructure design and human factors
- Information Technologies (ITS) in traffic
- education and training in traffic
- prevention and promotion of safety and the promotion of healthy lifestyles