A photograph of a young man and woman standing on a busy city street in Amsterdam. The man is on the left, wearing a blue t-shirt and dark pants, with his arms crossed. The woman is on the right, wearing a light green t-shirt and black pants, with her hand on her hip and the other shading her eyes. They are standing on a crosswalk. In the background, there is a large, ornate brick building with many windows and arches. There are also cars and bicycles on the street, some of which are blurred to indicate motion. A large white text box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the title and authors of the challenge.

# UvA Create a Course Challenge

Marleen van der Meer MSc and Andrea Manneke MSc – April 16 2026



# Introduction



**Marleen van der Meer**

*Coordinator and developer of the interdisciplinary honours- and - elective programme at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, UvA*



**Andrea Manneke**

*Coordinator and developer of the interdisciplinary honours- and - elective programme at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, UvA*



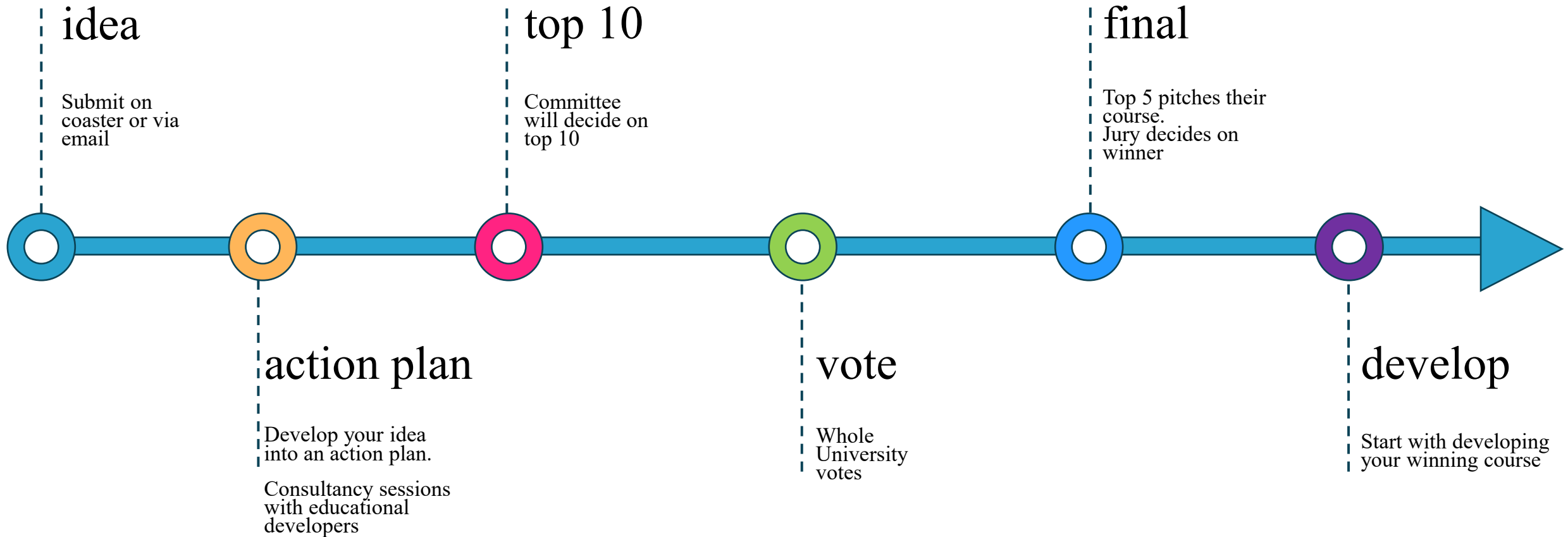
## UvA Create a Course Challenge What and Why?

- Students submit their own ideas for new interdisciplinary education
- Students add creativity and refreshing ideas
- Students have a say in the curriculum
- The winning idea will be developed in a new interdisciplinary elective
- Students become the student assistant of their own course





# UvA Create a Course Challenge How?



# Food Forestry

Winner Create a Course Challenge 2022

Sacha Brons and Wytze Walstra

- Nature based learning for analysing agricultural paradigm shift
- Interdisciplinary assignment: create your own food forest at the campus
- Embedded in curriculum Future Planet Studies



# Cultures of Conspiracy

Winner Create a Course Challenge 2021

Leonie von Platen

- Timely Issue
- Based on the demands of students
- Fast and agile course development





## Create a Course Challenge Challenges

- Student role (getting started, expectation management)
- Finding an examiner/coordinator
- Cooperation





## Beyond the Challenge

- Spin-offs at other faculties and universities
- Create your own Campus
- Your university?

Contact us for questions!

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Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies

UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM  
Economics & Business



ROOM for DISCUSSION

Questions?

