
Il nuovo Programma europeo Erasmus +, a supporto dell’istruzione, della formazione, della gioventù e dello sport, ha sostituito il Lifelong Learning Programme, e avrà validità per sette anni. Sarà possibile, attraverso di essa, incentivare ulteriormente la mobilità internazionale di studenti, docenti e personale.

L’obiettivo del nuovo Programma è quello di promuovere la mobilità di oltre quattro milioni di persone che potranno beneficiare di finanziamenti europei per periodi di studio e formazione all’estero tra il 2014 e il 2020, raddoppiando quasi il volume di coloro che hanno già usufruito di tale opportunità.

La Erasmus Charter è stata attribuita all'Università degli Studi “G. d’Annunzio” Chieti-Pescara sulla base dell’**Erasmus Policy Statement** che è stato uno dei documenti necessari per l’ottenimento della Erasmus University Charter (EUC). L’EUC è un certificato rilasciato dalla Commissione Europea che concede all’università il diritto di partecipare al programma Erasmus contenente i principi fondamentali di tutte le attività legate al programma.

**ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (Overall Strategy)**

The International strategy of our Institution invests both in European and non-European programmes. Partners Institutions are chosen according to the needs of staff and students- European and non-European Universities have to be as compatible as possible with demands and plans of the various Departments. Some partners are chosen on the basis of languages taught at our University, some on the basis of similarity and complementarity in research programmes. Some, because of their willingness to establish joint ventures, for the openness of their organization, the novelty and overall interest of the cultural environment and background.

The Gabriele d’Annunzio University has Erasmus and International Exchange Programmes with all European countries, with old and new members of the European Union, with countries which will soon become members of the Union, or have applied for membership. The programme is particularly rich in partnerships with Spain, Germany, France, with Eastern European and Turkish Universities. It needs to be adequately developed with British Universities; various schools and departments are investing energies in this direction. As for non-European countries, our University has strong and consolidated links and cooperation programmes with North America (Canada and the U.S.A.), Latin America (in particular Mexico and Brazil), with China and Japan, and with a number of Islamic Universities of the Mediterranean area.
The most important objectives are: language teaching and learning, intercultural mediation, international politics and economy, social sciences, technology, management, sciences of the earth, chemistry, and pharmacy. Staff and students are interested in investing in getting as much experience as possible of European and non-European realities, of international university systems at various levels, of research structures, of methods and contents, forms of updating, of cultural promotion, of teacher training, administration, methods of fund raising, organization of cultural events, strategies of cooperation with public and private Universities, other private or public Institutions, governmental and international agencies, corporations, research centers, and the like. The whole thing is obviously most pertinent and of crucial importance for staff, teachers, Ph.D. students, M.A. students, and in case of long term residence abroad, but it is of substantial significance also for short cycles and for junior students, since a citizen of the European Union must, from the beginning, plan his/her future on a larger scale and with openmindedness, on the background of the widest possible cultural horizons. In fact, a European or extra European mobility programme offers the possibility of precious stages and of the first effective experience of contact with the world of labour specialization and production. The multiple degree programme is still under development and the Gabriele d’Annunzio University proposes to reinforce it in a reasonably short period of time, with great efforts and investments, in order to fill in the gap which can, for the moment, be noticed on fair scrutiny.

Erasmus has played a crucial role in conceiving, promoting and implementing many Intl. Projects. The same is true for the Intl. Programmes with non European countries in so far as a short residence abroad and a direct contact with colleagues working, teaching and doing research in foreign institutions can be the source of cooperation, projects, human relationship of the utmost importance, cultural policy programmes, exchange of experience with mutual advantages, ca.methods of higher education.It provides opportunities to gain additional skills, It fosters the sharing of informations, equipping graduates with knowledge and core transferable competences, stimulating new perspectives, offering the possibility of teamwork. Projects implemented under the programme offer a varied range of interventions in teaching and training, useful for scholars, staff, students, who aim at operating beyond the limits of region and country; the impact promises to be fruitful from many points of view. First of all it will increase the number of Higher Education graduates. The younger members will profit from the ample perspectives, the multicultural environments, whereas mature scholars and experienced teachers will profit from continuing education, cross cultural perspectives and updated competences.

All this will prove effective in enabling our university to achieve the ambitious objectives it intends to achieve: international excellence in teaching, and research, focusing on targets which can concretely be hit in the span of time of the new Erasmus: better relationship with the local territory, but also with larger productive contexts; promoting a better organization and exploitation of local, national, public and private resources. The final result should be the best interaction with political institutions and the creation of a genuine international panorama and of 100% of multicultural, democratic and progressive society.

The Gabriele d’Annunzio University has always participated with enthusiasm in Erasmus Programmes; at the beginning with Institutional Contracts and then, up to 2014 via Erasmus University Charter. The number of outgoing and incoming students and staff grew steadily. Recently our 12 schools (Facoltà) have been substituted by 14 Departments, which will be responsible also for the International Programme of the whole University. The organization of teaching, learning, research, administration, will, however, continue to comply with the
Bologna Process. Bilateral Exchange Programmes (non Erasmus) have reached the number of 61. This University is a member of EUCEN Programme (European Univ. Continuing Education Network) but its participation will have to be reinforced in the future in order to become more active. The Leonardo programme plays an important role in offering our graduates intensive periods of stage abroad. We have an active part in the Erasmus sections called Erasmus Placement and Erasmus Mundus. The International Exchange Programmes and activities are promoted and publicised through the International Relations section of the Website (in Italian and in English). The University Erasmus Panel consists of 14 members, one for each of the University Departments. The Regional Agency for the Right to Higher Education will continue to provide grants to students with limited financial resources. The Erasmus and International Affairs Committee oversees and monitors the process of application, choice, signing of learning agreements, changes, etc., recognising exams and activities abroad. The International Relations Office takes care of all necessary administrative and technical support and, along with the above mentioned Panel, informs and updates students and staff. all academic requirements, deadlines, exam and course accreditation, during the whole exchange process. It will soon be reinforced with new units, in order to cope with the increased number of students, staff and activities of the International Programme.

Most Departments provide tutors to support incoming students (course description, timetables, calendars, classrooms, libraries, laboratories and other research structures). Intensive and continuing Italian language courses are offered to incoming students upon arrival and throughout both semesters. Foreign language courses in five major European languages are offered to outgoing students thanks to the University Language Centre. A competent, motivated and stimulating support is offered to outgoing and, above all, to incoming students by the Erasmus Students Association (ESN)). It offers a wide range of services and activities, starting well before the arrival of incoming students or the departure of outgoing students. It provides the students with all sorts of orientation and support, it takes care of accommodation and organizes cultural and social events.