

INFOSESSION EXCHANGE

FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

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TOPICS

1. Why go on exchange?
2. A word of warning
3. Sources of information
4. Eligibility criteria
5. Destinations
6. Learning agreement
7. FAQ

WHY GO ON EXCHANGE?

- Cross-cultural perspective on psychology, educational sciences, and adult educational sciences
- Learn a new language
- Be an ambassador for the VUB
- Beneficial for your CV
- Beneficial if you would like to pursue a career in academia

A WORD OF WARNING

- You will need to do a lot of paperwork / administration
- It might be difficult to get timely reactions from exchange coordinators and professors at the destination
- You may face a great deal of uncertainty
- It may be difficult to set up a learning agreement that perfectly matches your VUB program
- You will need to be flexible
- You will need to take responsibility
- It is possible that you do not obtain a grant
- By default, exchanges for studies are for 1 semester

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

EXCHANGE COORDINATORS

- Adult Educational Sciences: Drs. Bas Dikmans (bas.dikmans@vub.be)
- Educational Sciences: Prof. Chang Zhu (chang.zhu@vub.be)
- Psychology: Prof. Tim Vantilborgh (tim.vantilborgh@vub.be) and Prof. Martijn Van Heel (martijn.van.heel@vub.be)
- General email address: pe.mobility@vub.be (Freya De Vroede)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR WHAT?

- Exchange coordinators:
 - Questions about destinations for exchanges
 - Selection and nomination procedure for studies and internships abroad
 - Creating and changing learning agreements
- International Relations Office (exchange.outgoing@vub.be):
 - Questions about grants and scholarships
 - Practical questions on studying abroad (e.g., housing)
 - Administrative issues
- Internship coordinators:
 - Internships abroad

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

STUDY EXCHANGE

- For study exchanges, you need to have:
 - Attained 60 ECTS (at the time of application, within current curriculum)
 - Passed 1st Bachelor
- Schakelstudenten / verkorte programma's can also participate (criteria mentioned above do not apply for them)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

FOR INTERNSHIPS

- The same criteria apply as for regular internships (check with your internship coordinator)

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Some destinations are available for BA or MA students only, others for both
- Warning: it is often easier for psychology students to go abroad in 3rd Bachelor

University	Location
Eotvas Lorand University	Budapest (Hungary)
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	Berlin (Germany)
University degli studi di Firenze	Florence (Italy)
Maastricht Universiteit	Maastricht (the Netherlands)
Tilburg Universiteit	Tilburg (the Netherlands)
Universidade de Coimbra	Coimbra (Portugal)
Istanbul Bigli University	Istanbul (Turkey)
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Barcelona (Spain)
Universitat de Barcelona	Barcelona (Spain)
Université Paris Nanterre	Paris (France)
EUTOPIA PARTNERS	

DESTINATIONS

EUTOPIA PARTNERS - PSYCHOLOGY

Partner Eutopia	Study field	Spots	Remark
University of Gothenborg	Psychology	14 university wide spots at MA level	
Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai	Psychology	2 x BA 2 x MA	
University of Ljubljana	Psychology	2 x BA 2 x MA	
Warwick	Psychology	2 x BA	full year only

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Eotvas Lorand University (Budapest, Hungary)
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B1
- Humboldt-Universitat zu Berlin (Berlin, Germany)
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: German
 - Language requirements: C1
 - Extra fee of 265.64€ needs to be paid by exchange students themselves
 - Be aware that fall semester at Humboldt university ends mid-February (with exams at end of February)

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Universitat de Barcelona (Spain)
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
 - Language requirements: B1
- University degli studi di Firenze (Florence, Italy)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 2
 - Available places for **Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: Italian
 - Language requirements: B1

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Maastricht University (Maastricht, the Netherlands)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 4
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B2
- Tilburg University (Tilburg, the Netherlands)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 3
 - Language courses: English, Dutch
 - Language requirements: B2

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Universidade de Coimbra (Coimbra, Portugal)
 - Available places for **Master** students: 4
 - Language courses: Portuguese, English
 - Language requirements: A2-B2
- Istanbul Bigli University
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 5
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B2

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 4
 - Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
 - Language requirements: B1
- Université Paris Nanterre
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 4
 - Available places for **Master** students: 4
 - Language courses: French
 - Language requirements: B1 (certification required)
 - Remark: high level! 2nd semester starts on the 17th of January, so VUB exams taking place in that period may need to be rescheduled (request via dean)

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- EUTOPIA partners:
 - University of Gothenborg (Sweden): 14 university wide spots (**Master** level; for 1 semester)
 - University of Ljubljana (Slovenia): 2 **Bachelor** and 2 **Master** level spots (for 1 semester)
 - University of Warwick (England, UK): 2 **Bachelor** level spots (full year only)
 - 2 ECTS at Warwick = 1 ECTS at VUB
 - Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai (Romania): 2 **Bachelor** and 2 **Master** level spots (for 1 semester)

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

University	Location
Universitat de Barcelona	Barcelona (Spain)
Tallinn University	Tallinn (Estonia)
Tampere University	Tampere (Finland)
Stockholm University	Stockholm (Sweden)
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Barcelona (Spain)
Università degli Studi del Molise	Campobasso (Italy)
Università degli Studi di Firenze	Florence (Italy)
Istanbul Bilgi University	Istanbul (Turkey)
Middle East Technical University	Ankara (Turkey)
EUTOPIA PARTNERS	New

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

- Universitat de Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
 - Language requirements: B1
- Tallinn University (Tallinn, Estonia)
 - Available places for **Bachelor/Master** students: 3
 - Language courses: English, Estonian
 - Language requirements: B2

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

- Tampere University (Tampere, Finland)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 2
 - Available places for **Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: English
- Stockholm University (Stockholm, Sweden)
 - Available places for **Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B1

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 2
 - Available places for **Master** students: 1
 - Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
 - Language requirements: B1
- Università degli Studi del Molise (Campobasso, Italy)
 - Available places for **Master** students: 4
 - Language courses: Italian
 - Language requirements: B1

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

- Universita degli Studi di Firenze (Florence, Italy)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 2
 - Language courses: Italian
 - Language requirements: B1
- Istanbul Bilgi University (Istanbul, Turkey)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 3
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B2

DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

- Middle East Technical University (Ankara, Turkey)
 - Available places for **Bachelor** students: 3
 - Available places for **Master** students: 2
 - Language courses: English
 - Language requirements: B2
- EUTOPIA partners:
 - TU Dresden (Dresden University of Technology, Germany): 2 spots for Master students (for 1 semester)
 - University of Gothenborg (Sweden): 14 university wide spots (Bachelor + Master; for 1 semester)
 - University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) : 2 spots for Bachelor students and 2 spots for master students (for 1 semester)
 - Universitatea Babes-Bolyai (Romania): 2 spots for Bachelor students and 2 spots for master students (for 1 semester)

DESTINATIONS

EUTOPIA PARTNERS

Partner Eutopia	Studyfield	Spots	Cycle	Remark
TU DRESDEN	Educational Sciences	2 x 5 months	2nd	
University of Gothenborg	Educational Sciences	14 university wide spots	1st, 2nd	
University of Ljubljana	Educational Sciences	2 x 5 months	1st	
	Educational Sciences	2 x 5 months	2nd	
Universitatea Babes-Bolyai	Educational Sciences	2 x 5 months	1st	
	Educational Sciences	2 x 5 months	2nd	

DESTINATIONS

INSIDE BELGIUM

- Possibility for exchange with Université Libre de Bruxelles
 - Non-mandatory courses
 - <https://www.vub.be/nl/studeren-aan-de-vub/praktische-info-voor-studenten/studentenadministratie/keuzevakken-en-formulieren>
 - <https://www.ulb-vub.be/nl/faq-uitwisseling-vakken-en-modules>

DESTINATIONS

OUTSIDE OF EUROPE

- Available destinations: see list IRMO presentation
- Differences with EU-destinations:
 - More competition for grants
 - No official limit on places available per destination
 - Application procedure is more complicated
 - Host institution may apply their own selection procedures as well

LEARNING AGREEMENT

WHAT IS A LEARNING AGREEMENT (LA)?

- Official document listing the courses you will take at your host university, in exchange for VUB courses
- You select courses worth 21-30 ECTS (for one semester)
- Each selected course in your host university is linked to a VUB course
- There needs to be a balance between the total amount of ECTS on both sides of the learning agreement (max. 2 ECTS difference between both sides – see FAQ at end of slides for more information)
- In case of an imbalance in ECTS between both sides, the ECTS of the host institution count

LEARNING AGREEMENT

HOW DO I CREATE A LA?

- Students are responsible for their own LA
- Look at the website of the host institution for information on available courses
- Contact the exchange coordinator at the host institution
- You will create an LA before going to the host institution, but keep in mind that you can (and likely will) make changes to you LA during the first weeks of your mobility

LEARNING AGREEMENT

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- STEP 1: Submit a top-3 of destinations + motivation letter
 - Deadline: Friday 6th of December 2024
 - Submission form: <https://forms.office.com/e/gCdUykUVS1>
- Selection procedure:
 - Exchange coordinators select students for destinations (students who select a non-EU destination will be nominated early to IRMO to speed up process)
 - Criteria: motivation letter + grades (if available) + status student (student with/without fewer opportunities) + participation in mobility in past years
 - All applicants are ranked based on criteria, and allocated to destinations
 - You will receive an email from your exchange coordinator in December/January

Submission form top-3 destinations AY24-25



LEARNING AGREEMENT

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- STEP 2: Send a first proposal of your LA to your exchange coordinator
 - Deadline: Monday 3rd of February 2025
 - Use the template "[Document voorstel Learning Agreement](#)"
 - Add course description of selected courses (in English)
 - You will receive feedback from your exchange coordinator

LEARNING AGREEMENT

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- STEP 3: Send a revised learning agreement to your exchange coordinator
 - Deadline: Monday 3rd of March 2025
 - Exchange coordinator will decide if your revised LA can be approved
 - If your LA is approved, the exchange coordinator will officially nominate you for an exchange with IRMO
 - IRMO will contact you, to guide you through the rest of the application procedure

LEARNING AGREEMENT

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR INTERNSHIPS

- STEP 1: Contact your internship coordinator
 - You can suggest a destination of your own choosing
 - Get approval from internship coordinator on destination and internship plan
- STEP 2: Contact your exchange coordinator
 - Deadline: Monday 3rd of March 2025
 - Inform exchange coordinator of destination, so we can nominate you with IRMO

INTERNATIONALIZATION@HOME

BUDDY PROGRAMME

- VUB students can become a “buddy” of an incoming international student
 - Help international students feel welcome
 - Introduce them to social networks
 - Help them find their way at the VUB and in Brussels
- Website:
 - <http://esnvubehb.org/buddy-programme>

REGISTER FOR THE BUDDY PROGRAM AND GET A

SUPERHERO!



What is a local buddy?
A person who knows Brussels and wants to be point of contact for the incoming international students

Super-powers?
Source of information, first friend in Belgium

Need help to save the Erasmus world?
buddy@esnvubehb.org
ehbbuddy@esnvubehb.org

STUDY + INTERNSHIP EXCHANGE MANUAL

FOR EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES AND ADULT EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

There will be an exchange manual available (in English or in Dutch) that will be **made available** online after this info session that will help you in the process of applying/preparing for an exchange.

The document can be found at the relevant information channels for your study program.

Please contact: bas.dikmans@vub.be for further questions.

FAQ

- My LA is already officially approved, but I want to make changes. What do I need to do?
 - Contact your exchange coordinator. Send a proposal for a changed LA using the template [“Document voorstel Learning Agreement”](#). You can enter changes in mobility online during first week of exchange.
- I changed my mind and I want to stop my exchange
 - Inform your exchange coordinator, IRMO, and the host institution
- Do I need to register the VUB courses in my LA in self-service?
 - No, the faculty administration will do this for you
- Can I select a language course in my LA?
 - Yes, in exchange for a VUB keuzevak and provided that the language course is taught at the host institution

FAQ

- I must redo exams at the VUB in August-September, can I still go on exchange?
 - You will have to wait until the official proclamation of the exams in the beginning of September before you can leave on exchange. You will be allowed to go on exchange if you meet the eligibility criteria and if you did not get an “Inschrijving niet toegelaten” following the exams
- I failed an exam at the host institution, what now?
 - Try and redo the exam at the host institution. If this is not possible, redo the VUB course in the second exam period. If this does not happen, redo the VUB course next academic year.
- I exchanged 2 courses at the host institution for 1 VUB course, but I failed 1 of the 2 courses at the host institution. What now?
 - Try and redo the exam at the host institution. If this is not possible, redo the VUB course in the second exam period. If this does not happen, redo the VUB course next academic year.
- I want to leave in the first week of February, but I still have an exam at the VUB.
 - You can ask the dean of the faculty to allow you to do the exam on a different day (see Onderwijs- en examenreglement)

FAQ

- Are differences in ECTS allowed between VUB courses and courses at the host institution in the learning agreement?
 - Yes, differences are allowed. However, we do check the difference between the total amount of ECTS for VUB courses in the LA and the total amount of ECTS for host institution courses. This difference should not be larger than 2 ECTS. The exception to this is that students can take more credits at the host institution, but these extra credits will not be recognized at the VUB then. For example:
 - 19 ECTS at VUB – 21 ECTS at host institution = ok
 - 21 ECTS at VUB – 19 ECTS at host institution = ok
 - 21 ECTS at VUB – 18 ECTS at host institution = not ok
 - 18 ECTS at VUB – 21 ECTS at host institution = ok