



**Department of English Studies**

**STUDY ABROAD EUROPE**  
**ERASMUS EXCHANGES 2024/25**  
**INFO BOOKLET**



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## A Year as an Exchange Student: Worth It?

The answer to this question is an overwhelming "YES"! Trying to decide whether to go abroad to study is something many students spend a lot of time pondering. Yes, it's true that the application and accreditation processes may involve numerous formalities, and other areas of your life will need attention too, e.g., securing enough money to support yourself, renting out your flat/ room, and finding someone to look after your hamsters!

Still, the benefits of spending even just one semester abroad are definitely worth it, particularly for language students! The chances are you'll come back a different person, with broadened horizons and a new perspective on things, within and beyond of your degree subject. You will learn to be self-sufficient and handle problems and obstacles on your own. Moreover, you will meet new people from all around the world, perfect your foreign language skills and see interesting, new places. It's also a great achievement to add to your CV, not only for the language aspect.

A lot of students are worried about 'losing time', especially in the Bachelor's and Master's degrees. This is why studying abroad is a popular option. It is usually possible to get most of the courses you take abroad accredited as some that are required for your degree programme in Trier, so you won't 'lose' as much time as you think! In any case, an ERASMUS+ exchange lasts for a maximum of around 9 months – which is really not that long a time in the grand scheme of things. Many students do not complete their degree in the recommended period of time anyway, and experiencing a year abroad is a very valuable way to spend time as a student, so the concern of finishing your degree just a few months later than perhaps originally planned is not really a big problem. What you will gain from living and studying abroad will definitely be worth it!

## Reasons to become an ERASMUS+ Student

1. You can study at one of around 2000 universities **for free!**
2. You will meet people from **around the world** (and have cheap places to stay when you visit later!)
3. You will improve your **language skills** (and might even learn a new one)
4. You will be exposed to **different ways of thinking** (and become more analytical yourself)
5. Your **grades** might improve upon your return
6. Your chances of **getting a job** improve
7. You will have the chance to **be immersed in** a foreign culture and get to know all of its facets
8. You are given an **ERASMUS+ grant** to help finance your stay abroad
9. You will find out more about **yourself**
10. You will experience the **"Union"** in "European Union"
- And...
11. You will never forget this **time of your life!**

# The Story of ERASMUS – Facts and Figures

At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, a scholar from Holland went off on a 30-year 'study abroad' trip through France, Italy, Great Britain and Switzerland – and inspired many other scholars and students to do the same. Around 500 years later, the EU took his name as the title of its ERASMUS programme – "European Union Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students." This is one of the most popular and well-known Europe-wide programmes allowing academics to travel and study abroad.

Nowadays, around 2000 universities participate in the programme and even non-EU countries have found ways to participate. In 1987/88, a total of 649 students at German universities used the programme to spend some time studying in another European country. In 2017 the figure was around 100,000, which was a record year with over 800,000 participants across Europe.

Every seven years, a new programme generation is introduced, often with important changes to keep the ERASMUS programme up to date. In 2014, the new generation was called ERASMUS+ and introduced the opportunity for participants to go on a funded exchange in each academic cycle (e.g. Bachelor's, Master's), as well as possibilities for training and gaining work experience abroad. The program was extended until May 2023 due to the Corona pandemic, and spent €14.7 billion on enabling students and scholars spend time abroad. The new generation of ERASMUS+ officially runs from 2021-27 and has set new focuses on sustainable travel, digitalisation, and social engagement. There are also add-ons to the standard grant to particularly support students with care responsibilities or chronic illness/disability. Find out more: <https://eu.daad.de/service/erasmusplus-2021-2027-alle-neuerungen-auf-einen-blick/de/>

# Things to Consider Before Applying

## Financing Your Year Abroad

The costs of living in many European countries are at least equal to those in Trier. Especially in the UK and Ireland, they are probably even higher. Additionally, you will also have to travel to your host university and might want to travel around the country. Of course, this can be financially challenging, yet this aspect should not keep you from applying.

All participants in the ERASMUS+ exchange programme are entitled to a monthly allowance of around €450-600. Host countries are categorised according to their costs of living, thus you will receive a higher allowance for the UK than for Poland, for example. Some monthly "top-ups" of ~€250 are available in individual cases to students who have caring responsibilities, who work to finance their own studies, or who do not come from an academic family background. Of course, these stipends alone may not be enough to live on, but combined with the money you would spend if you were living in Trier, it should cover your basic expenses.

This ERASMUS+ grant can also be combined with BAföG payments: even if you do not normally receive BAföG, there is an extra Auslands-BAföG you may be entitled to, which can cover your health insurance and accommodation costs. You can also get a one-off payment of up to €250 to cover your travel costs to and from your host university, which usually does not need to be paid back. For more information, see the BAföG website: <https://www.bafög.de/de/auslandsfoerderung-384.php>

## Language Skills and Tests

Studying in a foreign country requires good language skills. All of the Department of English Studies' partner institutions teach in English. In countries that teach in English but are not English-speaking overall, online language courses in the local language (OLS, [erasmusplusols.eu/de/](https://erasmusplusols.eu/de/)) are offered to help you acquire day-to-day language competence.

If you study English and are applying to study at a university in an English-speaking country, or an international university where you will be attending courses taught in English, you do not need to take any language test before applying. If a *Sprachzeugnis* is required for your application, a *Sprachpraxis* teacher can complete it for you.

There are two exceptions to this rule:

- Students without EU citizenship, and those staying for longer than 6 months in the UK, need a visa to study abroad, and the requirements for most visas include an officially recognised language test such as IELTS or TOEFL, or a test run by the host university.
- The **University of Cambridge** requires you to pass their own language test or one of the following: IELTS with a minimum overall grade of 7.0, Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English at grade A, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English at grade B, or TOEFL iBT minimum overall score of 100 with 25 in each element. We recommend you take advantage of one of the latter options.

### **How long can I stay?**

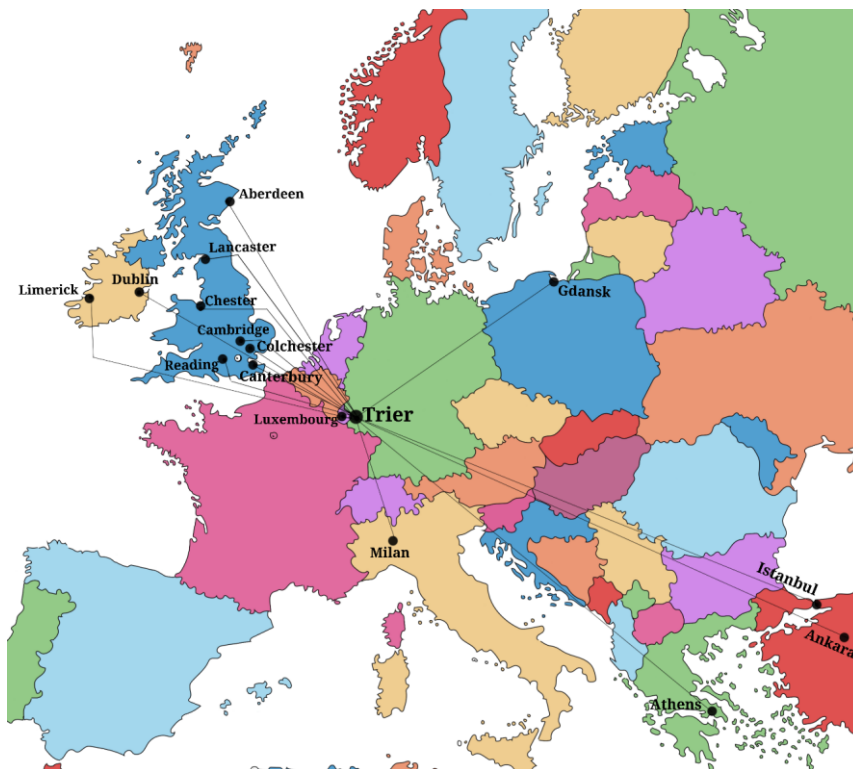
Usually, an ERASMUS+ exchange will last for one academic year – which is normally September to May/June. In exceptional cases, it is possible to go for just one semester/term (3-5 months), but this must be agreed with the partner institution, and those students applying for the whole academic year will usually be given priority. Note, too, that the term systems at our partner universities (especially in the UK) may make it impossible to stay for only one of our semesters while still completing classes for a full semester in Trier.

### **How do I choose where to go?**

Personal preferences always play a big role in such decisions. Some students value the touristic or weather aspects of the town/country they are visiting, others want to go to a particular place they've always dreamt of living in. As a student of English, your

preferences are probably with English-speaking countries. Yet other partner institutions may offer courses in English that are closer to your interests and abilities. For students in the BA/MA programmes, the country itself does not need to have English as a main language, so you can choose universities or institutions in other countries according to your interests and/or other language skills. For BEd/MEd students a three-month stay in an English-speaking country is obligatory. Nonetheless, you may decide to spend your three months in an English-speaking country at another time, and enjoy the international exchange and adventure of attending one of our other partner universities.

You should be honest with yourself about the kind of place you are likely to feel comfortable and happy living in. Although the exchange lasts 'only' 9 months, you won't be able to make the most of it if you are unhappy living in that area. For this purpose, this booklet includes some information on our partner institutions. You can also check the universities' websites which often include information about 'life' outside of the academic side of things.



## Other FAQs

### **How does Brexit affect the ERASMUS+ programme in the UK?**

We have worked closely with our British partner universities to continue our exchange agreements now that the UK is no longer in the EU. In almost all cases, our new agreements include comparable conditions to ERASMUS+ exchanges (e.g. no tuition fees, monthly stipend) – though these are subject to final approval, which we will have before you apply to your host university.

Another key difference is that you now need a passport (not just an ID card!) to enter the UK, plus a "Tier 4 Student Visa" (NOT the "short-term study visa"!) if you plan to stay there for longer than 6 months or if do not have EU citizenship. You can check visa requirements at <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

Students who need to apply for a visa will also need to pay a "Immigration Health Surcharge" in order to use healthcare services in the UK – but you can usually get this fee refunded by your health insurance company in Germany. For non-visa students, your European Health Insurance Card (usually on the back on your standard health insurance card) continues to be valid in the UK, though the extent of treatment covered may be limited. You can find detailed more information on this point by checking <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-for-eu-and-efta-nationals-living-in-the-uk> We therefore recommend taking out private health insurance for the duration of your stay, especially if you would like to be brought home in the case of serious illness.

### **Can I write my Bachelor's/ Master's thesis during my ERASMUS+ year?**

It depends – and it may be tricky. If your advisor at Trier University agrees, you have overcome the first obstacle. However, you might still have to take the full workload at your host university alongside writing your thesis (in UK: dissertation) – please discuss this with your ERASMUS+ Coordinator when you compile your Learning Agreement. At some universities, modules exist that aim at completing a thesis/dissertation. If you are

considering taking this option, you should talk to your host university to check that such modules are available to exchange students before you make further arrangements.

**Can I do an internship whilst on an ERASMUS exchange?**

You are not allowed to do any work – paid or unpaid – in the UK without the appropriate visa. This means that it is not possible to combine an internship with studying abroad there.

If you study abroad in any other country and you wish to gain some work experience alongside studying at your host university, you will need to find part-time work or a part-time work placement which fits in around your university commitments. Please ensure that your internship does not have a negative impact on the academic side of things – having completed a placement cannot make up for not achieving the ECTS credit points agreed on in your learning agreement.

If you are planning to complete a work placement in an EU country after your time as an exchange student has finished, and you find a placement lasting at least three months, you can apply for funding at the a.i.m. rpl office (*Agentur für internationale Hochschul-Mobilität*, located at *Hochschule Trier*). For more information about funding for work experience placements, please contact the IO or see <http://www.erasmuspraktika.de/>

If you wish to do a work placement in the UK after your time as an exchange student at a university has finished, you will need a “Tier 5 Temporary Worker Visa”, and the Erasmus programme cannot support you financially.

## Where can I go?

In this booklet, you will find detailed information about the exchange partnerships held by the Department of English Studies. Any English Studies student – no matter which degree programme - can apply for any of these exchanges.

Some other subjects at Trier University also have partner institutions in English-speaking countries (e.g. German Studies, Geography, Maths, Politics). If you study one of these subjects alongside English, you can also go to an English-speaking country through one of their exchanges. Whether or not your exchange university is an exchange partner of the Department of English Studies, we will be happy to accredit any relevant courses you complete whilst abroad, and accredit the time there as your compulsory stay abroad (BEd/MEd).

### Previous Applicants and Participants

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
<b>Available Spots</b>	27	27	30	30	30	27-43
<b>Applicants</b>	23	26	24	23	21	27
<b>ERASMUS students</b>	19	20	19	18	18	21

**For the academic year 2023/24, our partner institutions have 25-49 spots available for students of English Studies:** 14 full-year spots in the UK, and 3 full-year spots in Ireland (many of which can be divided among students attending for just one term).

On the following pages, you can find out more about each of our partner institutions – they are presented here categorized by country: First UK, then Ireland, then other countries.

## Current Partner Institutions

		Student Places	Duration of Stay	Bachelor's	Master's	Staff
<b>Greece</b>	Athens	1 or 2	10 months or 5 months	x	x	x
<b>Ireland</b>	Dublin City University	2 or 4	10 months or 4 months	x	x*	x
	University of Limerick	1 or 2	10 months or 4 months	x	x*	
<b>Italy</b>	Milan	1	10 months	x		
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Luxembourg	1 or 2	10 months or 5 months	x		x
<b>Poland</b>	Gdansk	1 or 2	10 months or 5 months	x	x	
<b>Turkey</b>	Ankara	1	10 months	x		
	Istanbul	2	10 months	x		x
<b>UK</b>	Aberdeen	1 or 2	9 months or 4 months	x	x*	
	Cambridge	1	10 months	x	x*	
	Anglia Ruskin	1	5 months	x	x	x
	Canterbury (U. of Kent)	2	10 months	x	x*	
	Chester	4 (or 8)	10 months (5 months)	x	x*	x
	Colchester (U. of Essex)	1	5 months	x	x*	x
	Lancaster	4 or 2 (Bachelor)  2 (Master)	8 months or 5 months (only possible for Bachelor's)	x	x**	
	Reading	1	10 months	x	x*	

\* If you go to these universities as a Master's student, you will need to enrol there as a Bachelor's student. However, final-year Bachelor's classes can be accredited as Master's-level classes in Trier. Please check with your ERASMUS+ Coordinator before you take them.

\*\*Spots for Master's in TESOL

**To find out more about what it's like to study at our partner universities, you can email the International Office to ask for copies of the reports that Trier students have written who spent an Erasmus semester/year there previously!**

# ABERDEEN

University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom

<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/>

<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/erasmus/>



## City:

Aberdeen is not only the third largest city in Scotland but also close to the sea. It has a population of about 217,150 and can trace its origins to 580 A.D.

## University:

Like the city itself, the University of Aberdeen is one of the oldest in the UK. It was founded in 1495 which accounts for the university's typical old buildings. Today, around 14,000 students are enrolled in the manifold degree programmes offered. Among its alumni are famous Britons like Thomas Reid and Joanne K. Rowling.



The academic year is split into two semesters. The first begins in September and ends at Christmas; the second one begins in January and ends with the examination period in May. Stays for one term (winter) are possible, though not recommended.

You do not require a language test for your application at Aberdeen (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses. For Level 3 classes, you must take a diagnostic test.

**Classes:** Our agreement is with the School of Language and Literature, but students may choose 50% of their classes from other departments. Classes might include:

- Theory of Translating and Interpreting
- Encounters with Shakespeare
- First and Second Language Acquisition

## Housing:

The University of Aberdeen offers accommodation in halls of residence on campus as well as in Hillhead Halls, about 20 minutes from campus. Rents range from £92 to £168 per week for an academic year and are subject to availability. Application is possible after you receive your ERASMUS package. Additionally, the student association advertises private accommodation in and around Aberdeen.

## Useful Links:

[http://www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation/choosing\\_accommodation/](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation/choosing_accommodation/)

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/registry/courses/undergraduate>

## ARU CAMBRIDGE

Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge

<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/>

<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/international/study-abroad>



### City:

Cambridge is known for its famous universities and beautiful buildings. The city is well connected with the London and the rest of the country. It is a lively, young city.

### University:

Anglia Ruskin University was founded in 1858. It ranks amongst the best universities in the UK and has a reputation for excellence. The University is placed in near Mill Pond in Cambridge, making it a very green campus, similar to ours in Trier. There are currently around 40,000 students enrolled at Anglia Ruskin. Anglia has been classified as encouraging "world-leading" research in various areas of study. For students of English, it might be of importance to know that two of the aforementioned areas include English Literature and Cultural studies.

The academic year is split into two semesters: September-January, January-April. Please note that **only one semester stays** are possible at Anglia Ruskin.

You do not require a language test for your application at ARU (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** Our exchange is with the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and offers a range of literary and cultural studies and theoretical and applied linguistics as well as English Language Teaching.

Classes might include:

- Language, Gender, Identity
- English Phonetics and Phonology
- Intercultural Awareness
- Contemporary Issues in Stylistics



### Housing:

Prices from halls are from approximately £110-£230 per week (whole year tenancy).

### Useful Links:

<http://www.anglia.ac.uk/international/europe>

<https://www.anglia.ac.uk/student-life/accommodation>

# CAMBRIDGE

University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

<http://www.cam.ac.uk/>

<http://www.cam.ac.uk/international-students>



**City:** Cambridge is located about 80km north of London in East Anglia. Some 20% of the city's population are students which makes Cambridge a thorough university city.

**University:** Founded in 1209, it is also one of the UK's oldest universities. The module structure in Cambridge is slightly different from other universities: Teaching is done in lectures and very small tutorials called 'supervisions' (with 1-3 students and a lecturer) and involves a lot of reading outside of class!



Cambridge is one the very best universities in the UK, and ranks among the top universities worldwide.

Your level of English and academic performance must therefore be very high to attend Cambridge. See the language test section for further information. **Please contact your ERASMUS+ Coordinator before applying.**

The academic year is split into three terms: October-December, January-March and April-June. This division of terms means 1-semester stays are not possible.

**Classes:** Our exchange is with the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics, which can mean that it is not always easy to combine your studies of both literature and linguistics. But you can ask your academic supervisor in Cambridge to help you find relevant options. Classes might include:

- History and Varieties of English
- Sounds and Words
- Language, Brain and Society

**Housing:** The University of Cambridge offers housing in its colleges with rent from £850 per month only available for year-long stays. Alternatively, the accommodation office lists available private accommodation. It is advisable to check accommodation possibilities well in advance.

**Useful Links:**

<http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/dtal/>

<http://www.accommodation.cam.ac.uk/>

# CHESTER

University of Chester, United Kingdom

<http://www.chester.ac.uk/>

<http://www.chester.ac.uk/international>



**City:** Chester is one of the UK's oldest cities which can be traced back more than 2000 years. It is close to the Welsh border in the Northwest of England and has about 70,000 inhabitants. Thus, it is fairly similar to Trier, however, Chester counts Daniel Craig among its sons.

**University:** The University of Chester was established as the teaching college of the University of Liverpool but was expanded into a university with seven distinct faculties in 2005. Thus, it is one of the UK's youngest universities, but has some 15,000 students



The English Department offers courses in literature, linguistics ('language') and creative writing, and is recognized for its excellence in research. Places for Erasmus students in English Dept. classes are limited, but students can be flexible in choosing courses from other departments (e.g. German, Education).

The academic year consists of two semesters, the first starting in September and the second in January. Chester University recommends staying for the full academic year, as most of their modules run over the two semesters.

You do not require a language test for your application at Chester (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** Choosing between the Modern Languages, English, and Education Depts, classes might include:

- Victorian Literature
- Translation Techniques and Application (Ger/Eng)
- Language Acquisition

**Housing:** International and exchange students staying for a full academic year are guaranteed accommodation. It is usually also possible to find a private let for one term. Rents in university-run halls of residence range from £105-£185 per week.

**Useful Links:**

<https://www1.chester.ac.uk/international>

<https://www1.chester.ac.uk/undergraduate/accommodation>

## ESSEX/COLCHESTER

University of Essex, United Kingdom

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/>

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/international/>



**City:** Colchester lies to the northeast of London on the North Sea. It has a population of about 110,000 and is said to be built at the same location as legendary Camelot.

**University:** Colchester is home to one of the three campuses of the University of Essex. About 9,000 students are enrolled in one of the sixteen faculties. In the 2009 Student Satisfaction Surveys they scored 94% on acquiring knowledge and understanding, 93% on quality of supervision, 90% on course organisation, and 88% on resources. Erasmus students can take courses from any Department based at the Colchester campus, as long as these are labelled as available to exchange students and the students fulfil the prerequisite requirements.

The academic year is split into three terms beginning in October and ending with the examination period in June. Our agreement only allows one student to go there for one semester (max. 5 months). Note that some courses run for the whole academic year and are not open to students staying in Colchester for just one semester.

You do not require a language test for your application at Essex (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses. EFL courses can be taken for ECTS credits.

**Classes:** Alongside traditional literature and linguistics courses, teaching areas include TEFL and Film Studies. Classes might include:

- Writing the Short Story
- Shakespeare: The Tragedies
- Approaches to Film and Media
- Text Up Close: Reading for Criticism



**Housing:** The University of Essex offers accommodation in ten different facilities. Rents range from £110 to £256 per week. It is possible to be accommodated for only one term at slightly higher rates.

### Useful Links:

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/undergraduate/our-courses>

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/life/accommodation>

## KENT/CANTERBURY

University of Kent, United Kingdom

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/>

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/international>



**City:** Located in the heart of Kent, Canterbury is one of Britain's historic cities. In fact, it is similar to Trier in terms of its Roman sights which are partially part of the UNESCO World Heritage. The city has a population of about 44,000 and is portrayed in Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*



**University:** The University of Kent gained strong international reputation as it ranked among the elite universities in 2015 QS World University Ranking by Subjects, featuring eight of their 36 subjects offered. Founded in 1965 there are now over 19,000 students studying at Kent University.

The academic year is split into three terms: October-December, January-April and May-June. One term stays in Canterbury are possible, though not recommended.

You do not require a language test for your application at Kent (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** Our exchange is with the School of Modern Languages and Linguistics, so you must take most of your classes there. You are allowed to take one 'wild module' class from another subject, e.g. School of English, or whatever your second-degree subject is. The SECL Department offers a variety of classes in different aspects of Linguistics and Comparative Literature, as well as foreign languages. Classes include:

- Learning and Teaching Language
- English Language in the Media
- History of British English

**Housing:** The University of Kent has multiple halls of residence. The rent ranges from about £114 to £240 per week. It is also possible to arrange off-campus accommodation.

**Useful Links:** <http://www.kent.ac.uk/accommodation/>  
<https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/short-term/erasmus/index.html>

# LANCASTER

Lancaster University, United Kingdom

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/>

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/international-students/visiting-students/>



**City:** Lancaster, in the Northwest of England, is a city full of character and culture as it combines history, arts and nature. The Castle of Lancaster is one of Britain's best-preserved castles, which held famous trials including those of the Lancaster Witches in 1612. Lancaster is small enough to explore by foot and offers much greenery, canal-sidewalks, and several parks.



**University:** Lancaster University was founded in 1964 and has since become one of Britain's top universities. The campus occupies a beautiful 560-acre parkland site just outside Lancaster city. The university is home to more than 3000 international students and was named International University of the Year 2020.

The academic year consists of three semesters (Michaelmas, Lent and Summer term), however the study periods are either a full academic year, the Michaelmas term starting in October until December, or Lent and Summer term from January to June (or April in MA programmes).

You do not require a language test for your application at Lancaster (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** Our exchange agreement is with the Department of Linguistics and English Language, which offers a wide range of classes and also has a Master's programme in TESOL. Master's students from Trier can apply either to go to Lancaster as Bachelor's student, or to participate in the MA Applied Linguistics / TESOL programme as postgraduate students. See here for a full list of undergraduate classes available to Erasmus students: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/international-students/visiting-students/study-abroad-modules/> See here for more information about the MA programme: <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-courses/applied-linguistics-and-tesol-ma/#structure>

**Housing:** Lancaster University offers a wide range of undergraduate accommodation to suit different preferences and budgets (roughly between £98– £207 per week), but students staying for just one term are rarely allocated University-run accommodation. See [www.luhomes.co.uk](http://www.luhomes.co.uk) for more information.

# READING

University of Reading, United Kingdom

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/>

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/international-and-eu>



**City:** Reading can trace its origins back to 800 AD. It is about an hour's drive from both London and Oxford. The name derives from the Old English word "read" meaning "red".

**University:** The University of Reading ranks among the top 1% of the world's universities. Some 11,000 students of 141 nationalities are enrolled in their degree programmes. The University was founded in 1892 and has four campuses. The School of English Language and Literature is located on Whiteknights Campus, the University's main location. You can take any class in the language section, however, classes in linguistics are subject to availability, and classes in literature may not exceed 20 ECTS.

The academic year consists of three terms. Classes begin in October, January and April respectively. You do not require a language test for your application at Reading (but for a UK visa if you stay 6+ months). However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** Our exchange is with the Department of Languages and European Cultures, part of the School of Literature and Languages, which offers classes in English Language and Applied Linguistics, English Literature, and Languages and Cultures. Classes might include the following topics:

- #MeToo: Women's Writing as Resistance
- Analysing Speech
- Teaching the Language Skills
- English Language and Society

**Housing:** You can apply for accommodation in the University's halls of residence. Rents range from £150 to £329 per week and might be catered. The Reading University Student Union can also assist you in finding private accommodation.

**Useful Links:**

<https://studyabroad.reading.ac.uk/incoming/>

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/accommodation/important-information/study-abroad-accommodation>

## DCU DUBLIN

Dublin City University, Republic of Ireland

<http://www.dcu.ie/>

<https://www.dcu.ie/international>



**City:** Ireland's capital is on the river Liffey, close to the Irish Sea. The city has a population of 530,000 and is visited by thousands of tourists annually. Alongside English, Gaelic is common in the city area. Due to the city's compact size, it is possible to visit the main sights on foot.

**University:** Dublin City University is Dublin's youngest university. Founded in 1980, it now houses around 12,000 students in its four faculties. In the QS, Dublin City University ranked among the top 50 universities worldwide. The Faculty of Humanities comprises both the Department of English Studies and the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies (SALIS).

The academic year consists of two semesters. The first begins in October and ends in December, the second begins in February and ends in May. One semester stays in Dublin are possible, though not recommended.



You are not required to take a language test for your application at Dublin. However, your level of English must be high so you are able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** The School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies offer a wide range of modules on literary studies as well as linguistics and translation studies. You may take 20% of your modules from another department. SALIS classes might include:

- Ireland, Sex and Text
- Theoretical Approaches to Translation
- Interculturalism in Practice
- Introduction to Applied Linguistics

### Housing:

Dublin City University provides on-campus accommodation for around €6700 per academic year. You should apply as quickly as possible. The international office also provides internet links for off-campus accommodation.

### Useful Links:

<http://www.dcu.ie/salis/index.shtml>

<https://www.dcuaccommodation.ie/accommodation/international-students/>

# Limerick

University of Limerick, Republic of Ireland

<https://www.ul.ie/>

<https://www.ul.ie/global/erasmus>



**City:** Founded by the Vikings in the 9th century, Limerick is one of the oldest Irish cities. With a population of over 94,000, it is also the third-largest city in the Republic of Ireland. It is located in the mid-west of Ireland, about 100km north of Cork. Limerick is a vibrant city full of history on the banks of the picturesque River Shannon.



**University:** The University of Limerick, established in 1972, is a young, independent and internationally-focused University on the west coast of Ireland. The University is known worldwide for its spectacular and environmentally friendly campus. With over 17,500 students and 2000 international students every year, the University provides a young, energetic and enterprising educational environment. Students can choose from a wide range of subjects in different fields of science.

The academic year consists of two semesters. The first semester starts in early September, the second in late January/early February.

**Classes:** Our exchange is with the School of English, which offers you a wide range of topics. You can choose between classes that deal with literary analysis and theory, historic literary eras, special topics in Irish literature, creative writing or world literature. You may also take some classes with the School of Modern Languages and Linguistics.

**Housing:** The University provides accommodation to all students. The seven residential villages at the University of Limerick are all self-catered. The kitchen areas are shared with up to 7 other students. Each term, a limited number of rooms are reserved for international students that attend the University through one of their exchange programmes. The price ranges from approximately 2,450€ to 3,400€ per Semester.

## Useful Links:

<https://studentliving.ul.ie/index.jsp?p=116&n=129>

<https://studentliving.ul.ie/index.jsp?p=116&n=141>

## NKU ATHENS

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

<http://en.uoa.gr/>

<http://en.interel.uoa.gr/erasmus.html>



**City:** Athens is one of the oldest cities in the world which accounts for its many historical and cultural sights. The city is surrounded by mountain ranges and the Mediterranean Sea. In the summer the average temperature is 27.5°C, in winter the temperature drops to an average of 9°C.

**University:** The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens attracts about 4,100 foreign students each year which gives it a highly international air. The Faculty of Philosophy, including modern language studies, is located on the main campus in Ilissia, a neighbourhood of Athens. About 2,000 students are enrolled in the Faculty of English Language and Literature.

The academic year consists of two semesters. The first begins toward the end of September, the second in February.

The Faculty of English Language and Literature teaches all of its classes in English. Most courses in other subjects at the University of Athens are taught in Greek. It is possible to take Greek language classes free of charge which are worth 6 ECTS.

**Classes:** Classes are offered in literary and cultural studies and in theoretical and applied linguistics. Classes might include:

- Genres in English
- Applied Linguistic to Foreign Language Teaching and Learning
- Translation Theory
- Intercultural Communication

**Housing:** The ERASMUS Student Network Athens (ESN KAPA Athens) provides lists and contact details of possible accommodation in Athens. Rents start at about €300 for a shared flat.

### Useful Links:

[https://en.enl.uoa.gr/undergraduate\\_studies/courses/](https://en.enl.uoa.gr/undergraduate_studies/courses/)

<https://www.esnkapa.org/accommodation-guide>

## TED U. ANKARA

TED University, Turkey

<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/en>

<https://ipo.tedu.edu.tr/student-mobility-eu>



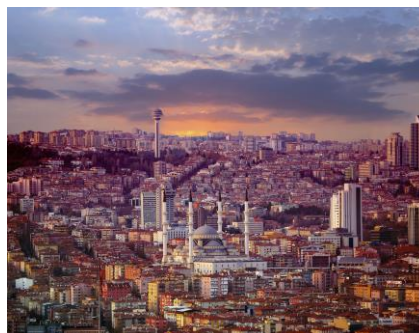
**TED ÜNİVERSİTESİ**

**City:** Ankara is the capital of Turkey and its second largest city with a population of approx. 4,5 million. It lies about 200km south of the Black Sea and is a very historical city with many influences from different time periods which can be discovered in its architecture. In the summer the average temperature is about 24° C, in the winter the temperature drops to an average of 0° C.

**University:** The TED University (TEDU) was founded by the Turkish Education Association – Higher Education Foundation in 2009. Therefore, it is considered a young and dynamic university which consists of five faculties: Architecture, Arts and Science (with the Department of English Language and Literature), Economics and Administrative Sciences, Engineering and Education.

**Classes:** May include:

- Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature
- Introduction to Cultural Studies
- 19<sup>th</sup> Century English Novel
- Gender Studies
- Green Literature



**Housing:** The University provides modern accommodation opportunities to all students. Breakfast and dinner are included in the dorm fee and each room has its own bathroom. The price ranges from approx. 727€ (10 months, female quad. room) to 1,609€ (10 months, for a single female room). Housing for males is usually priced higher.

**Useful Links:**

<https://ipo.tedu.edu.tr/en/dormitories>

<https://ipo.tedu.edu.tr/en/visa-residence-permit>

## IKU ISTANBUL

Istanbul Kültür Üniversitesi, Turkey

<https://www.iku.edu.tr/en>

<https://uib.iku.edu.tr/en/exchange-programs/student-mobility-outgoing/incoming>



**City:** Istanbul is Turkey's cultural, financial and economic centre. It is located on the Bosphorus and connects Europe and Asia. The city has a population of about 13.5 million and is the most densely populated one in Turkey. It is culturally diverse with representations of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and other denominations.

**University:** IKU was founded in 1997 and is one of Turkey's youngest universities. The Department of English Language and Literature was established two years later. Currently the University has some 7,000 students and focuses on both theoretical as well as practical training of its students. Incoming exchange students from Trier are permitted to take any courses within the Dept. of English Language and Literature, which include language-based, translation-based, and literature-based classes

The academic year begins in September and ends in May. It is split into two semesters which both end with an examination period.

It is not necessary to have Turkish language knowledge; however, it is advisable to take a Turkish EILC course. Within the Faculty of English Language and Literature, the vast majority of courses are held in English.

**Classes:** Emphasis tends to be on the linguistic features of literary and cultural texts, as well as the historical and culture-specific aspects of language. Classes might include:

- Literary Genres
- Rhetoric and Argumentation
- Narrative in Fiction and Film

**Housing:** The University runs two residences, separate for male and female students. It is possible to arrange private accommodation. In any case, contact the European and International Centre.

**Useful Links:** <https://uib.iku.edu.tr/en/faq/erasmus-incoming>

## GDANSK

University of Gdansk, Poland

<https://en.ug.edu.pl/>

<https://en.ug.edu.pl/incoming-students/erasmus-2021-2027>



**City:** Gdansk is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in Poland right next to the Baltic Sea. The city has a population of 460,000 and is visited by hundreds of tourists each year due to its history and magnificent architecture. Gdansk with nearby Sopot and Gdynia are often referred to as *Tricity*. Its position on the seaside has made Gdansk to an important port city. The living costs are relatively low compared to other European cities.

**University:** The University of Gdansk is the largest educational institution in the Pomerania region. There are eleven faculties with almost thirty-three thousand students. Around 150 Erasmus students from all over Europe are coming to the University each term and taking advantage of the possibility to study abroad.



**Classes:** The faculty of English and American Studies (IEAS) offers a rich variety of courses for Erasmus+ students. These take place at both BA and MA levels. They range from Practical Language courses, American Studies with Culture, Media and Communication Specialization to English Language with Teacher Specialization and also Translation Studies. Classes might include:

- History of American Literature
- American Culture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Descriptive Grammar: Syntax, Phonetics, Semantics
- English Teaching Methodology
- Adaption: Literature, Cinema and New Media

**Housing:** The university has a wide range of accommodation in its student dormitories. Monthly costs of accommodation vary from dormitory to dormitory but is in the range of 590-800 PLN (135-183€).

**Useful Links:** <https://en.ug.edu.pl/incoming-students/erasmus-2021-2027/erasmus-incoming/dormitories>

# LUXEMBOURG

Université du Luxembourg, Luxembourg City

<http://wwwen.uni.lu/>

<http://wwwen.uni.lu/international>



**City:** The capital of Luxembourg is a city rich in culture and history, place in the middle of the continent. It is home to the European Court of Justice and many other EU institutions. The city has a population of roughly 104,000 habitants.

**University:** The University of Luxembourg was founded in 2003 and is our neighbour's only public university. Situated in the middle of the country, the university has close links to the European Institutions in Luxembourg as well as the banking quarters. It is likely to be one of the most multilingual places of study in Europe. This university offers great international research opportunities to its students as well as vocational courses and a variety of doctoral programmes.



The academic year is split into two semesters: September-February, February-September. One semester stays in Luxembourg are possible.

You are not required to take a language test before applying here. However, your level of English must be high enough for you to be able to follow the courses.

**Classes:** The University of Luxembourg offers a range of subject areas; from Communication and Economic Studies over Biomedicine and International Security to the Humanities with Literature and Languages. The Humanities department has a long list of interesting classes for interdisciplinary studies. Classes may include:

- Sociolinguistics Methods and Analysis
- American Studies: American Ideas and Ideals
- Reading and Writing about Literature

**Housing:** Prices at university accommodation range from approximately 400€ to 690 € per month.

## Useful Links:

[https://wwwen.uni.lu/international/mobility/incoming\\_exchange\\_students](https://wwwen.uni.lu/international/mobility/incoming_exchange_students)

[http://wwwen.uni.lu/international/courses\\_taught\\_in\\_english](http://wwwen.uni.lu/international/courses_taught_in_english)

## UCSC MILAN

Università Cattolica de Sacro Cuore, Italy

<https://www.ucsc.it/>

<https://international.unicatt.it/>



**City:** Situated in Northern Italy, Milan is the country's major cultural and fashion centre. It is also one of the main university cities and its historic sights attract many tourists throughout the year.



**University:** UCSC is Europe's largest private university. It has about 42,000 students and 5 campuses. It has 14 faculties of which the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy and the Faculty of Modern Languages offer courses with an international focus. The University, thus, offers interdisciplinary courses that aim at providing students with thorough and broad academic capabilities.

The academic year is split into two semesters. Generally, the academic year starts in September and ends in May/July. Each semester is followed by an examination period.

The University's International Curriculum is taught in English and is aimed at foreign students. Nevertheless, courses in the Academic Curriculum might be taught in Italian and require knowledge of the Italian language. It is possible to take Italian classes for a fee in Milan which are worth between 3 and 8 ECTS.

**Classes:** The University offers courses in Humanities which combine different fields of literary, philosophical and cultural studies. Linguistics courses focus on various modern languages. The international curriculum contains classes in fields like International Relations and Italian Culture.

**Housing:** UCSC does not guarantee accommodation for ERASMUS students in its halls of residence. Instead, they advise you to seek private accommodation. The University Housing Announcement Board and the International Students Association offer help. The Cost of accommodation ranges between €2,500 and €3,900 per semester.

**Useful Links:** <https://international.unicatt.it/>

<https://international.unicatt.it/ucscinternational-milan-accommodation>

# The Application Procedure

It is recommended that you start planning your year abroad about 12-18 months in advance of when you want to go. This will help you to organize yourself, prepare the required application documents and meet all of the deadlines! For most English students, preparation should start in your 3<sup>rd</sup> semester to go in the 5<sup>th</sup> semester.

The ERASMUS+ application deadline is in March for students wishing to go on an exchange in the following academic year (starting in September). Prior to that, there is an information session for students who are interested (usually in January).

Below is a list of documents you will need to submit as your application. Once you send your application to the IO, it is forwarded to the departmental coordinator who reads and compares all the applications, and may ask some candidates to attend an interview. In general, the decisions are based on evidence of suitability for studying abroad. Thus, your application letter must demonstrate that you will make the most of your stay abroad and that you are well informed about the university/ies you are applying for. In some cases your grades may also be taken into consideration.

Remember that the 'goal' of a study abroad programme is to encourage international cooperation in the academic arena – so even if you have previously not been a "straight A" student, or if you feel your language is not yet perfect, you should emphasise what you can bring to the international exchange as an individual. It will be useful for you to have informed yourself about the university and the classes offered there that interest you. Make your application specific to your person, purpose and university!

Ask yourself: what particular strengths do you have? What interests will you be able to follow in the country you're applying for? What career aims might this exchange help you to fulfil? What previous experience do you have that show that you are prepared for a challenge and excited about really making the most of your time in that country and/or at that university? These are the kinds of things that make applicants stand out from the others, and make them more likely to be chosen for the exchange!

# Application Documents

To apply to study abroad with the ERASMUS+ programme, you need to complete and submit the following documents and forms to the IO before the application deadline. For more details, and downloads of the relevant documents, please see the IO's webpage: <http://ins-ausland-downloads.uni-trier.de/>

## **1. *Programmliste Anglistik***

This is where you list all the universities you would like to apply for. To increase your chances of being offered a place as an ERASMUS student, we recommend that you pick a first, second and third choice of partner institution.

## **2. Online Application Form (*Bewerbungsformular*)**

This is where you fill in your personal and contact details. Please read the tips before you complete your application.

## **3. CV (written in English!)**

Your CV should be no longer than 1-2 pages. Please include details on your degree progress – especially if you have changed universities or degree subjects.

## **4. Letter of Application (written in English!)**

Please explain why you would be a good candidate for the ERASMUS+ study abroad programme in general, and your motivations for applying to your particular choice of partner institution (please focus on your **first choice**, if you have listed more than one priority). You should highlight what you can bring to the programme as an individual (see above – The Application), as well as what interests you about your choice of exchange university and why you cannot achieve the same in Trier. Do not write more than two pages.

## **5. List of Previously Completed Courses (print out from PORTA)**

# Things to Consider Before Departure

**Once you have been accepted to the ERASMUS+ programme, and before you leave for your year abroad, you will need to take care of a few things and arrangements.** For one thing, your bank account should allow you to use ATMs as well as make payments abroad. Furthermore, you should arrange your accommodation before your departure. The university facts listed below will give you a first impression of your options. Most importantly, though, you need to take care of some academic matters at your home university before you leave.

## ECTS and Learning Agreement

ECTS is the European Credit Transfer System, created by the European Commission. It aims to standardise and unify academic systems across the European Union. The basic assumption is that completing courses earns you credits/points, which are the reflection of the hours of work you put into studying. Typically, exchange students are expected to earn about 25-30 ECTS points per semester. To give you some idea of how much work earns you how many points, a typical *sprachpraktische Übung* here in the Department of English Studies of Trier University would earn you 4-5 ECTS points. Writing term-papers or sitting exams as well as attending weekly lessons, possibly also giving a presentation, means that you can usually earn up to about 6-10 points per seminar.

You will need to prepare a Learning Agreement prior to your departure. Here you list the courses you intend to take while you are at your host university, as well as the courses you would like them to be accredited as in Trier. Most universities publish the courses they offer online so you can have a look at what options you have. The Departmental Erasmus/European Exchanges Team can also help you to find appropriate classes. The classes may change from year to year, but the learning agreement will still help you to achieve the necessary number of ECTS points and guarantees your work counts towards your degree in Trier. The Learning Agreement

must be signed by your ERASMUS+ Coordinator or *Studienberater* in Trier as well as by the coordinator abroad so that accrediting the courses you have taken abroad will be easier. If you need to make amendments to your Learning Agreement after you arrive at your host university, there is another form for this which also needs to be signed by the coordinators at both universities.

### **What courses can/should I take?**

The goal is international academic exchange, and not simply another way to collect your certificates or credit points! Find out about experts in your fields of study who teach at our partner universities, find out about the specialisms offered in the specific departments our exchanges are with. Most universities will offer you new possibilities and fields of study you have not yet encountered and that will further your academic interests nonetheless. For example, Scottish and Irish universities often offer classes in Gaelic or Scottish/Irish literature/linguistics. Once you have some ideas, you can discuss your choices with your ERASMUS+ Coordinator.

If you wish to have classes accredited towards your Master's degree in Trier, you can take 3<sup>rd</sup>-year Bachelor's level classes at a university in an English-speaking country. Note that the *Lit* and *Ling* classes relevant for the "Staatsexamen" modules in the M.Ed. programmes (Module 12 M.Ed. Gym; Module 8/10 M.Ed. RS+) cannot be accredited from your time abroad.

### **Accreditation**

Basically, the courses you take at your exchange university can be accredited as your courses here in Trier, so long as they are roughly comparable. Generally, the Department of English Studies, recognises the value of having spent time abroad and attending various courses in English, and we are generous with our accrediting! Still, each individual case will necessarily be handled as such. As part of ERASMUS+, the Learning Agreement includes a section for accreditation. Before you leave you agree which courses will be accredited upon your return.

Once you have received your transcript from your host university, you will need to follow the procedure explained on the website of the Dean's office (*Dekanat FB II*). Print out the relevant documents listed on the *Dekanat's* webpage and fill in any necessary forms – then submit everything to the Dean's office. It may also be helpful to add a table of equivalences (which classes from abroad you'd like accredited as which in Trier), if this is not clear from your LA.

#### A couple of notes on some specific cases of accreditation:

If the rest of a module was/will be completed in Trier but the grade or part of it comes from your university abroad, you will need to hand in the relevant (partly-)signed SVB as part of the application for accreditation. If you have completed the Trier classes as part of the module before your time abroad, hand in the SVB together with your application. If you complete the Trier classes as part of the module after your time abroad has already been accredited with a module grade, hand in the SVB and apply for an "Ergänzungsanerkennung" to have the module grade submitted to PORTA. If the module grade is going to come from a Trier class completed after your time abroad, take your accreditation confirmation (and SVB with other signatures if needed) to person responsible for uploading the module grade to PORTA - the person who is marking your portfolio or term-paper as the 'Prüfungsleistung'.

#### **What happens if I have to drop out of the programme?**

Generally, it is possible to drop out of the ERASMUS+ programme at any time. However, if you are considering not taking your spot for any reason, you should contact the International Office or your ERASMUS\* Coordinator to see if dropping out is unavoidable or how going on the exchange can still be made possible for you. If you really must drop out of the ERASMUS+ exchange, you should let the International Office know as soon as is possible so that your spot can be reallocated to another student. Please note that in extreme cases you may be asked to pay back any financial help you have received, if you do not stay for the duration of your planned exchange.

## What Previous ERASMUS candidates say

You can use your time abroad to get to know yourself better, to experiment and to meet people from all over the world

Stay for a year if you can – it's definitely worth it. And easier to organise!

I had so many beautiful and unforgettable moments during my Erasmus time

It was just amazing! So much better than I even thought!



Since this was a purely positive experience to me, I can only recommend studying abroad to everybody – and for longer than just 3 months!

It's a unique opportunity and experience. It's a shame the time goes by so much more quickly than you initially expect!

You only get one chance to meet people from so many different cultures - so interesting!

This has been the trip of my life. I studied new things, visited new places, made new friends, and learnt some new slang!



## FURTHER INFORMATION

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