Exchange Info Session 2021
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences
10 reasons to study abroad

❖ Obtain VUB credits for all approved academic coursework abroad
❖ Study & learn differently
❖ Brush up on your language skills
❖ Boost your employment opportunities
❖ Gain a global mindset
10 reasons to study abroad

❖ Enhance your intercultural competences
❖ Learn about yourself & your culture
❖ Boost your self-confidence & independence
❖ Be adventurous & explore the world
❖ Friends for life from all over the world
# VUB Exchange Contacts

## International Relations office (IRMO)
- **Practical info & support**
- **Grants**
- **Ms. Louise Debeer**
- **Mr. Tarik Van Dam**
- **Pleinlaan 5, 1050 Brussels**
- **T: 02 614 81 01**

## Student Administration Center (OWSA)
- **Exchange administration**
- **Ms. Gwen Van der Smissen**
- **Pleinlaan 9, 1050 Brussels**
- **T: 02 614 87 07**

## Exchange Coordinators Faculty
- **Application & Selection**
- **Learning Agreement (Studies & Traineeships)**
- **Grade conversion**

  - **Psychology:** Tim VANTILBORGH
    Delphine WEST
  - **Adult Educational Sciences:** Ronald CROUZE
  - **Educational Sciences:** CHANG Zhu & Ronald CROUZE

  - **Coordinator Internationalisation:** Freya DE VROEDE

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**exchange.outgoing@vub.be**

**student.vub.be/go-abroad**
Exchange Programmes

- **Studies or Traineeship**
  - Always during & part of your VUB studies, never after graduation (excl. Erasmus+ Traineeships after graduation)

- **Grant**
  - Included?
  - Amount*

- **Tuition Fee Waiver**

- **Min – max duration**

- **Study level**

- **EU or non-EU host institution**

* Amounts are subject to change
EU DESTINATIONS
Erasmus+ KA1

- Studies & Traineeships (during & after studies)
- Studies: € 279 - € 379/month (+ €150 ‘Vlaamse Studietoelage’ ~ Flemish study allowance)
- Traineeships: € 429 - €529/month (+ €50/month ‘Vlaamse Studietoelage’ ~ Flemish study allowance)
- Studies: Min. 3 – max. 10 months
- Traineeships: Min. 2 months – max. 10 months
- Sufficient funds (if not, Faculty ranking)
  ✓ Exc. Traineeship after graduation (apply externally, first-come-first-served)
- Online Linguistic Support (test & courses) & Online survey upon return
Erasmus+ KA 1 Host institutions

- General: all 27 EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
- Studies: Specific cooperation agreements per programme
- Traineeship: Approval Exchange Coordinator
- More info per programme & exchange coordinator
Erasmus+ KA1 - Traineeship

- **During** your studies
  - As part of your VUB programme that contains an internship (n° ECTS)
  - Traineeship in the framework of thesis work
  - You carry out an internship abroad
  - Evaluation from your host organisation is recognised (in ECTS and a grade) by the VUB

- **After** your studies/ graduation
  - Not part of your VUB programme
  - In line with your obtained degree
  - Within 1 year after graduation
  - Apply before graduating, following the VUB rules & deadlines, to the VUB and Flanders Knowledge Area
Erasmus+ KA1 Traineeship

- Host organisation: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organisation yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - In any EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator
  - Online database: https://erasmusintern.org/

- Grant: € 429/month - €529/month (+ €50/month ‘Vlaamse Studietoelage’ ~ Flemish study allowance)
  - Depending on the destination

- Min. 2 – max. 10 months
Non-EU host institutions

- Studies: general VUB exchange agreements
  - Tuition fee waiver
  - Min. 5- max. 10 months

- No grant guaranteed, therefore EU back-up destination allowed
- Higher competition for grants and available places

- Preparing for a non-EU exchange application: more effort

- Teaching language: English or local language (Spanish, Portuguese, etc.)
Non-EU host institutions

- Studies: general VUB exchange agreements for studies:
  - Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, Santa Maria, Santa Catarina)
  - Canada (Québec)
  - Chile (Santiago)
  - China (Beijing, Shanghai, Sichuan, Xi’an)
  - Japan (Kobe)
  - Mexico (Guadalajara, Mexico City, Puebla)
  - Morocco (Rabat)
  - USA (North-Carolina, Washington)
  - Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg)
  - South-Africa (Bloemfontein, Bellville)
  - South-Korea (Seoul)
Non-EU Traineeship

- Host organisation: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organisation yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - Anywhere except any EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator

- Min. 1 - max. 10 months

- No grant guaranteed
Non-EU host institutions

- Contact IRMO by e-mail to express your interest and receive more detailed info on the specific host institutions the latest **15 December 2021**

- Look up the offered programs online and compose a draft study plan
  - Individual match for courses
  - You will need approval from your exchange coordinator

- Apply for a grant, if applicable
  - Grant from the Flemish government (€700 - €900/month + return flight)
  - Studies & Traineeships
    - **Generieke Beurzen** (i.e. generic scholarships)
    - **Priority Country Programme** (Brazil, Chile, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Russia, South-Africa, Turkey, USA)
Non-EU host institutions

- VLIR-UOS Reisbeurzen (i.e. travel grants)
- Work placement/internship or thesis
- 32 countries in Africa, Asia & Latin America
- Application at VUB (invitation local supervisor & recommendation VUB supervisor), preparatory programme, 1,000 EUR
- At least 28 consecutive days

→ More information on all these scholarships can be found on our page on Financial Support
Application Procedure

**Application at Faculty**
- Application file (host institution, scholarship programme)
- You compose a first study or training plan, viz. a Learning Agreement (LA)

**Nomination**
- Your faculty nominates you officially to IRMO
- IRMO nominates you to your host institution

**VUB Application**
- IRMO sends you the VUB procedure, SOP Mobility-Online
- You compose a final LA
- Your faculty approves your LA
Application Procedure

Host Institution Application
• You apply to your host institution

Official Approval
• Your faculty officially confirms your exchange after the June and/or September exams
• Acceptance by the host institution

Departure Administration
• IRMO invites you to a take-off meeting
• IRMO sends you the scholarship administration
Deadlines

- Erasmus+
- (Erasmus Belgica)
- (SEMP)
- All other

**Faculty deadline**

Unless earlier deadlines apply for grant
E: exchange.outgoing@vub.ac.be
W: student.vub.be/go-abroad >> Erasmus & Exchange

! LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!
PRACTICALITIES
Practicalities

- Choice of Host Institution
- Required language knowledge
- Selection procedure
- Registration & tuition fee
- Courses, exams & resit exams
- Recognition & credit transfer
Practicalities

- Insurance
- Childcare benefits (‘kindergeld’)
- Housing

- Finances
  - VUB Social, Legal & Financial Support Team (Sociale Dienst Studenten)
  - [student.vub.be/studiefinanciering#ondersteuningsaanbod](http://student.vub.be/studiefinanciering#ondersteuningsaanbod)
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INFOSESSION EXCHANGE

FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

Prof. Chang Zhu

Prof. Tim Vantilborgh

Drs. Ronald Crouzé
TOPICS

1. Why go on exchange?
2. Sources of information
3. Eligibility criteria
4. Destinations
5. Learning agreement
6. 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
EXCHANGE COORDINATORS

- Adult Educational Sciences: Drs. Ronald Crouzé (Ronald.crouze@vub.be)
- Educational Sciences: Prof. Chang Zhu (chang.zhu@vub.be)
- Psychology: Prof. Tim Vantilborgh (tim.vantilborgh@vub.be) and Drs. Delphine West (delphine.west@vub.be)
- General email address: pe.mobility@vub.be
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
Canvas: Community Faculteit Psychologie en Educatiewetenschappen

- Check announcements
- We will post slides and link to recording of this presentation
• For study exchanges, you need to have:
  • Attained 60 ECTS (at the time of application, within current curriculum)
  • Passed 1st Bachelor
• Schakelstudenten can also participate (criteria mentioned above do not apply for them)
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INTERNSHIPS

• The same criteria apply as for regular internships
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eotvas Lorand University</td>
<td>Budapest (Hungary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humboldt-Universitat zu Berlin</td>
<td>Berlin (Germany)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universidad de Deusto</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Université Paris Nanterre</td>
<td>Paris (France)</td>
</tr>
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ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- **Eotvas Lorand University**
  - Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  - Available places for Master students: 4
  - Language courses: English
  - Language requirements: B1

- **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**
  - Available places for Bachelor students: 1
  - Available places for Master students: None
  - Language courses: German
  - Language requirements: C1
  - Extra fee of 265.64€ needs to be paid by exchange students themselves
• Universidad de Deusto
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  • Available places for Master students: 4
  • Language courses: Spanish, Basque, English
  • Language requirements: B1

• Universitat de Vic
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 10
  • Available places for Master students: 10
  • Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
  • Language requirements: B1
DESTINATIONS
ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

• University degli studi di Firenze
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 2
  • Available places for Master students: 2
  • Language courses: Italian
  • Language requirements: B1

• Maastricht University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  • Available places for Master students: 4
  • Language courses: English
  • Language requirements: B2
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

• Tilburg University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  • Available places for Master students: None
  • Language courses: English, Dutch
  • Language requirements: B2

• Universidade de Coimbra
  • Available places for Bachelor students: None
  • Available places for Master students: 4
  • Language courses: Portuguese, English
  • Language requirements: A2-B2
DESTINATIONS
ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

- Istanbul Bigli University
  - Available places for Bachelor students: 5
  - Available places for Master students: none
  - Language courses: English
  - Language requirements: B2

- Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona
  - Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  - Available places for Master students: 4
  - Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
  - Language requirements: B1
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) - PSYCHOLOGY

• Université Paris Nanterre
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 2
  • Available places for Master students: 2
  • Language courses: French
  • Language requirements: B1 (certication required)
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<td>Stockholm University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle East Technical University</td>
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DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

• Universitat de Vic
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 4
  • Available places for Master students: 4
  • Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
  • Language requirements: B1

• University degli studi di Firenze
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 2
  • Available places for Master students: None
  • Language courses: Italian
  • Language requirements: B1
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

• University Autonoma de Barcelona
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 2
  • Available places for Master students: 1
  • Language courses: Catalan, Spanish, English
  • Language requirements: B1

• University degli studi del Molise
  • Available places for Bachelor students: None
  • Available places for Master students: 2
  • Language courses: Italian
  • Language requirements: B1
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

• Istanbul Bigli University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 3
  • Available places for Master students: none
  • Language courses: English
  • Language requirements: B2

• Tallinn University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 5
  • Available places for Master students: 5
  • Language courses: English, Estonian
  • Language requirements: B2
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

• Tampere University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 0
  • Available places for Master students: 1
  • Language courses: English

• Stockholm University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: none
  • Available places for Master students: 4
  • Language courses: English
  • Language requirements: B1
DESTINATIONS

ERASMUS+ (EUROPE) – EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

• Middle East Technical University
  • Available places for Bachelor students: 3
  • Available places for Master students: 2
  • Language courses: English
  • Language requirements: B2
DESTINATIONS
OUTSIDE OF EUROPE

• Available destinations: see list IRMO presentation

• Differences with EU-destinations:
  • No grant guaranteed!
  • No official limit on places available per destination
  • Application procedure is more complicated
  • Host institution may apply their own selection procedures as well (e.g., UQAM [Canada] requires 14.5/20 average grade)
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)

• 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 make changes to your LA during the first weeks of your mobility
APPLICATION PROCEDURE

• STEP 1: Submit a top-3 of destinations + motivation letter
  • Deadline: 13 December 2021
  • Submission form: http://vubpsych.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_39pu88trVu9ZnNQ

• Selection procedure:
  • Exchange coordinators select students for destinations
  • Criteria: motivation letter + grades (if available)
  • All applicants are ranked based on criteria, and allocated to destinations
  • You will receive an email from your exchange coordinator in January
LEARNING AGREEMENT
APPLICATION PROCEDURE

• STEP 2: Send a first proposal of your LA to your exchange coordinator
  • Deadline: 7 February 2022
  • Use the template “Document voorstel Learning Agreement”, available on Canvas
  • Add course description of selected courses (in English)
  • You will receive feedback from your exchange coordinator
• STEP 3: Send a revised learning agreement to your exchange coordinator
  • Deadline: 4 March 2022
  • 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
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: 4 March 2022
  • Inform exchange coordinator of destination, so we can nominate you with IRMO
• 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
FAQ – COVID-19

• Will I be able to go on exchange next academic year?
  • Yes. However, we need to follow the official guidelines of the Belgian government. If travel is not allowed by the government to the country of your exchange at the time of the exchange, then you cannot leave.
  • If your destination is in a “red zone” (see list by Belgian government) on the day of departure, then you cannot leave.

• Are there differences in the procedure due to covid-19?
  • Yes, we now ask all students to fill out a short form stating where they will be staying. This form is then evaluated by the exchange team to assess the risk of travelling. If the risk is deemed too high, then you may not be allowed to leave.
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”, available on Canvas

• 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
• 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?
  • You can redo the exam at the host institution. You cannot do the exam of the linked VUB course in August-September!
• 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)