

How to Enhance the Exchange Experience?

Participate in a New Course

“Intercultural Learning Course for Exchange Programme Participants”!

- A 3 ECTS optional study course in English intended only for students selected for academic exchange abroad.
- Included in the exchange semester in addition to the mandatory study plan for part-time studies or traineeship.

The course is carried out within the ERASMUS+ project “Connect 2.0 – Intercultural Learning Network 4 Europe” (<http://weconnecteurope.eu/>).

The aim of the course

- to facilitate students’ adaptation to the host country during exchange
- to support reintegration of exchange students into home country after exchange
- to develop students’ reflection skills and understanding of intercultural experience gained abroad.

The training, activities, and reflections help participants develop and practice critical thinking and problem-solving, collaboration and communication while challenging assumptions about their own and other / host cultures. The intercultural training will help broaden participants’ perspectives on cultural stereotypes and global issues.

The course contains the following elements:

1. **Face-to-face training:** preparation for exchange, introduction to the online platform, first intercultural learning session; in January/August (2 days).
2. **Online training:** during the semester abroad, online lectures on intercultural topics in combination with exercises that allow for interaction and self-assessment.
3. **Experience Map (online):** tool for the documentation of experiences gained abroad and for exchanging practical information; during the semester abroad.
4. **Reflection (face-to-face training):** evaluation of and reflection on intercultural experiences after coming back; in June/February (1 day).

What is the Experience Map?

www.experience-map.org

The online Experience Map works similarly to Google Maps. It enables the gathering and storage of experience reports, pictures and short videos concerning specific university locations. When students are looking for a host university for a semester or a year abroad they can access an up-to-date pool of information and up-close experiences. Via the map they can inform themselves about conditions of study and living in the different locations. Furthermore, they can get in contact with exchange students who currently live and study in these places. This makes their start easier at the host university!

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will:

- have knowledge required to deal with intercultural and communication problems effectively and act in uncertain situations.
- be able to create short descriptions in English about exchange experience on the Experience Map online;
- be able to identify and reflect on intercultural experience gained through academic exchange;
- be able to integrate the acquired intercultural skills into curriculum vitae (CV or internet profile).

At the end of the course, participants who successfully complete the programme will receive an official certificate of participation and completion.

More information at erasmus@ktu.lt.



The first pre-departure training of the course in January, 2020.