# Erasmus Exchange Programme

Information session for MEP Students

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Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

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# International Programs Office of the Department of Economics



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#### Dr. Steffen Minter

Erasmus coordinator for Economics

#### **Andra Volintiru**

Student assistant in Erasmus affairs

Consultation hour: currently only via zoom or by phone. Email us first!



https://portal.uni-freiburg.de/vwl-international/

### Key information about ERASMUS+



Bilateral agreements with partner universities at faculty level

Consultation and support: EU/Erasmus-Office and International Programs Office of the Department of Economics

Recognition of studies and credits obtained abroad

No tuition fees at the host institution

3 to 12 months abroad (max. 12 months per study cycle)

Erasmus internships and Erasmus study semesters both possible within same study cycle (B.Sc./M.Sc./PhD) – up to 12 months in total

Mobility grant of ca. 330/390/450 € per month, depending on the country group

Specific language requirements but language is rarely an obstacle

Overwhelmingly positive student experience

# Mobility grant



#### Country group 1: EUR 450/month

Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden

#### Country group 2: EUR 390/month

Austria, Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Cyprus

#### Country group 3: EUR 330/month

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey

5 months for 1 Erasmus semester, 10 months for 2 semesters

# Key steps: before, during, after



- 1. Look up information about partner universities: check course offer, fact sheets, student life, deadlines, living costs etc.
- 2. Send us your application: 15.12.-15.01. => allocation of places by early February (1st round); allocation of remaining places by late February (2nd round).
- 3. Study contract (Learning Agreement): 30 ECTS per semester
- 4. Grant agreement with the Erasmus-Office => 1st installment
- 5. Studying abroad
- 6. Returning to Freiburg => transcripts, reports => 2<sup>nd</sup> installment
- 7. Recognition of your academic achievement abroad

### Erasmus+



- Why Erasmus?
- When and for how long?
- Where to?
- How?



Try to spot two of the MEP students who went to Ghent (and then Luxembourg) this year.

15.12.2020

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# Why Erasmus?



- Acquire country-specific knowledge
  - Language skills
  - Valuable cultural immersion in the host country
- Broaden your horizon as a student (of economics)
  - Get to know a different academic culture
  - An alternative perspective on your area of study
- Obtain key transferable skills
  - Intercultural skills
  - Own initiative, self-organization
  - Adaptability, perseverance and grit etc.

# When / for how long?



- 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> semester for M.Sc. students\*
- 1 vs. 2 semesters
- Winter and/or Summer Semester
- Planning your studies very carefully\*\* > no planning!

\*Later stays abroad (e.g. 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> semester) are also possible.

\*\*Do your best to cover the basics first (e.g. Intermediate Econometrics or Adv. Micro/Macro are often mandatory requirements for more advanced lectures and seminars) & keep in mind that you need at least one seminar.

# Where to study abroad? (M.Sc.)



#### **Exchange Programmes...**

Department of Economics (faculty exchange)

#### **Europe (ERASMUS+)**

Belgium Greece
Romania Portugal
Poland Hungary
Bulgaria Sweden
Finland Italy
Switzerland Spain
France Turkey
Norway

#### **International Office**

(University-wide exchange programmes)

Asia Middle East

**North America** 

Other European countries Oceania

Check out their website!

-	Partner uni	Versiti			Poland	Szkola Glowna Handlowa, Warschau	2 x 10 months	Х	>
	ditilor diff volution				Portugal	Universidade de Lisboa	3 x 6 months	Х	)
Country	Partner university	Amount of places x duration	B.Sc.	M.Sc.	Romania	Universitatea lasi	2 x 5 months	Х	3
Belgium	Universität Gent	8 x 10 months	Х	X	Sweden	Karlstads Universitet	2 x 5 months	Х	
	Universität Antwerpen	2 x 5 months	X	X		Universität Linköping	3 x 10 months	Х	
Bulgaria	University of Economics Varna	3 x 6 months	Х	Х		Dalarna University	2 x 5 months	Х	
Finland	Hanken School of Economics (1 place at Campus Helsinki, 1 place at	2 x 6 months	Х	x	Switzerland	Université de Genève	2 x 9 months	Х	
	Campus Vasa)					Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano	2 x 5 months	Х	
France	Université Jean Moulin (Lyon III)	2 x 10 months	Х	Х		Universität Luzern	2 x 10 months	Х	
	Institut Catholique de Paris	2 x 10 months	X	Х			2 x 10 monais	^	
	Université des Antilles et de la Guyane	2 x 5 months	Х	Х		Universidad de Almería	2 x 10 months	Х	
	Université Pierre Mendès (Grenoble II)	2 x 10 months	Х	Х		Universitat Internacional, Barcelona	1 x 10 months	Х	
	Université de la Réunion	2 x 10 months		Х		Universidad de Cádiz*	5 x 9 months for BSc	х	
	Audencia Business School	2 x 10 months	Х	Х			and 4x5 for MSc	^	
Greece	Ioannina University	2 x 10 months	X	Х					
Great Britain	University of Dundee	2 x 9 months	Х			Universidad de Granada	2 x 5 months	Х	
Italy	Università degli Studi di Roma	2 x 10 months	Х	Х		Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	3 x 5 months (and 2 x 9)	Х	
	Università degli Studi di Torino	2 x 5 months	Х	х		Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	2 x 5 months	Х	
	Università di Siena	3 x 6 months	X	х		Universidad de Sevilla*		Х	
	Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	2 x 10 months	Х	Х			2 x 10 months		
	(Mailand)				Turkey	Middle East Technical University Ankara	3 x 5 months	X	
	Università di Roma (Sapienza)	2 x 10 months	Х	X		Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir	2 x 5 months	Х	
	Università di Reggio Calabria	2 x 10 months	X	Х		Piri Reis University Istanbul	2 x 6 months	Х	
Macedonia	South East European University	2 x 10 months	X			Andrássy Universität Budapest	2 x 10 months	Х	
Norway	NMBU Ås	2 x 10 months	Х	Х	Hungary		7/10/13/11/20/20		
	Universitetet i Bergen	2 x 10 months	X			Universität Sopron	2 x 5 months	Х	

Country

Partner university

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Amount of places x duration

B.Sc. M.Sc.

# How to apply?



Submit the documents below to the International Programs Office of the Department of Economics

Application period: **December 15th – January 15th** 

- Application form (filled out and signed!)
- Curriculum vitae (résumé)
- Current transcript of records
- Motivation letter (English or German)
- (Optional) Language certificates, proof of further qualifications etc.

Send all the documents in one compressed pdf-file to erasmus@vwl.uni-freiburg.de

# Application tips & tricks



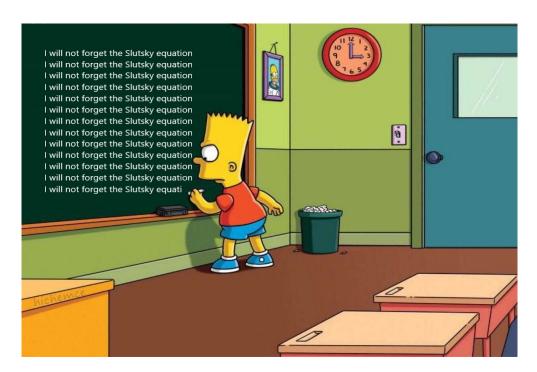
- Application form: the more preferences, the better your chances,
   but only include universities you would genuinely want to go to
- Keep your letter of motivation short and specific (1 A4 page)
- Focus on academic + relevant personal motivation (e.g. culture, language, career opportunities etc.)
- Mention all your language skills in your CV (CEFR: A1-C2)
- Send us any language certificates you have
- Transcript of records from your undergraduate studies/B.Sc.
- January 15th = strict deadline!

### Language skills

- RE BURG
- Proof of language skills not always explicitly requested, but B2-C1
   English level needed to attend classes
- If required, English language certificate from MEP application will suffice
- Proof of language skills other than English rarely needed (depends where you apply)
- Check fact sheets and the host institution's website
- When in doubt, email us!
- Further preparation: ZfS, <u>SLI Language Teaching Center</u> (also during the semester break), summer courses, courses at the host institution (before or during the semester)

### Planning your studies & ECTS recognition

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- Proper planning: mandatory vs. elective classes, seminars
- Recognition options: internal/external electives
- Recognition scenarios: grades, fails and < 30 ECTS</li>
- Leave of absence



# Recognition of academic achievements abroad



- If you want to have the courses taken abroad recognized and added to your transcript, they need to meet the following criteria:
  - Content compatibility with the requirements of your profile for internal and external electives: Economics & Finance or Economics & Politics -> check the <u>examination regulations</u> and M.Sc. Economics module handbook!
  - No overlap with classes you already took
  - They have to be included (passed!) in the transcript of records you receive from the host institution

Key word: **Learning Agreement!** 

### Learning agreement



#### Best course of action:

- 1. Carefully read the **course offer** of the partner university
- 2. Make a **list** of classes you want to attend including their detailed **course description**
- 3. Contact **Dr. Steffen Minter** to discuss if the courses you selected can be recognized
- 4. List approved? Fill out your learning agreement (Mobility Online)!

# Mandatory classes abroad?



Can I replace mandatory courses with lectures from my partner uni?

Yes, but...

- The professor teaching the class in Freiburg has to agree to the recognition of the course completed abroad
- Contact them, send them a course description & ask for their approval
- ...ideally, you should have already completed your mandatory courses during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester (prior to Erasmus)

- Grades have to be converted to the German grading system by means of the "Bavarian formula" if you want them recognized in Freiburg.
- Grading may be more lenient or stricter abroad.
- Study hard and everything will be fine.

#### Notenumrechnung bei Anerkennungen

Die wirtschaftswissenschaftlichen Prüfungsausschüsse haben festgelegt, dass Noten anderer Notensysteme mithilfe der "modifizierten bayrischen Formel" umgerechnet werden. Bei einigen Notensystemen kann diese Umrechnungsmethode nur näherungsweise angewandt werden.

x = 1+3 Nmax - Nd Nmax - Nmin

x = gesuchte Note

Nmax = beste erreichbare Note im ausländischen Notensystem

Nmin = schlechteste Note im ausländischen Notensystem, die zum Bestehen reicht

Nd = in das deutsche Notensystem zu transformierende Note

Das Ergebnis wird zur nächstliegenden Note gerundet.

Falls das Ergebnis genau zwischen 2 deutschen Noten liegt, wird zur besseren Note gerundet.



Terrible grades abroad? No problem! (Please don't fact check this statement)

### Applications at other departments



- Possible but potentially more difficult...
  - Only if there are enough remaining places after the first round of application
     & allocation of places
  - Only if you have the approval of the coordinator at the host university
  - Only if you get subject-specific supervision and approval here in Freiburg (Learning agreement, recognition) -> Dr. Steffen Minter.
- Check the websites of other faculties for more specific information and deadlines! (usually February/March)
- Get more details >>>here.

# Erasmus internships



Available to all registered students

Look for an internship on your own

2 to 12 months

33 ERASMUS countries

Grant of 430/490/550 € p.m. if still registered as a student

Also possible shortly after graduating as long as you applied while still registered at Uni Freiburg

Find all the infos you need here: KOORBEST - HS Karlsruhe

# Contact & further information: International Programs Office



International Programs Office of the

Department of Economics

erasmus@vwl.uni-freiburg.de

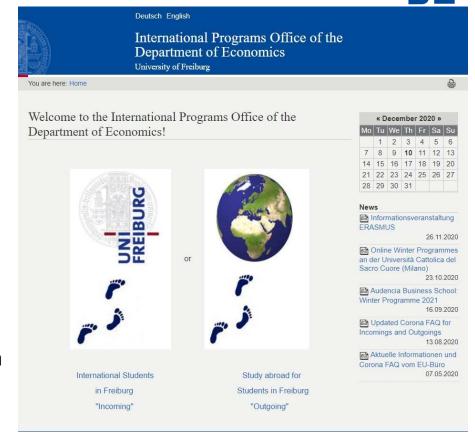
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https://portal.uni-freiburg.de/vwl-international/

# Contact & further information: EU/Erasmus-Office



#### **ERASMUS+**

www.uni-freiburg.de/go/erasmus

Contact and consultation:

EU/Erasmus-Office of Uni Freiburg 0761 203-4269, -4207

europa@zv.uni-freiburg.de

### Student Service Center website



#### **EU Office & Student Service Center**

