

The Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) of the Academy of Fine Arts of Foggia

As the main purpose our Academy intends to improve the mobility quality of its students and academic staff, in order to achieve two main objectives: 1) network thematic deepening and research development in different academic levels on common interest fields chosen together with partners (identified and to identify), in consonance with LLP principles, 2) offer a wider academic curricula of combined-common second level titles with our partners. High-level degrees exchange will help us to strengthen our curricula and departments structure reform process (actually in course), bringing in a much more lively knowledge production to build the new art and aesthetic disciplines departments.

Our Mobility Policy and Erasmus Policy adopted for mobility purposes, give priority to Artistic Planning, Graphic Design and Fashion Design, which has been recently activated.

Of course we will encourage technical and methodological experimentation in the fields of Urban Analysis, Visual Arts, Sculpture and Painting through bilateral or multilateral projects, as a relevant part of Italian artistic traditions.

We will also seek partners for project oriented placement and training stays agreements seeking particular expertise and skills acquisition.

By assuming the Erasmus Policy in our Institution we attend to offer a richest and more versatile curricula for students, and to develop a professional profile provided with particular skills that enable our students to weigh on territorial development processes. Therefore we expect to upgrade local art production towards social-integration and environment assessment, as well as innovation of techniques methodologies for art learning. We are oriented to methodological innovation, artistic intervention techniques and co-design in matters of public art with the engagement of enterprises, public institutions, private and official research centres at national and international levels. The Academy compromises to develop several activities, mainly based on the students mobility inducement in our institution, and on the organization upgrading for mobility as on the learning agreement for the purposes of this Charter-EPS. We will proceed to identify new partners with common thematic fields and the identification of disciplinary-sectors to be reinforced in the construction of our thematic network.

And finally, a project participative-integrated approach will be adopted due to promote citizen's contribution on project's conception and realization.

The Foggia Academy of Fine Arts is now working on the creation of the International Relations, a really Erasmus Office, as well as the new institutional web page design. Both will give information related to our ECHE and EPS.

We will enrich our courses with workshops and stages; this will give students the opportunity to get in deep with art abilities.

The aim is to create, even in the Southern part of Italy, an internationally strong and attractive higher education Institution, an art community that promotes society's ability to function in an open international environment, supports the balanced development of a multicultural society and participates actively in solving global problems.

Erasmus Policy Statement will be available at the Academy of Foggia, in paper version to be distributed to academic and administrative units, Student Council, sponsor organizations and respective professional associations.

The original Charter will be kept at the International Relations Office, information on the award of the Charter and comprehensive explanation on related co-operation opportunities will be available on institutional webpage.

The admission rules as well as the application rules for incoming Erasmus students and academic staff take into account equal opportunities for everybody, despite of gender, socio-economic status, nationality and race.

The Academy is already committed to provide equitable education and support to all students with regard their individual differences and has respective facilities to address the needs of disabled.

Moreover specific regulations will be developed for selection of outgoing students, mobility applications are processed by academic departments and the Registry and Student Affairs Department. Students have expected to present motivation letters and recordings. A precondition is that there are no academic debts. Credit transfer and recognition of study periods

will be agreed in learning agreements and based on practical implementation of ECTS. For incoming students credits will be awarded in ECTS.

Information and counselling of outgoing students on practical and academic matters will be the responsibility of the Erasmus coordinator and will be given by the Student Office.

Practical information (accommodation, travel, prices), information on curricula and credit system will be contained in the booklet for foreign students and will be soon available on ABAFG homepage.

Today, artists are moving into new relationships with each other and with society as a whole. As we already know, the notion of interdisciplinary between the arts disciplines has been surpassed by the notion of transdisciplinarity.

The domain of higher arts education can be found on the edges, between the different domains in society. Artists act as interveners, while enhancing cultural participation and/or provoking questions on actual themes. While producing new creative applications, artists open up new audiences and new markets. While behaving in this way, our goal is to make the Academy of Foggia known abroad.

It is not only for courses that take place here, but also for the cultural and natural wealth of the country that hosts it. We believe it is possible and fruitful to develop a privileged relationship with the countries of the Mediterranean and Eastern European ones, in view of an ever-growing cultural integration. Our Academy has already hosted students coming from Greece, Albania and China and by this experience it has strengthened its administrative and teaching experience.

The Academy is now planning to better relations with some Bulgarian, Romanian and Turkish universities. Our main goal is to stabilize a more stable exchange flow of students and staff in the spirit of an expansion of cultural exchanges and business opportunities.

We expect that the widest dissemination of knowledge and know-how around the Italian art help to strengthen the spirit of a strengthening of European identity. Moreover, in fields of design and technology it is not unusual for our schools and departments to function as laboratories. Interactive installations are part of an expanding field where students fill in the vague needs of possible clients. We expect to do so with a wider and well-structured cooperating network operating also in the cultural and social field. To bring entertainment, dialogue, change, social cohesion and empowerment can become our first goal.

Our strategy sets the goals for the internationalisation of the higher education institution system that is currently under reform. The strategy presents concrete measures to support the attainment of these goals.

There are currently several ongoing reforms aiming at increasing the strengths, quality and attractiveness of Academy higher education offer and enhance the training and quality of researchers and research infrastructures. Changes in the international operational environment and the increasing multiculturalisation of society create expectations on higher education institutions. This strategy aims to provide answers to these challenges in consolidating internationalisation.

The attractiveness of Italy as a business, work and living environment must be increased. Internationalisation of higher education, research and innovation systems is at the core of societal renewal.

Moreover, internationalisation of higher education institutions promotes diversity in the society and business community, international networking, competitiveness and innovativeness, as well as improves the well-being, competence and education of the citizens.

About the point "increase the number of higher education graduates" we believe the internationalization process will enable students in making new experiences (exchange experiences, relations with foreign homologues, etc). This will help the Academy to become a more attractive point of learning for students and will better the number of students themselves.

Our education will provide more and more competences to work in an international operating environment. We are aware the international experience and connections of the students and staff of higher education institutions improve the quality of education and support the internationalisation of all the institution. Our higher education offer will be oriented to high-quality education focused on operational fields of expertise (graphic design, fashion design, urban design, as it has been already said). In this way we want to improve the quality and relevance of teaching and researcher training, to equip future graduates with the theoretical and practical knowledge they need to succeed in high-skill occupations.

Furthermore, the Academy will be more active in using international cooperation opportunities, in particular, within the EU countries (more specifically, relations with the East-EU Countries and the Turkey), searching

with these new partners new growing options, new ways to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance.

Even if in Italy the creation of new funding mechanisms in support of excellence is nowadays a really difficult challenge, our Academy is really interested in creating a EU 2014/2020 funds observatory, where all cooperating partners can search for calls and find them, where the team is able to apply to guarantee students opportunities and then to manage received funds.

IL DIRETTORE
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