



European Policy Statement

Istanbul University is involved in Erasmus activities through the perspective of its International Strategy. The University promotes and encourages students, academic and administrative staff to take part in an Erasmus exchange programme while studying or working at Istanbul University. The University offers a wide range of foreign language courses for all students and staff as well as Turkish as a Foreign Language for incoming students the I.U. Language Center.

The University has a long and distinguished record in European activities through Coimbra Group Membership, several European and Erasmus Projects. Istanbul University has been an active participant in Erasmus student and staff exchanges since 2003. The University has also involved in Erasmus+, Leonardo da Vinci, H2020, Third Health Programs and Biohealth Computing Erasmus Mundus Programme.

Istanbul University has been granted with the Erasmus University Charter in 2007. This new Charter further increases the opportunities available to students and faculty members (for example, student placements/traineeships abroad for three months as well as short-term research opportunities for young academic staff).

Istanbul University fully functions with the Bologna Process, designing its educational programs and procedures in accordance with it. A number of the Turkish bachelor programmes have all been covered with 30% of the courses in English. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) has been enacted in all degree programs offered by the university equivalent with the standard internal credit accumulation system and the infrastructure is created to grant Diploma to the graduates. The university is authorized to give full recognition for satisfactorily completed educational activities.

Istanbul University continues to promote and implement the principles of ECTS in all its ERASMUS student exchanges. The University operates a 60 credit year system (30 ECTS credits per semester) for outgoing students.

Istanbul University is committed to providing the highest quality of education for its own and international students. The syllabus of the University and standards of the University's awards are credited by the quality assurance and enhancement mechanisms which operate within the Istanbul University's Quality Policies.

Istanbul University will continue to promote and enhance Erasmus to students and staff within written and/or audio-visual virtual informative materials, Orientation Days, email etc. The Erasmus Student Charter and the Erasmus Policy Statement is available on the International Academic Relations Committee and Erasmus+ web pages.

Every outgoing Erasmus student is given information about the curriculum at the host University and is advised by their academic supervisor regarding the courses which are suitable for their Istanbul University degree. Orientation meetings are offered to all outgoing and incoming Erasmus students. Istanbul University offers every incoming Erasmus student the opportunity to attend the Orientation Programme which enables all international students to integrate into the University's system before classes begin.

Istanbul University continues to support the opportunities of staff mobility. We have a total of 32 committed staff (10 Erasmus Office staff and 22 Faculty Coordinators) who regularly take part in staff mobility and support the outgoing and incoming Erasmus students.

Students must complete a training and learning agreement which has to be signed by them, the employers/institutional coordinators and the students' supervisors at Istanbul University. The student's supervisor is responsible for providing the support and the monitoring of their learning and training mobility.

Istanbul University is able to manage the new challenges in the educational field over the next decades. The University remains firmly committed to the enhancing the quality and volume of research by:

- To prepare international agreements between foreign universities and academic institutions, to evaluate and improve the current agreements by observing the processes.
- To cooperate with the other universities and scientific corporations in order to take an active role in collective enterprises in the international fields.

- To produce, propose and develop policies intended for effective cooperation with other international academic institutions to realize national and institutional goals.
- To evaluate the performance of foreign teaching staff and to determine the payment criteria; to guide them to adapt themselves to the university and Turkey.
- To provide consultancy with the authorized institutions in case the visiting students/staff need help.
- To make counselling for the Faculties, Vocational Schools, and Institutions about international academic relations,
- To enable the international respectability and publicity, to increase the academic relations, to have a much more effective representation of Istanbul University in the international academic and scientific organisations, to fulfil the tasks in accordance with the Rectorate to organize activities such as congresses, conferences and exhibitions.
- To carry out every kind of research, study and evaluation in the context of international academic relations.

International Academic Relations Committee prepares a report including the activities of the particular year and presents it to the Rector as a part of internal audit.

All Departments have at least one member of staff appointed as an Exchange coordinator. These officers provide an additional contact point and supervisory advice for international students taking modules in that particular department.