



Erasmus+

The new UE **Erasmus+** programme aims to support actions in the fields of Education, Training, Youth and Sport for the period 2014-2020.

Erasmus+ provides grants for a wide range of actions and activities in the fields of education, training, youth and sport. The programme gives opportunities to students, trainees, staff and volunteers to spend a period abroad to increase their skills and employability. It supports organisations to work in transnational partnership and to share innovative practices in the fields of education, training and youth.

Opportunities for students to learn abroad, including:

- Studies, including at Master's level;
- Traineeships in businesses.
- Erasmus+ Master loans

Opportunities for staff to undertake professional development activities, including:

- Training or teaching;
- Attending workshops delivered by businesses.

Cooperation between institutions:

- Deliver joint masters' programmes in a consortium of higher education institutions from participating countries.

Cooperation with businesses:

- Companies and higher education institutions can work together to share knowledge.

(from official page of European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm)



Erasmus+

Higher education in Poland

Institutions and degree courses

The Polish higher education system allows for both state (public) and private (non-public) institutions of higher education. There are two main categories of higher education institution: university-type and non-university institutions (in a university-type HEI at least one unit is authorised to confer the academic degree of "doktor", i.e. offers at least one doctoral programme).

Higher education institutions in Poland offer the following educational possibilities:

- first cycle studies of two types:
 - studies leading to the professional title of "licencjat", of 3 to 4 years' duration,
 - studies leading to the professional title of "inżynier", of 3.5 to 4 years' duration
- second cycle studies of 1.5 to 2 years' duration (Master type), leading to the professional title of "magister" or an equivalent degree, accessible for graduates of first cycle studies;
- long-cycle studies of 4.5 to 6 years' duration (Master type) leading to the professional title of "magister" or an equivalent degree;
- third cycle studies- doctoral programmes, provided by the university-type schools as well as some research institutions (first of all the Polish Academy of Sciences).

Admission

1. Access to degree programmes in a higher education institution is open to persons who:
 - hold a secondary-school leaving certificate, if applying for admission to a first-cycle programme or a long-cycle programme, or
 - hold the degree of magister, licencjat, inżynier or an equivalent degree, if applying for admission to a second-cycle programme, and fulfil admission conditions defined by a given higher education institution.
2. Admission conditions and procedures as well as forms of study for each field of study are specified by the senate of a higher education institution. A relevant resolution of the senate should be announced at the institution's web site.
3. Admission to first-cycle programmes and long-cycle programmes is based primarily on results of the secondary-school leaving examination. The senate of a higher education institution specifies, which results of the secondary-school leaving examination provide the basis for admission to degree programmes.
The date of enrolment varies according to the institution and branch of study.
Foreign students who want to enrol should contact directly the chosen university, its faculty or international relations office, in order to obtain appropriate detailed information on the conditions of admission.

Fees

Higher education is free of charge at full-time day courses in public sector institutions. However, there are two exceptions to this rule: (1) charging fees is permitted in the case of courses that are repeated by a student as a result of his/her unsatisfactory achievements; (2) students applying for

admission have to pay an administrative fee which amount is fixed by an institution, but cannot exceed the maximum defined annually by the minister of education.

The majority of state higher education institutions organise fee-paying part-time studies.

Tuition fees in either state or non-state establishments of higher education vary greatly, and the amount depends not only on the real cost of studies, but also on the interest displayed in different fields of study.

The Polish higher education system in the European Higher Education Area

Along with 29 other countries, Poland signed the Bologna Declaration, which aims at the creation of the European Area of Higher Education. The current reforms being made in the Polish Higher Education System follow the Bologna Process recent action lines.

Division of the academic year

The academic year in Poland is divided into two semesters - winter and summer, each lasting for 15 weeks. The winter semester starts usually in October and lasts till mid-February, with Christmas holidays of about ten days. The examination session usually lasts for two or three weeks, beginning in January. The summer semester starts in mid-February and ends in June, with a one-week break for Easter. Summer holidays last for three months - from the beginning of July to the end of September, but only for those students who passed all exams at the summer examination session.

Coming to Poland - formal issues

Temporary residence permit/visa requirements

EU/EEA citizens:

An EU citizen can enter Poland with his/her ID document (a valid travel document e.g. passport, or another document certifying his/her identity and citizenship).

For stay up to 3 months no legalisation of stay will be necessary. For stays exceeding 3 months, an EU citizen will have to obtain a temporary residence permit (Karta pobytu obywatela UE). In case of students, the residence permit is issued for one year. The residence permit - once issued - will also entitle its bearer to take up work. The residence permit and the right to work also extends to the immediate family - i.e. spouse and children.

This document will be issued by the Department of Citizens Affairs of the Voivodeship Office (province administration, in Polish Urząd Wojewódzki). Charge for issuing of the residence permit is 30 Polish zloty (ca 7 Euro).

Temporary residence permits will be granted to Union citizens who have health insurance and sufficient resources to cover their expenses without needing social security support.

Documents that have to be submitted by the student to the Voivodeship Office in order to obtain the residence permit:

- copy of the travel document (passport or other ID document)
- health insurance document
- official letter of acceptance from the Polish university (with information about the planned period of study)

- declaration about sufficient resources to cover the subsistence costs in Poland
- 2 photographs
- Application form (Wniosek o zezwolenie na pobyt, in Polish)

Institutional Erasmus Co-ordinators at Polish universities will help students to obtain the residence permit.

Citizens of the EEA countries are subject to the same conditions as the EU citizens.

The citizens of Switzerland can enter Poland only on the basis of a valid passport.

Non-EU/EEA citizens:

Visa

A citizen of a non-EU/EEA country can enter the territory of Poland on the basis of a valid travel document (passport) and a visa (if required). A citizen of a non-EU country has to obtain the visa from the consulate of Poland in his/her country of residence. The short-term visa entitles to stay in Poland up to 3 months, the long-term visa - up to 1 year. The prolongation of visa in Poland is only possible in case of a force majeure or situation impossible to foresee while applying for the visa in the consulate. The visa can be prolonged only once. It is therefore necessary to apply for a visa in a consulate for the whole planned period of stay in Poland.

Persons who have received a visa for the whole period of stay in Poland are not obliged to apply for a residence permit for their stay in Poland.

Medical care

EU/EEA citizens:

Poland has the health care system based on general health insurance.

Persons covered by the general health insurance are entitled to free health services in the territory of Poland at the health care providers who have concluded contracts with the National Health Fund (NFZ - Narodowy Fundusz Zdrowia. The National Health Fund is the institution, which is responsible for assuring health services for insured persons and members of their families).

During a temporary stay in Poland, a person entitled to health care under EEA rules can receive health services in the following areas:

- primary health care
- specialist out-patient care
- hospital treatment
- dental treatment
- rescue services and ambulance transport.

In case of necessity of providing medical care, a student from a member country staying temporarily in the territory of Poland is entitled to free health care on the basis of the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or in particular cases on the basis of a special certificate. The student is obliged to present one of these documents (it is advisable to have also a copy) together with an identity document directly to the public health care provider.

The student will receive free health services at health care providers who have concluded a relevant contract with NFZ. In case of lack of the European Health Insurance Card or equivalent document, the patient will be obliged to cover costs of treatment by himself. The same obligation arises in case of treatment provided by a health care unit which has no contract with NFZ.

If there is a need of hospital treatment, a doctor's referral is required. In case of sudden illness, accident, injury, intoxication, life threat, a patient receives necessary medical benefits without referral. A patient who presented the European Health Insurance Card or a certificate, receives free hospital treatment within the general health care system.

Apart from academic and public medical care system there is also a well-developed private sector. The costs of medical care may be reimbursed if a student has purchased a health insurance policy in his country before departure.

Non EU/EEA citizens:

The students from non-EU/EEA countries should purchase health insurance in their home country, before departure. In case of the ISIC or Euro<26, insurance is included in the card and the student does not need to buy another one unless he/she wants to increase its scope or value. Erasmus students (having so called legitymacja studencka - student's card - issued by the host university) are usually allowed to consult doctors at academic medical care centres. Anyway, according to state health regulations foreigners (except the EU/EEA citizens, see above) have to pay for a medical consultation. The cost is then reimbursed by the health insurance company.

Apart from academic and public medical care system there is also a well-developed private sector.

Driving licence

Driving licenses issued by other EU member states are recognized by Poland and remain valid until the expiry date indicated in the document.

While driving a vehicle on the territory of Poland, the driver is obliged to have with him a driver's license and civil liability insurance.

ERASMUS+ at Institute of Oceanography

Institutional Coordinator:

Assoc. Prof. Adam Sokołowski
tel.: + 48 58 5236856
fax: + 48 58 5236678
e-mail: oceas@univ.gda.pl

Working hours for ERASMUS+ students:

Tuesday: 11:00-12:00

Wednesday: 12:00-13:00



Educational offer

Detailed list of courses in English, along with their syllabuses, available for ERASMUS+ students can be found here:

https://en.oig.ug.edu.pl/international/study_english_foag

Nomination and enrolment (conditions, deadlines, etc.)

Admissions requirements:

A candidate must be currently enrolled at an institution covered by an Erasmus exchange agreement and studying at the appropriate level.

To apply as an Erasmus student, a candidate should must be nominated by home university.

A candidate should also be currently studying in a similar area to the department of admission.

Nomination Deadlines:

Applications/information on the ERASMUS+ nominated students must reach University of Gdańsk by:

- Winter semester: May 31st
- Summer semester: November 30

Decision Response:

University of Gdańsk will send decision by email within 8 weeks.

Students are to submit the following documents with regards to the application procedures:

- Application form
- Learning Agreement containing course units planned at University of Gdańsk. The Learning Agreement should be approved prior to the student arrival at the University of Gdansk and may be modified after arrival and discussion with the academic coordinator. For all questions relating to Learning Agreement, please contact the faculty coordinator
- Statement on English language ability at level B2
- Copy of passport or ID
- Copy of the European Health Insurance Card

Visiting students are to remain in Poland until the end of their semester examinations and should hand in all their assignments and sit for their exams prior to their departure.

Students should highlight any disabilities at application stage so that their needs and requirements can be addressed and the right support assured prior to their acceptance.

Grading system:

60 ECTS is equivalent to one year of normal study for a full-time student (30 ECTS for one semester). Grades and credits are officially acknowledged by a sovereign jury and a transcript is established according to the table below (website http://www.ug.edu.pl/en/en/studying_at_the_university_of_gdansk--erasmus--useful_information/).

Grade Definition:

- **A** Excellent – outstanding performance with only minor errors
- **B** Very good – above the average standart but with some errors
- **C** Good – generally sound work with a number of notable errors
- **D** Satisfactory – fair but with significant shortcomings
- **E** Sufficient – performance meets the minimum criteria
- **F** Fail – more or considerable work is required before the credit can be awarded