



UNIVERSITY OF WEST ATTICA



ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT of the UNIVERSITY OF WEST ATTICA

Transitory Accreditation 406796-EPP-1-2019-1-EL-EPPKA1-ECHE

The University of West Attica has been established in 2018, however it is the result of the merge of two institutes with long tradition in international activities. Our strategy is to continue this tradition and to keep developing the European and International visibility of the University of West Attica. The international visibility is based on the collaboration with other Universities in Europe and worldwide. The international collaboration presupposes internal policies, actions and structures supporting the persons engaged in order to achieve the desired learning, teaching and research outcomes.

Our main objectives are:

- a) quality improvement of services offered to incoming and outgoing students, teaching and administrative staff,
- b) a variety of courses taught in English
- c) encouragement of incomers to attend Modern Greek language courses, offered free of charge,
- d) enhancement of teaching staff mobility and encouragement for participation in multilateral projects, and
- e) increase of student placements at the European and International level.

The Erasmus University Charter, as well as all Erasmus activities, will be published on the official website of the University of West Attica, in departments' study guides, welcome information packages, posters and in other promotional material for local and international educational fairs, career days/weeks, congresses etc.

The Institution ensures compliance with non-discrimination objectives as follows:

- a) Students and teachers with special needs participate in Erasmus activities with all necessary support,
- b) equal opportunities are offered to men and women,
- c) xenophobia and racism are clearly characterized as undesirable behaviours
- d) social and economic cohesion and integration is promoted through daily meals offered without any cost to the incoming students.

In summary, we declare our commitment as to:

- a) increase the number and quality of students as well as administrative and teaching staff mobility,
- b) encourage people with special needs to participate in Erasmus activities,
- c) encourage preparatory visits to new destinations,
- d) apply ECTS and DS rules to the study programs for easier academic recognition purposes.

To improve the quality of academic mobility activities, the following take place:

Academic recognition is ensured by implementing ECTS for all students. All related documents are used: student application, learning agreement, transcript of records (before departure for outgoing students and incomers). Students returning from their study period abroad recognize their successful courses and receive credits in accordance with the signed learning agreements and their approved modifications (if any). All departments have information packages with updated details on curricula and other practical guidelines.

Information and counseling meetings for the outgoing students are organized several times per year. Students are provided with all necessary details in order to prepare their study period abroad. Valuable assistance is offered by the members of the Erasmus Student Network – ESN. The Erasmus Office on a daily basis provides to students detailed information, about their prospective participation in Erasmus. Outgoing students are informed about placement opportunities abroad. Outgoing students must have obtained appropriate language certification.

Prospective incomers can find details related to the studies in the University of West Attica in our website, as well as in printed material sent to their home institution. Incomers, upon arrival, are met by members of the ESN at the Airport and escorted to their housing, which has been arranged - after their application – in cooperation with the ESN.

To facilitate the adaptation in the social and University life of the incoming Erasmus students, courses in Greek language are offered, so that the students are easier integrated in the University of West Attica and Greek culture. This action aims to the increase of incoming Erasmus students. Support is provided by the Erasmus Office to teaching staff for the preparation and organization of their mobilities. To ensure high quality in student placements, University of West Attica supports the incoming students for internships by guiding them to a network of selected companies at local level.

During the placement, outgoing students are monitored and evaluated by the University of West Attica staff. At the end of the placement period the student submits a thorough report, ensuring that the internship was of the respective level and content. Students receive recognition and credits for their work placement.