

Erasmus

EPS - Erasmus Policy Statement

Institution's International (EU and non-EU) strategy

The Academy of Fine Arts G. Carrara in Bergamo, a non-state public institution founded in 1796, belongs to the system of High Education in the Arts and Music of the Ministry of Education, University and Research. The Academy has developed an educational project characterized by the research in the field of contemporary visual arts, which has a cross-disciplinary, planning and experimental nature.

The internationalisation of the Academy aims to establish a framework of strategic alliances with European and non-European institutions, that share the same vision and the same approach, with the goal of promoting effective synergies for students' and staff growth and for the growth of the Academy as a whole.

The strategic choices of partners take into account the Academy research areas, identifying the institutions offering similar or complementary courses of study, in order to enrich the educational offer. The choice is also based on the size of the Academy, by encouraging cooperation with similar partner institutions in this field, too. The small size of the Academy of Fine Arts G. Carrara allows to follow the mobility in a flexible way, by developing from time to time collaborations targeted on the individual outgoing or incoming student's attitudes. In addition to this, the Academy intends to take advantage of the network of relationships of its professors, who have professional relationships at international level inside and outside EU. The cooperation is based on reciprocity, balance in mobility, trust between the institutions and academic profiles compatibility, as well as on appropriate quality standards assurance. The partner choice should take into account the educational offer (appropriately presented), the teaching methods and the real possibility of running joint mobility programs.

The partners selection is held by Academy International Office coordinator. Professors and Students' Council can submit proposals on the occasion of Faculty Board meetings. The proposals and the selection of partners are evaluated, in a second phase, by the Academic Council. Proposals for cooperation coming from abroad to the Academy are also examined by the International Office and by the Academic Council.

The Academy of Fine Arts G. Carrara identifies its partners in all EU and non-EU areas participating in the Erasmus+ Programme, according to an international strategy based on the recognition of the value of geographical, cultural and linguistic differences. The Academy aims to establish connections with institutions of excellence, representing this plurality of contexts in European Union Countries and outside EU, in order to ensure students and staff the opportunity to develop their professional experience and study in contact with different courses of study,

cultural backgrounds and research methods.

The main objectives of the international mobility are in line with those expected from the Agenda for the Modernisation of Europe's Higher Education System. The internationalisation of the Academy fosters the development of its educational program, the mobility of staff and students for the acquisition of the richest theoretical and practical skills, the growth of professional networks and artistic research, which facilitate new study and job opportunities at international level. Mobility and international cooperation activities are addressed to students of all study cycles, to all teachers and staff. The selection of participants is carried out in full compliance with the principles of equality and transparency, without discrimination of any kind, guaranteeing equal opportunities to all potential participants.

Institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of International (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme.

The Academy intends to participate in international cooperation projects realized with educational institutions, research centres, art production centres, museums, non-profit institutions, foundations and bodies in the public and private sectors, promoting both contemporary artistic experimentation and research in other areas of creativity and culture. The goal is to support the mobility of students and staff, to encourage research, to promote artistic creation as a mean for integration and social relationship, to share innovative models in teaching and to study good educational practices for artistic research.

International cooperation also allows to develop new ways of production and movement of culture, to expand knowledge to larger sections of the youth population, to support the professional employment. At a later stage, to this end, the Academy is interested in promoting educational internships abroad for students. Given these objectives, the Academy is interested in participating in projects that involve research in the field of contemporary visual arts and its intertwining with other disciplines, with the intercultural dimension of social and collective life, with urban life and public spaces, with scientific research and advanced technology. The Academy has been paying attention to the relationship with business and industrial research since 1996, in collaboration with the companies of the territory (ArtImpresa Project 1996-2011, Artist-in-residence Kilometro-Rosso 2013-2016): on the basis of this specific interest, the Academy wants to launch this type of planning on a larger scale, at international level.

The proposal and the evaluation of projects are run jointly by the International Office and by the Academy management bodies (Faculty Board and Academic Council). The Academy is committed in self-assessment and in reporting of carried out activities, as well as in educational, language and organizational support to project participants.

Expected impact on the modernisation of the Academy of Fine Arts G. Carrara (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda) in terms of the policy objectives to be achieved.

The Academy strongly believes that the participation in the Erasmus+ programme will contribute significantly to its modernisation. Internationalisation is a goal at the core of the policies and the tools the Academy applies for its development.

In line with the five objectives shared with the Modernisation Agenda, the Academy aims to:

- to reduce drop-out rates of educational programs, through a careful and constant monitoring of students, supported by the analysis of the Evaluation Unit; to attract a broader cross-section of the society towards higher education in the field of arts, while also helping disadvantaged groups;
- to monitor the academic curricula in order to develop them in terms of services and content, with reference also to current and new creative professions; to develop the opportunities offered by new technologies for training purposes; to participate in the educational offer development in arts education through the sharing of achievements, teaching methods and already covered pathways in the process of internationalisation; to improve staff training for the procedures required by the widest and most complex process of internationalisation;
- to encourage mobility for learning purposes, by promoting transnational exchanges; the Academy recognizes the ECTS credits earned abroad by entering the outcomes in the Diploma Supplement;
- to implement the partnership and the cooperation with business, with the world of creative professions and with the centres of artistic production, also through the involvement in training activities made by professionals, who represent the bridge between the academic perspective and the job; to promote good practices and research outcomes; to develop tutoring services and counselling to students about job opportunities and further education;
- to involve public and private institutional partners for the development of mobility and international cooperation projects.

The growth of the training project, of the teaching quality of teaching and of Academy curricula takes place through the development of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural academic courses, and of an innovative, flexible and student-centred learning and research environment, open to collaborations and exchanges. Students' and staff interaction with international educational experiences will be critical to increase this perspective and to modernise the institution.