



EU scheme for studying in Europe

Summary: Under the ERASMUS scheme students can study for part of their degree at another European country.

The European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students (ERASMUS) was introduced in 1987. Since it began over two million young people have studied abroad under the scheme. There are 31 participating countries: all EU member states, Turkey, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland.

Students from all subject areas can take part. You need to check that your home university participates in the scheme. Most do but not all. You can go at any time during your degree studies except during the first year. You can go for just three months or stay the whole year. The longer you stay the more time you will have to adjust to life in another country, get to know students and staff, and improve your knowledge of the language.

To be eligible you need to be registered as a student at an institution of higher education following a course leading to a recognised qualification, such as a first degree or doctorate.

Funding Erasmus students receive a grant from the European Commission to help cover the extra costs of living abroad. Grants are paid in addition to any standard grants or loans to which you may be entitled. They are not means tested. In 2008/09 the average grant was 245 euros per month. You don't pay tuition fees to the university you are visiting.

For more information on ERASMUS:

<http://www.erasmus-uk.org.uk/>

