



# WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES – SGGW

## Erasmus+ Policy Statement 2014-2020

### Strategy, goals and priorities for the implementation of the Erasmus+ program

Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW implements the assumptions of the Lisbon Strategy by participating in the creation of the European knowledge-based economy. In order to educate graduates equipped with innovative knowledge and skills desired on the labor market, SGGW places emphasis on the internationalization of the education process. The main goals in the period 2014-2020 is to increase the degree of internationalization of the education process through teacher exchange and to increase the number of foreign students studying at SGGW. In order to make the offer more attractive for foreign students, the number of subjects taught in English will be increased, with particular emphasis on the development of thematic blocks. Academics will be encouraged to participate and coordinate multilateral projects leading to the development of study programs offered in English. Study opportunities at SGGW will be disseminated during international conferences and meetings. The existing research and teaching partnerships will be analyzed in order to create a network to develop new teaching concepts and to assure staff development.

### Actions aiming to disseminate information about the Erasmus+ program

International Relations Office each year will publish information materials on the Lifelong Learning Program and student exchanges under the Erasmus+ program. Each year, meetings will be organized for students, Vice-Dean for Didactics, faculty coordinators of EU programs and other academicians. The following documents will be published on the BWM website: Erasmus Charter, Erasmus program policy statement and information for students interested in / participating in the exchange.

### Actions related to the objective of preventing discrimination (the principle of gender equality, integration of disabled people, integration of people from different backgrounds, counteracting xenophobia and racism)

Rules applied at SGGW prevent discrimination – the enrollment of candidates is based on the Matura exam results, everyone can apply for all fields of study regardless gender and are treated equally. Statistics shows that there are more female students than male students at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGW. The same trend is noticeable in the Erasmus+ student mobility statistics. All students have equal access to classes, libraries, sports facilities, student organizations, and dormitories are co-educational. Students from financially disadvantaged families can apply for social scholarships. Students can also apply for a scholarship for academic achievement. Particular attention is paid to the issue of students with disabilities. The Rector's Plenipotentiary for Disabled Students was appointed in order to care for disabled-friendly conditions. New buildings on the campus are equipped with elevators, ramps and properly adapted toilets. The Unit of Physical Education and Sport offers rehabilitation classes for the disabled. A psychologist is on duty (available to all students). The student organization "Helpful Hands" implements the process of integration. In order to obtain the status of students and local studies, a branch of the Erasmus Student Network was established at SGGW. These are students of SGGW fulfilling tasks related to students, meetings also in matters of foreign policy, organizing international meetings, conferences, short trips, and cultural events.

### Quality assurance of international exchange (recognition, credit system, information on available programs, care for incoming and outgoing students)

As part of the implementation of the Bologna Process assumptions and in order to ensure high-quality exchange, ECTS was introduced at SGGW. The exchange is organized by the International Relations Office as part of European didactics programs. At the central level of the university, IRO's employees responsible for the exchange of outgoing students disseminates information on the possibility of going abroad. IRO is responsible for the final stage of recruiting students for the trip under the exchange program, helps in the preparation of application documents, contacts the host universities and helps in solving emerging problems. Faculty coordinators also inform students about the possibility of participating in the exchange program, and carry out the first stages of student recruitment. IRO employs a person whose duties include taking care of foreign students, including help in solving emerging problems, administrative support, help in creating a study program, preparing a timetable, reserving a place in a dormitory or assistance in finding accommodation outside the university. In order to increase the level of integration of foreign and local students, the Erasmus Student Network was created, the tasks of which are described above. Incoming Erasmus students can also benefit from a Polish language course.

  
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