

FAQs ERASMUS+ FOR STUDY

BEFORE AND AFTER DEPARTURE

PREPARATION TO YOUR DEPARTURE

1. CONSIDERING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, WILL ERASMUS STILL TAKE PLACE?

The mobilities planned for the next academic year are – for the time being – regularly programmed. The International Mobility Office will inform students of any particular news or updates. Check the host university's website to see if any special restrictions have been put into place.

2. I WAS SELECTED, BUT I'VE DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT MY OFFER: WHAT SHOULD I DO?

You must inform the office about your withdrawal from the programme <u>within 5 working days from results' publication</u> by writing to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Rinuncia Erasmus Studio

3. WHY HAVE I NOT BEEN CONTACTED BY MY HOST UNIVERSITY YET?

Each University has very different schedules, deadlines and procedures. Please check on your Host University's webpages about the documents and the deadlines you should meet in order to successfully apply. Usually the partner universities get in touch directly with the students, after receiving the nomination from the university they belong to. If, coming up to the deadline, you still have not been contacted yet, write to the Erasmus Office of your Host institution and to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Studenti selezionati Erasmus Studio for clarifications.

4. MY HOST UNIVERSITY REQUIRES A TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS IN ENGLISH: HOW CAN I GET IT?

You can ask for it by writing to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Studenti selezionati Erasmus Studio, indicating the deadline for your application and inserting as subject line "Request Transcript of Records Erasmus 21-22". Please note that it may take a couple of days to receive it, so make sure you ask for it well in advance. We can only provide the document in English.

5. I NEED A LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE IN ORDER TO FINALISE MY APPLICATION ABROAD: HOW DO I GET IT?

Only if you have not already been awarded any SLAM certification or any other official certification can you sit a test through our SLAM center in order to achieve the language level required. Language tests will be held in late May and September.

We invite interested students to regularly visit SLAM's <u>pages</u>, where all the details about the exact dates and the registration form will be published. For further info, you may also contact SLAM through InformaStudenti.

6. WILL I BE INSURED ABROAD?

Yes, the University of Milan provides its Erasmus students an insurance against *accidents* and third party *civil liability*. On the other hand, please note that <u>Unimi does not provide health insurance</u>. It is still your responsibility to get informed in advance about the type of insurance required by your Host University. More information on <u>this</u> page.

7. MY HOST UNIVERSITY REQUIRES A CERTIFICATE STATING MY ERASMUS STUDENT STATUS AND MY INSURANCE COVERAGE: HOW CAN I GET IT?

You can ask for it by writing to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Studenti selezionati Erasmus Studio, indicating the deadline for your application and inserting as subject line "21-22 Erasmus Student Certificate Request".

8. I AM AN EXTRA-EU CITIZEN: BECAUSE OF MY CITIZENSHIP, I NEED AN ENTRY VISA IN ORDER TO ENTER THE COUNTRY I WAS SELECTED FOR: WHAT SHOULD I DO?

You have to address directly to the diplomatic or consular representation of the country you have been selected for and get specific information about the procedures you have to follow in order to obtain a visa.

9. CAN THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OFFICE HELP ME FIND AN ACCOMMODATION ABROAD?

No, the search for an accommodation is your own responsibility. Partner universities often have a housing system specifically available for Erasmus students. Inquire with them directly.

THE LEARNING AGREEMENT

10. WHAT IS A LEARNING AGREEMENT (L.A.)?

The L.A. is a document that states the study, training, thesis or research programme you commit to follow abroad and it ensures that the activities you take abroad – successfully passed - will be recognised once back.

11. WHEN WILL I BE ASKED TO DRAFT MY LEARNING AGREEMENT?

The Learning Agreement of Unimi must be drafted <u>online</u>. <u>You will be informed when the online procedure opens</u> (normally around the beginning of May). If your Host University, during the application, asks you to draft your L.A. in their own format, please follow their instructions. Remember, however, that you will still be asked to do the same on the L.A. of Unimi when the online procedure opens.

12. WHAT IS AN "ONLINE LEARNING AGREEMENT" (O.L.A.)?

From September 2021 on, all Universities participating in the Erasmus Program should use the Online Learning Agreement (O.L.A.), which is part of the *Erasmus Without Paper*, a program aimed at simplifying Erasmus procedures. <u>Unimi is currently taking steps to make O.L.A.</u> happen. If the Host University asks you to fill OLA right away, please follow their instructions. Please note that on Unimi website you will find all useful information of Erasmus Coordinators responsible for OLA approval. <u>At the same time, in this transitional stage</u>, <u>UNIMI also requires selected Students to fill in its own L.A.</u>, the form is to be drafted via an online platform, as described on the website (check previous point). This platform must be used for the first compilation, as well as for any subsequent amendment until further notice.

13. WHO IS ENTITLED TO APPROVE MY LEARNING AGREEMENT?

Unless otherwise instructed by you Host University, your L.A. must be approved <u>before your departure</u> by both your <u>home coordinator/ Erasmus+ Desk</u> and by the responsible person at your Host University

14. CAN I DRAFT MY LEARNING AGREEMENT ON A PAPER FORM?

No, the Learning Agreement must be drafted online. The only exception is represented by students who are waiting for the enrollment to their Master's and thus still do not have access to the online services. These students will receive a paper form from our office by writing to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Studenti selezionati Erasmus Studio and will still be asked to draft their L.A. online when their platform will be available. Another exception are those students whose application's deadline is very tight (end of April) and need to draft their L.A. before then. These students must write to INFORMASTUDENTI > INTER Erasmus Studio > Studenti selezionati Erasmus, with the subject "Temporary Learning Agreement" to request a temporary paper template, indicating the deadline for their application.

15. CAN I HAND IN MY LEARNING AGREEMENT WITHOUT CORRECTLY PUTTING THE EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN THE ACTIVITIES?

No, equivalences between exams/activities on your Learning Agreement must always be registered and evident (1>1; 2>2; etc). Read the instructions carefully when completing the L.A. online.

16. HOW CAN I FIND THE RIGHT COURSES I SHOULD ATTEND ABROAD?

You have to get all relevant information directly on your Host University's website, and you can ask for your coordinator/Erasmus desk's support.

17. I AM NOT ABLE TO MEET THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF MY L.A. (which will be communicated by the office), BECAUSE NEXT YEAR'S COURSES ARE NOT AVAILABLE YET. WHAT DO I DO?

Before the set deadline, you must inform the Mobility office by writing to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Studenti selezionati Erasmus Studio

18. CAN I CARRY OUT INTERNSHIPS/THESIS RESEARCH WHILE ABROAD?

Yes – if foreseen by the destination you have been selected for. Please contact your coordinator in order to ask about the details of these activities.

19. WHO WILL MAKE SURE THAT MY L.A. IS SUBMITTED TO THE HOST UNIVERSITY?

It is your own responsibility to send your L.A. to the Erasmus office abroad and make sure it gets approved by both Unimi and foreign Erasmus Coordinator. The student must follow the entire approval process and always send the final approved copy to the offices.

20. HOW CAN I SEND MY L.A. TO THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OFFICE OF UNIMI?

At least 2 weeks before you arrive at your Host University, and after your Unimi L.A. form has been signed and approved by both parties, you must make sure you send it as a single document by email to INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> Learning Agreement. If your L.A. is already required during the *Application* process, please remember to ask for approval before your departure to both to your Unimi and foreign Erasmus Coordinator. If, on the other hand, the L.A. is not required in the Application phase, you must still make sure to send it to your contact person/foreign Erasmus office so that it can be approved before your departure.

THE MOBILITY CONTRACT

21. WHAT IS THE MOBILITY CONTRACT?

The Mobility contract is an actual contract between the student and the University of Milan, and it defines the conditions for your mobility. It is compulsory and it must be signed <u>before you leave</u>.

22. HOW SHOULD I SEND MY SIGNED MOBILITY CONTRACT?

The International Mobility Office will provide further information about when and how to send your Mobility contract. The signed contract is to be uploaded on an online platform.

THE OLS (Online Linguistic Support) AND SLAM's LANGUAGE COURSES

23. WHAT IS THE OLS?

The "Online Linguistic Support" is an EU platform that offers its participants the chance to test their abilities in the foreign language used at Host Universities. Users are given the chance to follow an online language course. Further information will follow.

24. WHAT IS THE OLS TEST AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

It is a test that assesses the level of the language you will use during your stay. It is compulsory for all Erasmus students and it must be taken before and after your mobility. Around May you will

automatically receive on your Unimi e-mail address a license that will allow you to access the OLS platform. Please note that the license will be valid for 1 month only: be careful not to make it expire!

25. WHY HAVE I NOT RECEIVED MY OLS LICENCE YET?

Sometimes the e-mail might end up in the Spam folder. Please check there as well. Should you have any problems, please contact INFORMASTUDENTI> INTER Erasmus Studio> OLS. Only in exceptional cases will it be possible to send another license, as they are available in a limited number.

26. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE OLS COURSE AND SLAM'S LANGUAGE COURSES?

The OLS course is promoted by the EU and all the European Erasmus students have access to it. You will receive an e-mail with a license to take the language course, valid for 1 month. SLAM's intensive courses for Erasmus students are optional and promoted by Unimi, and this year, they will be offered **online between 28th June and 9th July 2021**. Further information about courses' details and on how to enroll will follow. Please visit SLAM's pages to get further info (soon to be updated).

27. IS THE OLS COURSE COMPULSORY?

No, it isn't. However, the OLS course is highly recommended.

28. IS THERE A MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM TIME I SHOULD SPEND ON THE OLS PLATFORM FOR MY LANGUAGE COURSE?

No, the course's length is an individual choice and depends on the actual needs of each student in relation to the language of study. We strongly recommend that you complete the whole course.

29. CAN I USE MY OLS TEST'S RESULT FOR MY APPLICATION?

It depends on whether the host university accepts it. Check this with their offices.

THE ERASMUS SCHOLARSHIP

30. WHAT IS THE ERASMUS+ SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT?

We are waiting to know the new amounts for a.y. 2021-2022. As soon as the information is available, the office will notify students. All the details regarding the new Erasmus program will be explained during the informative meeting for selected students that will be held between late April and early May.