

Some Information on Erasmus Applications for Philosophy Students

Academic Year 2016-2017

Department of Philosophy
Bilkent University

Application process:

For information on the application process for the Erasmus exchange, please consult the web page of the exchange office at Bilkent:

<http://w3.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/outgoing-students/>

To prepare an application, you must first go to the webpage of the office of international exchanges, to register and download an application form (see the link below). You then have to print out your application and submit it to the exchange coordinator in the Department of Philosophy, together with a CV and a statement of purpose.

We will rank the applications (on the basis of your GPA and your English test-scores), and pass them on to the Office of International Exchange. The required minimum cumulative GPA for submitting an application is 2.50.

There is not a lot of work involved in preparing the application. If you're interested in going abroad, you should certainly apply. The Department of Philosophy usually receives funding for 2-3 students. So the chances of acceptance are pretty good. The level of the Erasmus-stipend depends on what country you visit. For a table see...

http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/admission/outgoing_exchange/grants_group.html

The application-process only determines whether you will receive funding for your stay abroad from the Turkish government. Even if your application for the stipend is unsuccessful, you can still go on an exchange (as long as places are available at the partner institutions) if you're willing and able to pay for yourself. You can apply to go either in the fall or in the spring term, or for a whole year. However, if you decide to go for a full year, the stipend will only be paid for half a year.

Choosing a host university

You can find a table with all the Erasmus partner universities here:

http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/admission/outgoing_exchange/erasmus_partners_list.html

You should keep in mind that the teaching at the partner institutions will sometimes take place in the local language. If you don't speak the language of the host country, this may restrict your choice of courses. Most of our partner universities offer at least some courses in English. But it is advisable that you look up the web page of host universities before deciding which university to apply for, so as to make sure that there are enough suitable English-language courses for you to take.

If you would like further information on the partner universities that you can choose from, please feel free to talk to the exchange-coordinators. We may be able to give you additional information.

Choosing courses at your host university

After you have been accepted for the exchange, but before you leave, you will have to put together a 'learning agreement' that lists all the courses that you will take abroad, and that specifies which courses on your curriculum you will be allowed to replace once you come back.

Your plan of study needs to be approved by the exchange-coordinators of the Department of Philosophy. You should therefore try to prepare a provisional list of courses (by looking up the course offerings of the host institution) once you have been accepted and then talk to the departmental coordinators about your choices.

Under the rules of Erasmus, you have to enroll in courses for at least 30ECTS credits at your host institution. Assuming that a normal course counts for six ECTS credits, this amounts to a course load of five courses. However, many universities offer courses with a lower number of ECTS credits, so you may have to take more than five.

If you make any changes your program of study while you are abroad, these will have to be approved once more by Bilkent/the Department of Philosophy. So please make sure to get in touch with the exchange-coordinators immediately if you want to make changes after you have left.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with Lars Vinx or Sandrine Berges!

