

Rules and Requirements of the Law and French Junior Sophister Year Abroad 2021/22

As Law and French students, it is a compulsory part of your degree to spend your Junior Sophister year in France. The year abroad is completed through the Erasmus Programme. The results of the year abroad count 30% towards your final degree grade. Therefore, you must take your studies in France seriously. The responsibility is on you to meet Trinity's requirements for the year. If you have any doubts about whether the modules that you propose to take will meet these requirements, you must be proactive and engage with both Trinity and your host university.

Applying to Study Abroad

1. Students must officially apply to study abroad through the Law School International and Visiting Student Office. You must fill out the Law School Exchange Programme Application form and list French universities in order of preference. You must also sign the Personal Declaration. The documents can be found at: <http://www.tcd.ie/law/programmes/undergraduate/year-abroad> Deadline to apply for the Erasmus Programme of 2021/22 is Friday 8th January 2021.
2. Places will be allocated using a competitive selection process. Students will be ranked according to their Junior Freshman results.
3. After the Law School has processed the application forms, Law and French students receive an offer in late January 2021.
4. You will be nominated to your host university in February/March, after which the Erasmus Coordinator in the French university will contact you directly with application forms. It is your responsibility to meet the deadlines set by your host

university. The Law School can only give you limited assistance with regard to accommodation and modules abroad. You must check the host university's website to learn as much as possible about your destination and avail of any advice offered there to visiting students. You may find it useful to make contact with other Law School students who have been there before.

5. For the year abroad you continue to pay Trinity fees, in so far as these are required, but pay no registration fees to the French university. In exceptional cases host universities may require administration fees or other charges.
6. Participation in the Erasmus programme is usually assisted by a grant from the European Commission, but this is not guaranteed. Students can apply for the grant through Academic Registry. The Law School has no say in the allocation or distribution of the grant. You can contact erasmus@tcd.ie for more information.

Course Requirements of the Year Abroad for Law and French Students

7. You will study 30 ECTS in Law modules and 30 ECTS in French. This applies to the three pathways:
 - a. Law Major, French Minor
 - b. Joint Law and French
 - c. French Major, Law Minor
8. 30 ECTS in Law modules must be provided by the Law Faculty in your host university. The Law modules can be taught in either English or French.
9. 30 ECTS in French must comprise of 5-10 ECTS of French language modules. For the remaining 20-25 ECTS, students can count any module taught through French. It can be a law module, or a module provided in a different department. The French Department recommends modules from 'Lettres modernes', History, or Philosophy, for those who wish to take non-language modules in French when they return to Trinity in Senior Sophister year.

Requirements for the Professional Legal Bodies

10. If you wish to apply to the Professional Legal Bodies after graduation, you must study **EU Law** and **Philosophy of Law** during your year abroad. The Law School provides a list of EU Law and Legal Philosophy modules taught in our partner universities which have been approved in the past as equivalent to EU Law and Legal Philosophy studied in Trinity for the purpose of gaining entry into the professional legal bodies. This list is circulated via email to students. Please note that the Law School cannot guarantee that the same modules will be available during your year abroad. You will need to check with your host university if the same modules are on offer during your year abroad.

11. If there are no pre-approved modules listed for a partner university, you need to find a module on offer in the university and send a module description to the Erasmus/Exchange Coordinator to law.exchange@tcd.ie for approval. If you would like the module(s) counted as the equivalent studied in Trinity for the purposes of gaining entry into the professional legal bodies, you will need to send a module outline to the Exchange Coordinator in Trinity.

12. If the Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate), in consultation with the Exchange Coordinator (and, where appropriate, module lecturers), deems the particular module taken abroad to be a satisfactory equivalent to the module in Trinity, the Law School can certify this to the King's Inns. Students must note, however, that the Law School cannot give any commitment to students that outside professional or other bodies will necessarily regard modules studied abroad as meeting those bodies' particular requirements. Students are therefore advised to check the requirements of particular professional bodies.

Your host university's restrictions and diplomas:

13. Trinity's requirements are distinct from any restrictions imposed or special programmes of study offered by your host university. **You must meet Trinity's requirements.**
14. It is possible that your host university may limit the subjects which they allow visiting students to take. In some cases, they may permit you to take a specific subject on condition that Trinity confirms that you are required or allowed to take this module, as the case may be.
15. Students may wish to take courses which lead to the award of a certificate or diploma offered by their host university. This is an added optional extra: Trinity does not require it. It is up to you to decide whether you are better devoting your time to the subjects which will count for your degree in Trinity or whether you would prefer to take on the other work needed to get a diploma. **The rules for that diploma do not apply to or replace the rules governing Trinity's requirements.** *For example, your host university might tell you that if you do the diploma, it means you can pass by compensation, but that provision would only apply for the purposes of their diploma; you must still pass your required subjects for Trinity for us to determine that you have passed the JS year abroad.*

Calculating your grade:

16. When calculating your final JS grade, Trinity will count the best 45 ECTS out of 60 ECTS using the following method:
- count the best 22.5 ECTS in Law modules
 - count the best 22.5 ECTS in French modules

This means we count your highest performing grades in each discipline when calculating your final JS grade.

17. You may avail of the opportunity to repeat exams if necessary, subject to the regulations of your host university. Repeat examinations are usually indicated on your transcript. Please notify the Law and French Coordinator if this issue arises. If a student does not pass the year abroad, they may be permitted to repeat the year in Trinity.
18. The Law School's Court of Examiners will convert your French marks into Trinity percentage-style marks in September after your return. The Court of Examiners has as its greatest priority the principle of fairness to all students in dealing with their grades. Conversion tables are provided to students while studying abroad. They are also available on the Law School Year Abroad website. Please note the current conversion scales may change under new TEP regulations for 2021/22.
19. The results obtained by each Law and French student in his or her Junior Sophister year in France will count for **30% of his or her overall degree grade**.

Contacts in the Law School and Academic Registry

Law and Language Coordinator	Caoimhin MacMaolain Email: law.exchange@tcd.ie
Erasmus Coordinator	Caoimhin MacMaolain (Academic queries) Email: law.exchange@tcd.ie Tel: 01 896 2587
International and Visiting Student Officer (Law School)	Celine Walsh (Administrative queries)

	Email: law.exchange@tcd.ie Tel: 01 896 2296
Academic Registry	Erasmus mobility grant queries Email: erasmus@tcd.ie

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