



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Trinity College Dublin Erasmus Policy Statement

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin (“Trinity”) is a globally connected community of learning, research, and scholarship, inspiring generations to meet the challenges of the future. We promote a diverse, interdisciplinary, inclusive environment which nurtures ground-breaking research, innovation, and creativity through engaging with issues of global significance.

Trinity is fully committed to the objectives of the Erasmus+ Programme and firmly believes that it is in the shared interest of all EU Member States to harness the full potential of education and culture as drivers for job creation, economic growth and improved social cohesion, as well as a means to experience European identity in all its diversity.

Likewise, as a research-intensive public university Trinity supports the realisation of the European Education Area and shares the vision for the European Union as an advanced knowledge-based society in which its universities will play a pivotal role. Trinity recognises that research inspired teaching and learning, training, youth and sport can make a major contribution to help tackle socio-economic changes, the key challenges that Europe faces and supports the implementation of the European policy agenda for growth, jobs, equity and social inclusion.

Through its continued participation in the Erasmus+ Programme, and building upon its long-established, strong, international links, Trinity primarily endeavours to achieve the objectives of its institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy. Trinity’s Global Relations Strategy (GRS3 2019-2024) recognises the vital importance of student mobility and sets the institution an ambitious target of 50% of undergraduate students undertaking a period of study (as per the definition of mobility adopted by the University’s Global Relations Council) overseas during their programme. Under the last University Strategic Plan (2014-2019) there was a strong focus on the renewal and modernisation of the Trinity Education, and particularly on the undergraduate curriculum. Now in the final Implementation and Mainstreaming phase, the Trinity Education Project (TEP) has recognised Global mobility as one of the seven key features that make a Trinity education distinctive. The University’s new Strategic Plan (2020-2025) entitled ‘Community and Connection’, reflects our conviction that, in an increasingly interdependent world, we need to continue to work collaboratively and in new ways to address the formidable challenges facing us and the education sector. Trinity’s Erasmus+ engagement strategy will take on board Programme changes including a broader perspective on mobility, more support for collaborative project participation, as well as strengthening our utilisation of the European University alliance (CHARM-EU). In addition, there will be linkages to the University’s Horizon Europe engagement strategy to drive out synergistic benefits

In its implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme, Trinity, undertakes the following:

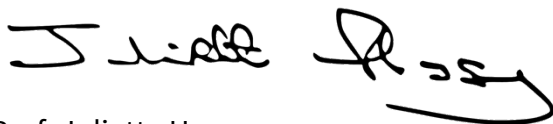
- In line with the policies it has developed relating to equality in compliance with its legal obligations and in the spirit of its longstanding commitment to equality and diversity, as evidenced by the recent appointment of Associate Vice Provost for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and the University's recognition at the Athena SWAN Awards for Advancing Gender Equality in Higher Education and Research, Trinity confirms it fully respects the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion set out in the Programme.
- Trinity will select mobile staff and students and award grants in a fair, transparent, coherent way that is documented on its website and handbooks. While ensuring equal and equitable access and opportunities to current and prospective participants from all backgrounds, Trinity will pay particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities. Indeed, the University has a long history of widening access and participation at third level of under-represented groups, as evidenced by the highly successful Trinity Access Programmes (TAP). The Erasmus Team, working and consulting with colleagues across the University from the relevant entities such as the Equality Office, the Diversity & Inclusion Office, the Trinity Centre for Gender Equality and Leadership, Trinity Teaching & Learning, the Trinity Disability Service, and Schools and Departments, will devise and publicise a strategy to promote mobility opportunities and provide supplementary support to those from groups with fewer opportunities for participation and usually under-represented in mobility programmes whether they are inbound or outbound participants. These supports include for example the provision of top-up grants and reasonable accommodations for specific student cohorts.
- Full, automatic, mutual recognition of all credits gained during a period of study abroad is ensured thanks to the full implementation of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System – ECTS. Trinity also makes every effort to provide the essential elements that are key to the success of student mobility such as the provision of an up-to-date course catalogue on the its website, learning agreements (including the use of the Online Learning Agreement), and Transcripts of Records. Recognition of learning outcomes follow a framework, that also details grade conversion, that is published on the University website.
- Trinity will not charge fees in the case of credit mobility, to incoming students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities. In certain cases, however, mobile students may be required to pay small fees such as insurance, student unions, use of the Sports Centre, or use of miscellaneous material such as photocopies, and laboratory products on the same basis as these are charged to local students at Trinity.
- The quality of mobility activities and of cooperation projects will be ensured throughout the application and implementation phases thanks to the provision of active institutional support for staff. In the preparation of applications guidance is offered by the Erasmus Team in following the quality standards defined in the ECHE for mobility and cooperation activities. The Erasmus team also provides support during and after the implementation phase of the mobility and cooperation projects. Furthermore, regular feedback received through participant reports from both incoming and outgoing participants is used to identify areas from

improvement. The University also commits to external monitoring, notably under the Higher Education Authority's Strategic Performance Framework and also by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI), the independent State agency responsible for promoting quality and accountability in education and training services in Ireland.

In implementing the Erasmus+ Programme, while following a continual improvement process, Trinity will pay particular attention to:

- Digital mobility management in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative and the Erasmus Without Paper network.
- Promote environmentally friendly practices in all activities related to the Programme, notably by encouraging sustainable means of travel to reduce the negative impact of mobility on the environment and linking mobility with the College Sustainability Policy.
- Continue to encourage the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities in the Programme with targeted promotion and information campaigns and the provision of supplementary supports.
- Promote civic engagement and encourage students and staff to get involved as active citizens before, during and after their participation in a mobility or project, with particular reliance on the Global Room, a space in the Watts Building is specifically designed to cater to students of Trinity, with a focus on the international student community, and Trinity's Global Ambassadors, team of current Trinity students trained to help with queries that may arise during the transition from an international student's home country to Ireland. Trinity's belief in open scholarship, university-enterprise and citizen engagement is physically embodied by the Science Gallery and is further evidenced by its membership of Campus Engage which is dedicated to supporting Irish higher education institutions to embed, scale and promote civic and community engagement across staff and student teaching, learning and research.
- Explore the concept of blended mobility to ensure flexibility and increased access to the Programme.

Mobility and international cooperation are vital components of higher education. As Ireland's leading research-intensive university, Trinity College Dublin, recognises the importance of continued active participation in the Erasmus+ Programme for its enduring success.



Prof. Juliette Hussey
Vice President for Global Relations

