

MILTON FRIEDMAN UNIVERSITY ERASMUS+ STRATEGY

The Milton Friedman University has been in the possession of the Erasmus Extended University Charter since the academic year of 2006/2007. By the academic year of 2020/2021, our university has had 49 institutional collaborations and 53 bilateral contracts.

We consider it important to strive continuously both to widen the circle of our professional and educational relationships and to form an institutional profile which meets the requirements of our staff and students. The variety of our partner institutions enables our outgoing scholars and students to study, research, attend training courses, and do traineeships in several different linguistic areas, thus helping them build an international network.

Carrying out the inter-institutional agreement begins with the initiative of the academic body. After first assessing the requirements as they relate to the students and the relevant education, we must assure that the agreement complies with the institution's degree programs and specializations.

Our Erasmus Office helps the outgoing students find the best target institution and prepare the Learning Agreement. Students are expected to earn 25-30 ECTS per semester. Before leaving, the students and coordinators compile the learning program, so the credits they have earned in the partner institute will be recognized more easily, thus avoiding later shortcomings. We consider it important to encourage our students to experience studying abroad. Besides developing their language skills and various talents, they can also learn to have more independence, which can be a defining factor when they enter the labor market.

It is important for us to contact institutions which are relevant for the academic field and professional work of our faculty members as well. We work to guarantee that they can spend their teaching periods in different language areas (English, German, Spanish, Italian, French, Hungarian, etc.).

The Milton Friedman University considers it important to take part in the Erasmus+ program, as internationalization is an inevitable part of modernization, which makes taking part in the educational market competitive and of full value.

To achieve the goals mentioned above, the Milton Friedman University is continually developing its international programs, endeavoring to find new possibilities for cooperation abroad. Besides, to strengthen the flow of information, our institute takes part in common

projects, research, and conferences on a regular basis. In the immediate future, Milton Friedman University intends to lay emphasis on digital, online forums and on creating opportunities for cooperative among between students. Thus, we will be able to open new avenues for utilizing the knowledge of ERASMUS students.

Preparation and Credit Recognition

Before travelling, all our outgoing students are assembled and be informed of the necessary preparations before beginning their studies abroad. With the support and coordination of the institution's and the faculty's ERASMUS coordinators, students' attention will be made aware of the tasks they must performed. The study program and the ECTS credits that may be obtained will be specified in the Learning Agreement. Upon successful completion, these credits are mandatory – for the Hungarian institute, the host institute, and the student as well. Together, the student and the coordinator check the courses to be taken abroad in order to make sure that they will fit into the student's study program.

The marks obtained in the partner institutions are recognized according to the following evaluation system:

- 5 (jeles) = A (excellent) – outstanding performance with only minor errors
- 4 (jó) = B (very good) – above average, but with some errors
- 3 (közepes) = C (average) – generally sound work with a notable number of errors
- 2 (elégséges) = D (poor) – performance meets the minimum criteria
- 1 (elégtelen) = F (failure) – considerable further work is required

The outgoing students' attention will be drawn to the fact that, for the recognition of their credits acquired abroad, they have to attach the required documents to their scholarship application. Hence, it is recommended to prepare them during the semester and send them in immediately after returning. In addition, we consider it important to inform our outgoing students about the learning environment of the host institution, and we organize meetings where former students of the different host institutions can share their experiences with the new candidates. The International Office, with the support of the Erasmus coordinator and former Erasmus students, helps students find accommodations as well. Before travelling,

students will also be made aware of the importance of the travel insurance, as well the necessity of constant communication.

Course Catalogue

To make it easier for our incoming students to take their courses, our course catalogue is updated and sent to the Erasmus Office of the host institutes 3-6 months before the beginning of every semester. The course catalogue includes the complete study program, the description of the subjects, a 14-week syllabus, and clearly defined learning outcomes.

Integration and Support of Incoming Students

In order to run a successful Erasmus program, it is essential to integrate students into the everyday life of the country and the university. For our incoming students, a guided bus tour is arranged, which helps them learn about Budapest and its cultural values. The Student Council traditionally arranges programs for the incoming students. The table-tennis championship, ruin pub crawls, and other free-time activities not only help incoming students become integrate, but also enable our students to meet their foreign fellow students. The integration process is performed by the International Office, together with a staff of Milton Friedman students, within the framework of a mentor program which includes supervision of the incoming students' learning program during the semester.

Impact of the Erasmus+ Program

We believe that, in the 21st century Europe, cross-border thinking and learning are indispensable components of an institute of higher education if it is to provide high-quality service. In this spirit, both the university's management and its staff give priority to the support and development of international mobility. In recent years, we have achieved several goals with the help of mobility programs, which contributed to the fact that our students became more competitive in the labor market of the European Union.

After completing the student and traineeship mobility programs, several of our students managed to get a full-time job at different multinational companies in Hungary or abroad due to their language skills. Incoming instructors taking part in the mobility program can also give lectures to our international Erasmus students. These courses do not only

broaden our knowledge and make the educational program more colorful, but also develop the students' language skills.

To help the incoming students systematize their preliminary knowledge, we offer them online courses to provide a transition to the courses they have selected. During their stay, Erasmus students are provided with an interactive collection of examples developed especially for independent learning. Also, if required, consultations are arranged in virtual classrooms to help them carry out their learning program.

Blended (or hybrid) learning helps to make the students' preparation for the labor market more interactive and lifelike. The Erasmus+ Strategy of Milton Friedman University welcomes students along with the values of the 21st century.

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