

SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities

Erasmus Policy Statement

1. Internationalization of studies at three levels: student mobility, academic staff mobility and administrative staff mobility is one of the elements of the development strategy of SWPS University. In 2012, SWPS University carried out substantial curricular reforms and restructured all degree programs, according to the principles of the Bologna process and national legislation on higher education.

In the framework of the Program, SWPS University strives to improve the curriculum development further, in terms of structures, systems and content, in cooperation with its EU and non-EU partners. Developing innovative and flexible learning environments is a particular area of interest for project collaboration, with the aim of enabling different groups of learners to proceed in their studies in an adaptable manner.

SWPS University seeks partner institutions of higher education in the area of the European Union. Selecting a partner is based on the following criteria:

- the institution holds the valid Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014 -2020
- the institution runs courses similar to courses offered by SWPS University
- courses are delivered in modern languages, in particular in English.

Outside of the European Union, SWPS University seeks partners according to the following criteria:

- the institution is a legally established Higher Education Institution, accredited by relevant authorities
- the institution runs courses similar or complementary to courses offered by SWPS University

- courses are run in modern languages, in particular in English.

Establishing relations with partner institutions is also effected through personal contacts of the members of academic staff who, thanks to their openness and mobility, expand the existing agreements to explore new areas of cooperation.

The main objective of SWPS University is to increase the number of outgoing students and to create a good offer for incoming students.

SWPS University applies the equal opportunities policy towards all Erasmus participants and facilitates integration of incoming students and academic community in Warsaw.

SWPS University charges no extra fees for taking part in the Program.

2. SWPS University shall integrate the program of the student, faculty and staff exchange according to the principles of the Erasmus Program, the Bologna Process and the relevant national legislation to ensure the highest quality of international academic mobility. In particular:
 - Ensuring transparent selection criteria,
 - Ensuring transparency in curriculum information and recognition (including applying the ECTS as the credit and transfer system)
 - Ensuring recognition and inclusion of the realized academic program into the students' curriculum (according to the Learning Agreement)
 - Providing incoming students with academic transcripts containing full information on the activities completed at SWPS University
 - Ensuring full recognition of teaching activities abroad as part of the academic career
 - Ensuring full recognition of training abroad as part of the staff development program.

3. Mobility of students and academic staff contributes to raising the quality of education. Thanks to its participation in the international programs, SWPS University not only strengthens the existing quality control mechanisms, but it also improves and changes its quality assurance processes, adjusting the education process to the highest international standards.

As per the MODERNIZATION AGENDA, participation in the Program would allow SWPS University to attract more students and therefore increase the number of university graduates. A graduate, who is also an Erasmus Program participant, is expected to be well-prepared to work in international environment, with people of various cultural and social backgrounds.

Furthermore, attending classes taught by teachers and business professionals from other countries and the opportunity to study in an international environment, improves students' professional, social and intercultural competencies. SWPS University's participation in international programs enhances university's prestige and attracts good students and active academic staff. Mobility of administrative staff, who attend international training events, provides an opportunity for exchange of ideas and good practice sharing.

In addition, the opportunities offered by the program strengthen research potential of the university's faculty, through knowledge and methodology exchange and by implementation of research results in modern and innovative business practices.

SWPS University strives to apply Erasmus program's best governance and financial management practices, by enabling exchange of good practices and cooperation with business and other European academic and research institutions.