

EXCHANGE and SEMESTER ABROAD Programs

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDDING MOBILITY DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

Only for students enrolled in the MASTER'S DEGREE of STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Deadline for submitting applications online:

Opening date: 06/06/2023 at 10 am

Closing date: 30/06/2023 at 5 pm

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Exchange and Semester Abroad programs allow students to spend one-semester/one-term mobility period for study purposes. Activities carried out abroad – previously approved by the IULM Academic Commission – will be registered in the student's career.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM: the payment of tuition fees to host universities is not required (some universities may require the payment of an exchange student administrative fee).

SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAM: the payment of tuition fees to host universities and IULM University is required. This programme includes fee-paying dual degrees.

Agreements implemented by IULM University regarding mobility for study purposes are indicated in the "**Destinations**" annex. Here you will find requisites for each destination, deadlines, and mobility periods. Please, consider that IULM University cannot modify the admission requirements of partner universities.

Before applying, each student has to carry out independent research to collect information about the various destinations by browsing the web pages of the partner universities to make a reasoned choice regarding the most suitable locations for their language level and their aspirations. In the Community, **TUTOR REPORTS** for some of the universities are available, i.e. short reports concerning partner universities, written by former students to describe their experience.

The full text of the call for applications, all destinations, instruction for applying and any updates can always be found in the section:

- **COMMUNITY IULM > categorie di corso, didattica e servizi > formazione, servizi, opportunità > Mobilità Internazionale – Study Abroad > Informazioni, bandi, regolamenti - Information, calls, regulations.**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be regularly enrolled in the first year of the degree course in Strategic Communication.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Having the language skills required by host universities is an essential requirement to be admitted to the ranking list (see "Destinations" annex).

The International Certification or the Language exemption form should be uploaded to the online application and will be verified when sorting the ranking list. Should adequate documentation be missing, the student won't be able to complete the application and s/he will be excluded from participating in the programs.

Where the destination sheet allows for the exemption of language certification, students should upload their self-certification of exemption, which can be downloaded from the Community.

Where host universities strictly require International Certifications, the language certificates must be attached to the application, are valid for two years, and must still be valid at the time of departure for the assigned destination. If not, they will not be considered eligible.

Students are asked to check carefully in the Destination Sheet for the eligibility conditions of the different available universities.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Warning. The application is unique for Erasmus, Exchange and Semester Abroad programs. It is important to verify:

- 1) that you meet the requirements for all destinations listed in the application by carefully reading the destination sheet.
- 2) whether the partner university requires payment of tuition fees (Semester Abroad Program) and the required amount.

Students can apply from their personal "Segreteria Online" webpage, under "Bandi di Mobilità".

Students interested in applying for the call for applications should:

1. choose up to 5 university destinations from those available in the Erasmus, Exchange and Semester Abroad programs, checking any restrictions listed in the Destination Sheet (language level required, international language certifications necessary for admission etc.).
2. enter your chosen destinations in the Application **by listing them in strict order of preference.**
3. upload the International Certification or Language exemption form in the Application. Be sure to upload the required language certifications for all destinations entered.
4. download the application submission receipt.

RANKINGS

The ranking is based on **MERIT**, that is, on the academic results officially recorded in the student's career in terms of "average of grades + percentage of achievement" (see table below). The ranking will be processed at the end of the second 2023 exam session when careers are updated, i.e. after the student administration office has verbalized all exams taken by the 2022-23 second session, ending on 05.07.2023. Exams taken but not verbalized, midterm tests and partial exams do not count in calculating the ranking. It is the student's specific responsibility to check his or her career online, report any mismatches to the **Student Administration Office**, and request updates.

RANKING SCORE COMPOSITION

Students enrolled in the 1 st year of a Master's Degree
50% → Percentage of achievement I.e. number of ECTS acquired out of maximum achievement
50% → Percentage of merit I.e. average of recorded grades measured by 30/30

DESTINATION AWARDING

The score and the resulting ranking of the student are **automatically calculated by the Application platform** based on the data recorded in the career. **The system also automatically awards the destination based on the ranking, the number and order of preferences indicated by the applicant, and availability of the places.** Should two students have the same score and it is not possible to grant a destination to both of them, the tie-breaker will be the final undergraduate degree mark/grade.

The system does not award destinations if students have not listed them among their preferences, even if they are residual.

Students are therefore invited to enter as many preferences as possible (for a maximum of 5), consistent with the language requirements they possess, and, at the same time, NOT to enter destinations that they do not intend to accept if they turn out to be assignees.

The management of the process is fully automated; therefore, students should be very careful when entering both destinations and their order of preference since once the application is closed, it will not be possible to change the choices indicated.

IULM University checks in advance that the academic programs offered by the host universities are suitable for the corresponding Study Plan of their Degree Course. However, in the event of substantial changes in the academic programs offered by IULM or the partner not yet known at the time of publication of the call for applications, the destination may be modified in itinere in agreement with the student.

Some partner universities can confirm available courses approximately one month before the start of the semester.

It should be noted that the final acceptance of the student is at the discretion of the host university, following the application submitted by the student within the deadlines that will be communicated later.

PUBLICATION OF RANKINGS

Unless the date changes due to technical reasons, the rankings will be published on:

Friday July 14th 2023 - 5 pm

Students will be able to view their assigned destinations by accessing their personal "Segreteria Online" webpage, under "Bandi di Mobilità"; to accept/reject the destinations they will have to click on it.

No personal communication will be sent to the assignees – applicants must independently check their assigned destination and accept or reject it, strictly by the deadline.

The ranking results will also be published in Community.

For universities demanding a specified average, this must be maintained until application at the host university.

DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING OR REJECTING THE ASSIGNED DESTINATION: FRIDAY, 21st JULY 2023 – 5 pm

- Missing acceptance/withdrawal from the assigned destination by the deadline is permanent; it will not be possible to reclaim missed acceptances for any reason.
- Unaccepted destinations are automatically reassigned by the system to eligible applicants.
- Should the eligible applicant withdraw or miss acceptance by the stated deadline, he/she will be automatically replaced by the first **eligible not-awarded candidate** on the ranking list.
- In case of late withdrawal (after acceptance), the destination of the withdrawer will be assigned **exclusively** to the first **eligible not-awarded candidate** according to the ranking list. Places withdrawn **will not be reassigned** to students already awarded with other destinations. Reassignments of late withdrawals will be carried out following the timelines and administrative deadlines of the universities involved.

VISAS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Students need to research independently and in advance the legal procedures to be completed to stay in the chosen country (entry visa, any required vaccinations, and medical examinations). Also note that many countries require that students provide specific guarantees regarding their economic status, which must be adequate to ensure their livelihood during the mobility period, according to the standards set by the local government. **The Mobility Office is in no way responsible for any withdrawal in itinere, due to the lack of the requirements or legal documents to be able to stay in the chosen country.**

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- **IULM GRANT:** IULM will give all Exchange Program assignees a flat-rate contribution of € 700.
- **FONDO SOSTEGNO GIOVANI – MUR:** The Ministry of University and Research supports international student mobility (DM 29.12.14 NR 976) with additional funds that are allocated to Italian universities. The allocation is for all mobility programs. The allocated amounts will be distributed according to ministerial dispositions not yet known at the time of the publication of the call. The ministerial tables will be published on Community as soon as they are officially released by the ministry.
To be eligible for these grants, students must submit the ISEE declaration **by October 31, 2023**. Further instructions will be provided and published in Community.
Grant payment depends on the recognition of at least one IULM exam (6 CFUs) for each semester of mobility; any exceptions will be accepted only based on proven reasons.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAM – DUAL DEGREES

- The program is not eligible for the mobility grants allocated by the MUR, but according to the “University Fees and Contributions Regulations for the Academic Year 2023/24”, “*Students who in the academic year 2023/2024 will participate in a Dual Degree program, for which a contribution is to be paid to the foreign partner university, are granted partial exemption of 50% (fifty) on the university tuition fees due for the academic year 2023/2024, regardless of the assigned contribution bracket.*”

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAM – SEMESTER MOBILITY

- Students participating in a semester mobility will receive a scholarship of 1.500 euros overall.

BORSE INTEGRATIVE REGIONALI (REGIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS): IULM RIGHT TO STUDY OFFICE

Students applying for the 2023/24 regional scholarship at the IULM Fees, Contributions, and Right to Study Office may apply concurrently for an additional regional “Supplementary Grant for International Mobility”. Therefore, interested students are invited to contact the appropriate office - email: dirittoallostudio@iulm.it.

COMMUNICATIONS

For the entire duration of the mobility program, email communications between the office and the students should be made exclusively through the following email addresses:

For the Mobility Office: studyabroad@iulm.it

For the student: the IULM institutional address (nome.cognome@studenti.iulm.it).

The use of personal e-mail addresses is not permitted. All students are required to activate their @studenti.iulm.it e-mail address before completing the online application and to often check this e-mail box.

The Mobility Office will not be responsible for any inconveniences or delays in communication if students do not regularly check their @studenti.iulm.it e-mail box and the IULM Community.

DATA PROTECTION

All personal data transmitted by applicants with the application for participation in the Exchange program are processed under EU Reg. 2016/679.

Participation in the Call implies acceptance of the privacy policy; the text of the specific privacy policy for participation in international mobility calls is available on the IULM website at the following link: https://bit.ly/IULM_mobintprivacy

AMENDMENTS

These regulations may be subject to change in the process. Available destinations may also change as a result of unexpected problems at the partner universities or in the respective countries (substantial changes in the partners' educational offerings, force majeure, security issues, unforeseeable events) or the signing of new agreements. Any changes will be communicated and made known through the IULM Community.

BEFORE LEAVING

After the finalization of acceptances, the Mobility Office will schedule **information meetings** reserved for assignees.

All necessary procedures for enrollment at the host university and recognition of exams taken abroad upon return will be clarified in these meetings. Destination assignment does not imply automatic enrollment at the host university; in fact, the student must follow the indicated application procedures and be accepted by the foreign university.

The candidate found eligible to participate in the program must formalize the Learning Agreement before leaving. This is the study contract between the student, home university, and destination university. It establishes the criteria for the recognition of activities carried out abroad and is agreed upon in advance. Full recognition of all activities carried out abroad with profit is guaranteed as long as they are agreed upon in advance and included in the Learning Agreement.

Master's degree students may only take courses that are listed as post-graduate or master's degrees in the host university unless otherwise approved by the academic committee.

COSTS CHARGED TO STUDENTS

Students must pay the costs of travel, food, and accommodation during their stay abroad. The Mobility Office will not provide any instruction in this regard: the logistical arrangements are entirely managed by the student himself/herself. It is entirely at the discretion of the host university to offer support in finding accommodation.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

The student benefits from civil liability and accident insurance coverage during the stay abroad, limited to the period of academic activities and in compliance with the legal and administrative provisions of the home and host countries. The University has signed Civil Liability insurance with QBE EUROPE SA/NV Company: policy no. 0740000026 and Accident Insurance with GENERALI Italia Company (formerly INA Assitalia) - policy no. 360029587 - Master Policy 350036808.

We also strongly suggest the outgoing student to subscribe health insurance coverage for the period he/she will spend abroad.

IULM University has signed an agreement with AON Insurance Company for students who wish to purchase a supplementary policy covering health care, travel, and accommodation: <https://www.aonstudentinsurance.com/students/it/>.

UNIVERSITY FEES AND OBLIGATIONS

All students must be compliant with the payment of university fees in Italy and maintain enrollment during the mobility year. In any case, each student will have to regularly comply with the procedures, deadlines, and obligations provided by IULM University: for example, pay the tuition fees for the academic year 2023-2024, fill out the Individual Study Plan by entering the elective educational activities, etc.

Payment of fees to the partner university is required for Semester Abroad program destinations. In some cases, partner universities included in the Exchange program may charge an administrative fee.

PAYMENT OF THE GRANT

All financial contributions to which the student is entitled will be paid exclusively to the bank account associated with the Ateneo + Card; assignees are required to immediately activate the Card at the Banca Popolare di Sondrio. No transfers will be made to different bank accounts.

UPON RETURN

At the end of the mobility period, students are required to submit to the Mobility Office all the necessary documentation for recognition purposes (Certificate of Arrival/Departure, Learning Agreement and later changes in their originals duly signed by the partner university, Transcript of Records or other official certificates of exams taken abroad). The Mobility Office, after appropriate verifications of the documentation submitted to the partners, will proceed with the recognition practice which, upon acceptance by the student, will be subsequently ratified by the Faculty Council. The grades of exams taken abroad are converted into thirtieths, according to the tables ratified by the Academic Senate. It will be the student's right to decline the recognition of an examination taken abroad; the refusal of recognition of an activity taken abroad is permanent and irrevocable. Only one recognition practice will be processed for each student upon return; partial or incomplete recognition practices will not be issued for any reason.

Students on mobility in the second semester can graduate starting from the November session.

TYPES OF MOBILITIES

- Semester (or one term) mobility

Students will spend a period equal to one academic semester at the host university, taking exams related to the semester attended.

- Dual degrees

Cardiff Metropolitan University

Qualification: **Master's Degree in International Business Management**

The students of the MSc in Strategic Communication can attend two semesters at the School of Management of the Cardiff Metropolitan University, obtaining, after passing 50 CFU/ECTS (100 UK credits), a Master's Degree in International Business Management and attain a "Merit and Distinction" assessment.

Those who will complete their credits getting a full Master's Degree, in November 2024 will be required to discuss the results of a research project/work in a dissertation defense session in Cardiff according to the modalities that shall be indicated.

Semester's start: January/February 2024

Requirements:

- IELTS language certificate with an average score of 6.0, with no sub score lower than 5.5 (or its equivalent).
- *Places available: 15*
- *Tuition Fees to be paid directly to Cardiff Metropolitan University: 5.500 £ (to be confirmed for 2023/24)*

University of Huddersfield

Qualification: **Postgraduate Certificate in Marketing Communication**

The students of the **MSc in Strategic Communication** can attend one semester at the University of Huddersfield, obtaining, after passing 30 CFU/ECTS (60 UK credits), a Postgraduate Certificate in Marketing communication.

Semester's start: January/February 2024

Requirements:

- IELTS language certificate with an average score of 6.0 with no sub score lower than 5.5 (or its equivalent).
- Applicants should preferably hold a bachelor degree in Business or Marketing.
- *Places available: 15*
- *Tuition Fees: cost for two modules £ 4,667 (to be confirmed for 2023/24).*

University of Western Australia

Qualification: **Graduate Certificate of Strategic Communication**

On completing three semesters (1.5 years) of IULM's Master of Strategic Communication, students will articulate into the Graduate Certificate of Strategic Communication at the University of Western Australia (UWA) and will complete 24 points of study (0.5 year) to complete their Masters study.

Semester's start: End of February 2024

Requirements:

1. Academic: successful completion of three semesters (1.5 years) of study in the Master of Strategic Communication program at IULM with a GPA of at least 22/30, which is equivalent to a UWA Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of 60%.
 2. English Language Competency:
IELTS Minimum overall score of 6.5 with no band less than 6.0 (must include Academic Reading and Writing modules)
TOEFL: An overall score of 82 with a minimum score of: 22 in the Writing section; 18 in the Reading section; 20 in the Speaking section; and 20 in the Listening section
- *Places available: 5*
 - *Tuition Fees: AUD 18,200 (to be confirmed for 2023/24).*

More information at: Study Abroad Office

e-mail: studyabroad@iulm.it

Phone: 02/891412345-2383

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