

European Master of Science in Marine Environment and Resources

Services - Summary report

MER Consortium



MER SECRETARIAT

R&D CENTRE FOR EXPERIMENTAL
MARINE BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
(PLENTZIAKO ITSAS ESTAZIOA; PIE-UPV/EHU)

UNIVERSIDAD DEL PAIS VASCO
/EUSKAL HERRIKO UNIBERTSITATEA

AREATZA Z/G, E-48620 PLENTZIA-BIZKAIA
BASQUE COUNTRY (SPAIN)

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A Joint MSc Programme (120 ECTS)

MER MSc is a Joint European MSc programme aimed to form multidisciplinary graduates of transverse research profile, by attracting highly qualified and motivated students from around the world into a fully integrated world class EU MSc programme.

The MER MSc programme gives students competences and skills to develop their marine career in the following fields:

- Integrated coastal zone management
- Protection of marine and estuarine environments
- Adaptation to global climate change
- Assessment of marine ecosystem health
- Conservation of biodiversity and natural heritage
- Management of fisheries and other marine resources

Both staff exchange and student mobility are promoted under a balanced ECTS scheme. Every student must spend at least 30 ECTS each in three different Partner Universities.

Successful students will achieve a MSc degree (120 ECTS) awarded by the three Partner Universities, through which the studies have been undertaken; in recognition of the MER Joint MSc Programme offered by the four Partner Universities.





UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

University of Southampton (SOTON) – www.soton.ac.uk -

Support for international students

Living and studying in a different country has its own, unique challenges. We have a network of professional services and advisors in place, to ensure that your studies are as productive and stress-free as possible.

General queries

Our [International Office team](#) travels overseas regularly to meet potential students in their home countries. We can advise you, for example, about the application process, English language and academic entry requirements and the choice of accommodation. We liaise with International Student Societies and we keep in contact with our Alumni in foreign countries.

Administration

The [Students Services Centre](#) is the first point of contact for enrolment, tuition fees, accommodation and registering for the graduation ceremonies. Trained staff are on hand daily to answer any questions you may have.

Health and support

As an international student, you are guaranteed free access to the UK's National Health Service (NHS) as long as your visit is longer than six months. [Read more about accessing health services in the UK](#). You will normally register with a [local doctor](#) during the [International Welcome](#), before the start of your course. Students are also encouraged to register at an NHS dental practice. Please check the [National Health Service](#) website to search for a dentist service in your local area.

The [Students' Union Advice Centre](#) offers free and confidential advice regarding any matter affecting everyday student life. We also have a dedicated [Counselling Service](#).

Immigration and visas

Our [Visa Guidance Team](#) are trained to assist international students with their visas and other immigration related processes.

Working

Current immigration rules allow international students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week in part time employment. Our Temporary Job Agency, called the '[Temp Bank](#)', offers part time temporary positions at the University.

The [University Visa Guidance Team](#) can advise students about the possibility of remaining in the UK after graduation, under the current immigration rules.

Our [Career Destinations](#) department has a full database of job vacancies, and can provide advice on CVs, interview techniques and career prospects. This service is available to all University of Southampton students.

Language Skills

The [Centre for Language Study](#) offers English language courses and assistance with academic skills. It is also a recognised IELTS Testing Centre and it teaches a wide range of other languages as well as English. The Students' Union also offers dedicated [English support](#) lessons for international students, University staff and their partners.

Safety

Southampton is a multicultural and safe environment but, like in any big city, you should follow some general rules. You will find some useful information in the [safety advice](#) guidelines from the Students' Union, our [Community website](#) and in the British Council publication "[Comfort Zone](#)".

Practising your religion

The University is a diverse community with staff and students from many different faiths. The [Chaplaincy](#) is open every weekday for regular services and private prayer and there is a separate Muslim prayer room in the main campus.

Clubs and Societies

The Students' Union has more than 100 societies organised around international communities, sport activities, religious groups, hobbies and many other interests. You can join an existing society, or create your own.

Freshers Week

Freshers Week is organised at the beginning of academic year. There is a variety of events to get involved in as well as advice about settling in, and information about our wide range of student societies and clubs from the [student union](#). We encourage students to join societies outside of study to facilitate teamwork, develop social networks, and other employable qualities.

International and Religious Societies

We have close links with the following International Societies:

International Student Organisation	Greek and Cypriot Society	Pakistani Students Society
AIESEC	Indonesian Society	Persian Students Society
Asian Cultural Society	Italian Society	Polish Society (PolSoc)
African and Caribbean Society	Japanese Society	Pre-Sessional Society
Azerbaijani Student Society	Kazakhstan Society	Romanian
Bruneian	Korean Students Society	Singapore Society
Canadian Society	Lithuanian	Sri Lankan Society
Chinese Student Society	Malaysian Students Association	Taiwanese Society
Chinese Student & Scholars Association	Mauritian Society	Thai Society
Cymru Soc	Mexican Students Society	Turkish Society
Erasmus Society	Middle Eastern Student Society	Vietnamese Society
	Nordic Society	

There are also religious societies that welcome international students, for example:

Abrahamic Monotheistic	Atheist Society	Islamic Society
African Caribbean Christian Fellowship	Catholic Society	Israel-Jewish Society
Alpha Society	Christian Union	Krishna Consciousness
	Hindu Society	Student Christian Movement
		The Sikh Society

The [Students' Union Societies Directory](#) offers a full list of all societies. Joining a Club or Society is a great way to meet other people with the same interests and an easy way of making friends.

Friends International Southampton

[Friends International Southampton](#) is a Christian charity welcoming students of all faiths and nationalities. It puts international students in contact with local people, and distributes information about international events taking place in Southampton.

Portuguese Language Cafe at the Avenue Campus

The Portuguese Language Cafe was launched in 2009 at the Avenue Campus, providing an informal setting in which to talk in Portuguese with native and non-native speakers and to learn about each other's cultures. Language Cafes are the ideal forum for those who want to keep in touch with languages and through languages but who cannot commit to regular attendance at classes, or for those who want more practice in order to quickly improve their language skills. For more details contact Jaine Beswick on jb14@soton.ac.uk

You have two options for your accommodation during your time at Southampton: University accommodation and private rented accommodation.

Accommodation

You have two options for your accommodation during your time at Southampton: University accommodation and private rented accommodation.

University accommodation

As an international student, you will have a guaranteed offer of accommodation in our Halls of Residence during your first year of study if:

- You meet the terms of your offer of a place to study
- You normally live outside Southampton
- You are unaccompanied (i.e. you do not bring any dependants such as a partner and/or children with you)
- You have applied by the 1st August deadline in the same year that your studies begin - Please note that if you miss this deadline you will be put on waiting list and we will not be able to guarantee an offer of a room, so make sure that you apply on time!

Please note that, for students joining us in 2012, to maintain your guarantee as a current student in the following years, you will need to re-apply for accommodation at University Halls. We will notify you of the specific closing date for applications in good time (normally in January). For full details please see the Accommodation.

If you are an undergraduate from the European Union your accommodation is guaranteed for the first year of your studies only, as long as you adhere to the other guarantee criteria (above). This guarantee does not apply to Postgraduate European Union students, visiting and Erasmus students, although the Accommodation Service will always do its best to help you. If we are unable to accommodate you in Halls, we can provide advice and guidance on renting accommodation in the Private Sector.

Private Rented Accommodation

The Accommodation Service can help you to find private rented accommodation in Southampton and Winchester as well as lodgings and bed and breakfast accommodation.

We also produce a guide alongside the Students' Union with essential advice on private renting. This is available from the Accommodation Service and is normally published in December. We can also provide a regularly updated list of housing vacancies, a list of letting agencies and a list of local hotels and guesthouses.

If you wish to find your own accommodation, we recommend that you visit the University to discuss your needs with the Accommodation Service and view properties in person before you start your course. You should arrive well in advance of the International and EU Student Welcome Programme so that you have enough time to find accommodation beforehand.

You should also read information on our website about Private Rented Housing before starting your search for Private Rented Accommodation. We strongly advise you not to enter into a tenancy agreement without reading this vital information.

Further details are available from the Accommodation Service team:

Tel: +44 (0) 23 8059 5959

Website: www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation

Mature students

We offer some accommodation for mature students accompanied by their families but cannot guarantee this. If family accommodation is unavailable from the University, the Accommodation Service will provide advice and guidance to assist you in finding a place in the private rented sector. In these cases we advise that you should arrive in advance and only bring the rest of your family to Southampton when relevant accommodation has been arranged.

All-unied.com

All-unied.com is a company that can deliver a starter pack of all essentials needed when you move into a Hall of Residence. This would save you from carrying them with you or having to go shopping as soon as you arrive in Southampton. Visit their website or download their leaflet to find out more. Please note that All-unied.com is a private company not connected to the University of Southampton.

Living costs

If you are unaccompanied, the cost of living (in addition to tuition fees and travel to and from Southampton) is usually between £7,200 and £8,800 per academic year.

This should cover accommodation, food and meals, daily travel in Southampton, books, stationery, dissertation preparation and other items. Some courses may require an extra expense for material, use of laboratory equipment and final project.

The following table gives you an idea of the approximate cost of common items that you may need to pay for during your student life:

Part time work

Your student visa will allow you to work up to 20 hours per week during term time. Part time work can provide you with extra money for leisure activities but it should not interfere with your studies. Our temporary job agency, called the '[Temp Bank](#)', offers part time temporary positions at the University.

Visas and immigration

Before you come to study in the UK it is important that you find out about UK immigration procedures and how they will affect you. You should do this as far in advance of your arrival in the UK as possible.

Further information on immigration and visa application procedures

- Our [Visa Guidance Team](#) offers free and confidential advice to all our international students.
- [UK Border Agency](#): a joint Home Office and Commonwealth Office unit which runs the UK's visa service through diplomatic post overseas.
- [UKCISA UK Council for International Student Affairs](#): gives advice on immigration procedures as well as on funding and fees status issues.
- [UK Embassies overseas](#): links to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's list of British Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates overseas.
- [The British Council](#) overseas branches.
- Our [overseas representatives](#)

International and EU Student Welcome Programme

The Meet and Greet Service and Welcome Programme is designed to help you settle into life at the University and in the UK before your studies begin. An online booking form for both the Meet and Greet and Welcome Programme will be available here in early June so please re-visit this web page to book your place. If you would like to find out more details, please email: welcome@soton.ac.uk

Accommodation Application: Accommodation during the welcome programme can be provided for students who have been made and accepted an offer of term-time accommodation. For details please visit: Accommodation
Student ID Cards: Pre-session language course students - please contact the course coordinator for an application form

Key information

If you would like to find out if we have any place available for welcome programme, please email: welcome@soton.ac.uk



University of Bordeaux (UB1) – www.u-bordeaux1.fr

International Office

Wishing to participate actively in the construction of the European Union and the European Higher Education and Research and its action in a context of trade globalization, the University Bordeaux 1 will continue to play a role forefront of the European and international level by: extending its network of partner universities (over 136), its involvement in key official programs (Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, pre-IGERT for USA, CREPUQ for Quebec ...), in many networks International Ph.D (Colleges Doctoral Franco-Japanese co-supervision ...) and the development of a training offer in partnership with European universities (including double and triple degrees at the Masters).

The University Bordeaux 1 offers cultural and professional experience with over 300 international students a Bordeaux while increasing its attractiveness to foreign students (over 10% of its student body).

The university continues to transfer its know-how, to intensify its actions by exporting engineering teaching to vocational training courses or kinds IUT IUP to countries seeking short courses (Mexico, Argentina, Thailand, African countries), to participate restructuring of Higher Education of Eastern Europe (Romania, Russia) including the establishment of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) to facilitate their future partnerships with European universities.

The university sets up joint degrees / multiple Masters and Doctorate level, based on research networks and training systems in particular from the experience of Erasmus Mundus and Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window.

Its strong participation in programs of integrated actions (PAI with Europe, CMCU with Tunisia, CMEP with Algeria, COFECUB for Brazil, Ecos-North and South for the other Central American countries and South ...) but also its involvement in European research programs and Technological Development (FP) that allowed him to get the label "Marie Curie Host Site" (e.g., Chemistry) for training and research doctoral candidates as well as coordination of European Networks of Excellence (REX), its role in the creation of French-Japanese doctoral colleges or Franco-Tunisian ... prove that the research conducted at the University Bordeaux 1 is recognized worldwide for its quality.

Before arrival

Foreign students must have completed certain steps in order to provide to register for the first time in a French university. These steps are performed in the country of residence, with the French authorities through Spaces Campus France.

Passport

You must have a passport issued in your country. For nationals of the European Union, the European Economic Area and the Helvetic Confederation, an identity card is sufficient.

Visa

The International relations Office is used to deal with visa/residence permit issues and incoming procedures for foreign students and more particularly for Erasmus Mundus students. As soon as the student is accepted, the international relations office contact the student to give him/her support with all the administrative procedures: individual and close accompaniment regarding visa issue from the acceptance to the arrival of the student and during all his/her stay (acceptance letters, support to fill in the templates + following of students' embassies meetings ; answer to embassies demands + information sent to national agency (2e2f) to prevent any problem...)

Estimate of the average budget for a student arriving

Monthly Budget: € 700 per month

First month of arrival: € 1 800

Financial Aid

You may qualify for different types of scholarships, including your government, the French government grants are sometimes awarded (contact the Embassy of France).

Accommodation

If you want a university residence accommodation, you must make your request by logging into the website of the CROUS until 30 April of the year. However, the limited space does not accommodate all newcomers. In the case of a negative response, it behooves you to take the necessary steps to find a home away from home university under certain conditions, the device KEY Aquitaine Regional Council of Aquitaine can help you with your relationship with your landlord.

The CROUS of Bordeaux offers accommodation in dormitories. In youth residences, the rent varies depending on the type of housing. (T1 and a T1, T3 and T5). In 2009/2010, the rent for a furnished room is 133 € individual. The request is made via the CROUS website.

Housing in town

The CROUS provides student housing ads from private owners. Ads are available on the CROUS website. There must be an expenditure of 300 € to 400 € (room or studio).

Restoration

Bordeaux University students have access, on presentation of student card, to university restaurants of Bordeaux and on campus and the many cafeterias managed by the CROUS.

Restaurants

RU 1: Avenue Prevost, academic field TALENCE - Tram B stop Arts and Crafts
 UK 2: 11 Avenue Pey Berland, Pessac academic field - Tram B stop Montaigne-Montesquieu
 UK 3: Avenue Camille Jullian, academic field PESSAC - Tram B stop Montaigne-Montesquieu
 Cap'U: 15 rue Jules Guesde BORDEAUX - Tram B stop Victory
 Bore: 146 rue Léo Saignat, Campus Carreire BORDEAUX - A Tram Pellegrin
 Bastide: 15 avenue Abadie, BORDEAUX - A Tram stop Botanical Garden

Cafeterias

Saucer: Building A22, tram stop Bethany B
 Ester Avenue Prevost, tram stop B Arts and Crafts

Transport**RSSTrain**

To go on campus when arriving at the Gare Saint Jean:

The Aquitaine student card allows any student under 26 years of age to receive a 50% discount on journeys to place of study and 25-50% of the entire network TER Aquitaine (25% weekday, 50% on weekends, holidays and July / August).

Bus - Tram

For students under 28 years, the annual subscription Pass'jeune is 176.40 € or 14.70 € per month and allows free movement across the network, and access to park and ride lots.

Tram plan TALENCE**Bike**

Spaces are provided at several locations on campus to park bicycles. The city of Bordeaux offers free rental bike on presentation of student card, proof of address and a deposit of 150 €.

Car

The campus offers many opportunities for parking.

Health - social

The health and social development is an important element in the lives of students, especially to give you every chance of success in your studies.

Students aged 16 to 28 years are required to join the student social security - except in special cases related to the occupation of parents for students under 20 or 21 employees or students. As employees the student social security contributions may be supplemented by membership in a mutual complementary to cover medical expenses beyond the ceiling for Social Security. Unless exceptional arrangements, the student who reaches his 20 years in the academic year must pay the student social security (200 € in 2010/2011).

Cover is effective from October 1 of the enrollment year to 30 September the following year.

First aid - Preventive Medicine

RSS Infirmary can provide first emergency actions and also conducts collective actions of health promotion.

There are two possibilities for the reception of students on campus: Social Service of preventive medicine and student health and service of the CROUS office .

Inter Service of Preventive Medicine and Health Promotion (SIUMPPS)

It allows all students to benefit from:

- Nursing
- Consultations with a dietician
- Talks on contraception, sexuality with a midwife
- Consultations for sports (certificate of no cons to the practice of sports including risk sports: marathon, scuba diving, martial arts ...)
- Medical consultations by appointment (third-party payment, no fees to advance): general medicine, gynecology, smoking cessation, acupuncture, dermatology, endocrinology, nutrition, sports medicine
- Interviews with a social worker of SIUMPPS)
- Medical consultations in the framework of development studies and surveys to handicap situations
- Interviews with a nurse in the psychiatric sector, consultations with a psychologist
- Workshops and sessions for relaxation, stress management, discussion groups and writing ...

The SIUMPPS also offers collective actions of health prevention and supports the projects of Student Associations.

Culture - Sports - Recreation

Cultural activities

The University offers students a range of activities to enrich their studies and broaden their horizons. Cultural action, brought by the Cultural Service (SC), developing a policy of campus activities for university life more lively, festive and creative, but also an open door policy of the University on the city by the diffusion scientific and technical knowledge to the general public.

Cultural activities:

- Workshops
- Festivals, Shows and Exhibitions
- Cine-Club
- The Créa'tudes: festival of student creations

Sports

The University department of sport and physical activity (SUAPS) from the University of Bordeaux 1 oversees 25 activities but nearly fifty are offered throughout the university campus, as well as evenings and sports internships (snowboarding, skiing, surfing, dancing ...)

Framed in a sports card

Students can engage in personal training (not rated) but also integrate sport into their courses in skills training (EU Students may participate in academic competitions (French University Sports Federation).

Students can freely practice activity: swimming niches, booking tennis court, squash ...

Note

The athletes benefit from specific support throughout their academic career, thanks to the devices of the Cell Phase.

Scientific and technical culture

- Coffee Science
- Film discussions
- Conferences
- Knowledge Dissemination

Action schools and young audiences

- Science festival
- Scientific Discovery Days

Student projects

The solidarity fund student initiatives (FSDIE) allows the realization of innovative projects presented by the student associations of the University Bordeaux 1. The project goal is to promote interest in student life, promote community life on campus, improve service to students, promote academic achievement and employability. FSDIE meetings are chaired by the Vice-President of the studies and university life at a rate of three meetings per year.

Campus radio

Campus Radio - 88.1 FM - a radio station is managed by an inter-university board and an office, funded by PRES, Crous and Support Fund for non-commercial community radio stations (FSER), known for its usefulness in setting enhancement of academic activities. Open, everyone can find a way to free expression: universities, students, teachers and researchers, but also local cultural life, science, local associations, alternative theater or popular music creation and many other areas. As a public service radio station, it is also a training tool open to students who wish to make an introductory course in radio skills.

Foreign students

A good command of French is essential to be able to follow all forms of science teaching (lectures, practicals, tutorials). For students from non-francophone, placement tests in French are required to enter Grade 1 license.

A specific framework is provided to students of 1st year: home teaching by tutors at the start, contact and individual attention throughout the year with an academic advisor.

The English language as a tool science is also needed. Specific courses are set up for students who have not had the practice of English .

Information concerning the practical life of a foreign student in France (housing, budget, work) is provided by the CROUS.

International students entering the University Bordeaux 1 within an exchange program European or international (ERASMUS, ECW, CREPUQ) or an agreement of partnership are supported by the International Relations Directorate (ICD) .

Top athletes, disabled students, established artists ...

Cell PHASE is for students with special needs requiring adaptation to schooling: students sporting high or low level , students with disabilities and / or prolonged illness , students experienced artists , students elected in the councils of the University , student employees, students with families ...

It allows them to reconcile the courses at the University Bordeaux 1 with an intense activity outside the university. It offers a personalized promoting the project's professional student.

Associations

Student associations are an essential part of the dynamism of a university. They cover various fields of activity: industry associations, cultural, sports, solidarity actions, allowing each to join a collective approach based on a project. Involvement in an association is a great way to integrate into the life of the University.

The University Bordeaux 1 encourages students to become involved.

A student organization is created under the provisions of the 1901 Act. The Office of Student Life (OVE), contact for student organizations at a Bordeaux, can help them in their endeavors.

List of Student Associations of the University Bordeaux 1:

- Department of Mathematics and Computer
- Department of Physics
- Faculty of Chemistry
- Faculty of Biological Sciences
- Faculty of Earth Sciences and the Sea

- IUT Bordeaux 1
- Cross-sectional associations

Jobs at the University Bordeaux 1

The University Bordeaux 1 offers its students jobs, according to the Decree 2007-1915 of 26 December 2007 on the student employment policy .

These jobs fall into one of eight categories provided by Decree:

- Home students
- Assistance and support for disabled students
- Tutoring
- Computer support and assistance in using new technologies
- Support service for library staff
- Cultural activities, scientific, sporting and social
- Save the employability
- Promotion of training opportunities

Jobs outside

To find a job during the academic year or during vacations, word of mouth remains the most effective way: friends, family, neighbors, acquaintances ... The CROUS and CIJA are good providers of jobs students during the year . A more conventional way is to proceed to the job center (formerly NEPA), a key player in employment in France.

Tenders may also be published in the " job "Site of Bordeaux 1. For a summer job is the same approach but it is necessary to start looking as early as January. During the summer , temporary employment agencies (Manpower, Adecco, and InterPro Crit ...) looking for students in search of job. Remember also to keep you informed of forums "summer jobs" organized by the CIJA, town halls ... You master a foreign language and you want to see the country: why not go to work abroad? Before deciding, we must learn about the law, pay and working conditions as each country is implementing different practices.

Aquipass

The proposed multi-card AQUIPASS developed at the initiative of the Conference of University Presidents of Aquitaine. It combines the IUFM of Aquitaine, the CROUS and engineering schools. When you enroll, a map AQUIPASS is given to the student, allowing him to enjoy student life. This card combines, within a single medium, various services to improve student life: student passport, sesame to access online services and electronic purse to simplify procurement.

Services offered: The electronic chip card AQUIPASS aims to replace all cards issued to date: student card , library card, copy card, card printing , card recovery , card Parking .

Since September 2006 / 2007, the AQUIPASS card is operational for education services (identification, authentication, access control), the documentation (access to university libraries or institutions, loan documents) and electronic banking (payment of the university canteen, CROUS cafeterias, photocopying, printing, everyday purchases at merchants).

Other services are under consideration: transportation (SNCF, CTB), duty (parking, theater, opera, swimming pools).

Restoration: Payment for meals in university restaurants and cafeterias is done through the map AQUIPASS.



University of Liège (ULg) – www.ulg.ac.be -



International Office

At the University of Liège, our international office has broad opening hours, it counts 10 people among which 4 main staff members, who are used to help foreign students in their domestic and logistic needs. Languages spoken: English, French, Spanish, Dutch, German and Polish.

They provide information about formalities such as permits of stay and welfare services, but also social and cultural activities (i.e. welcome days, thematic evenings, visit of the city but also of famous cities in Belgium as well as abroad (Maastricht), parties, etc.) contributing to the integration of students.

For more details: http://www.ulg.ac.be/cms/c_22111/foreign-exchange-student-incoming

We take part in four Erasmus Mundus master programme, in one Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate and in 2 Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window programmes (Maghreb and ACP).

The University of Liège has been awarded the ECTS Label and DS Label.

Housing facilities

At the University of Liège, there is one university residence for “short periods” (3 to 6 months), but it’s also easy to find a private accommodation, either in the private student residence (City living) or in individual rooms.

We have an Accommodation Office which collect all offers in town and list all addresses on a data base on the internet, and helps students to find the more appropriate room, considering the place they want to stay and the price they can put on it.

Coaching and counselling

We have a student’s tutoring system, helping new in-coming students to find their bearings.

Welfare services - Visa

We provide information on all administrative formalities that have to be accomplished (health care, opening a bank account, administrative formalities at the City hall, etc.).

The International Office is used to contact Embassies and Consulates in order to facilitate visa procedure (official letters, calls, emails).

Social and cultural integration

We propose activities to foreign students during their spare time, such as trips (museums, monuments), we organise two welcome days (one for each semester), we regularly invite students to participate to events : parties, organised visits of the city, mini trips to the neighbour country (Maastricht by bicycle, etc.).

Language courses

We provide the opportunity to learn foreign languages at the Institut des langues vivantes (<http://www.islv.ulg.ac.be/>)

French courses are organised throughout the year (even during the summer) and are free for our exchange students. Moreover, the Student Associations organise “conversation tables” open to everybody, giving the foreign students the opportunity to practice French or any other language and meet other students.

Special needs students facilities

The ULg has a "Quality of Life" Service providing, among others, support for handicapped students. It helps and supports them, upon their request, with their integration into the university, by helping them organize human and material help to meet their needs, in collaboration with the appropriate services and all people involved.

Family issues – Cultural Diversity

The "Cultural Diversity Unit" helps foreign students upon their arrival with adaptation to local life and administrative issues as well as question related to their venue with a family.

Later during the year, it organises activities aiming at developing integration and intercultural mixing between foreign students but also with local students. Concerning family venue, scholars will also find information and help at the Euraxess mobility center of the ULg.

Networking - E-learning and web portal-Alumni

Once registered, foreign students, either "non degree" students or regular students, have the same rights and duties as local students. They all have access to "myULg" our students web portal, where they can have information concerning the courses they're following, download material posted by the Professor, etc.

Sports and culture

The Students' sports Club RCAE (Royal Cercle Athlétique des Etudiants) aims at organising and coordinating all sports activities within the university. It offers 53 different sports, from athletics to yoga.

ULg has numerous activities on offer: a choir, a theatre, a photo club, a movie club, an orchestra, an astronomical society, etc.

The many cultural venues in Liège – movie theatres, live theatre, concert halls, etc. – generally offer special discounts to students.

University residence

Two university restaurants provide a selfservice system with hot meals, cold dishes, salads and desserts. Prices range from 4 to 7 €.

Internet access

Once registered at the International office, students receive a student card with an identifier and a password to access internet from most computers at the university, from a portable computer or from a computer at home



Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU) - www.ehu.es -.

The Vice-Rectorate for International Relations of the University of the Basque Country aims to promote the internationalisation of our institution by managing all exchange programmes in force in our university and supporting the students, teaching staff and researchers that visit us for educational, tuition or research purposes. We aspire to create a non-discriminatory, multicultural institution that provides excellent education and research opportunities for our community. That is why, we cherish your wish to join us, share our culture while, at the same time, you enrich it with your own.

The University of the Basque Country has recently been certified 'Campus of International Excellence' in Spain. Our Euskampus project, submitted in partnership with the Donostia International Physics Center and TECNALIA Technological Corporation, displays our priority specialisation areas, based on three axes:

- Sustainable Ecosystems and Environmental Technologies. We take part in several research projects aiming to develop renewable energy sources, progress in sustainable waste management standards, protect biodiversity and ecosystems and foster new construction methods that result in more rational, sustainable and planet-friendly cities.
- Innovative Processes and New Materials. We work in the development of nanocomposites and nanotechnology for productive processes, try to improve prediction, control and operational properties of materials, and to advance in the field of robotics and management of information and innovation.
- Healthy ageing and life quality. Our research groups strive to strengthen preventive measures that reduce the burden of chronic sickness, vulnerability and disability. Our work intends to implement healthier and fitter lifestyles. Furthermore, we are involved in biomedical engineering and efficient sanitary systems research projects.

Help Centre Office

Once you are here, feel free to visit our Help Centre office in our three campuses: we will further assist you any way we can, so that you go back home with fond memories of our region, our culture and our university. Our website intends to help you plan your stay and provide you with all the information and resources you might need. Should you need further advice on how to travel accommodation options, practical info on the city you will be visiting etc... we suggest you visit our website or contact us at your nearest Help Centre.

Students will be able to participate in both Spanish and Basque Courses, and in the orientation day, and will be able to participate in the buddy programme, where a local student is assigned to help the incoming student during his first days.

Students registered receive information about all cultural events in their campus.

Other facilities are the facebook profile of the help centre, where incoming students stay updated and in contact with each other.

International students (arrival)

Request a Buddy at the University of the Basque Country: You can now apply for a local student to help you settle upon arrival. If you are not an experienced traveler or think you will feel disoriented at your arrival, fill in the Buddy Service application form and we will do our best to support you.

For issues concerning your stay, please contact our HELP CENTRE offices

HELP CENTRE CAMPUS OF ALAVA: helpcentre1.internacional@ehu.es

HELP CENTRE CAMPUS OF BIZKAIA: helpcentre2.internacional@ehu.es or helpcentre3.internacional@ehu.es

📧 HELP CENTRE CAMPUS OF GIPUZKOA: helpcentre4.internacional@ehu.es

Visiting teaching staff opportunities at the University of the Basque Country

The University of the Basque Country is willing to welcome visiting lecturers for stays that range from 1 week to 2 years. We participate in the European Life Long Learning Program and are engaged in Erasmus, Grundvig, Leonardo, Jean Monnet Actions and other transversal activities. There are several ways in which you can join our community:

- Erasmus exchange agreements for teaching staff
- 'Latin America & Other Destinations' teaching staff mobility opportunities
- Foreign Language Assistants at the University of the Basque Country
- Teaching contracts at the University of the Basque Country
- Fulbright Specialist Program

Research Opportunities at the Basque Country University

Research is one of the main pillars of our activity. Up to 65% of all research projects carried out in our region are participated by the University of the Basque Country. We furthermore seek to extend our international influence working on a 'brain-gain' basis and establishing cross-border campuses.

The development of excellence in research and its contribution to the generation and knowledge transfer to businesses and institutions stand out among the strategic objectives of the Vice-Rector for Research at the University of the Basque Country. We look forward to enriching our research activities by hosting foreign experts to work in partnership with our teams and are ready to assist you with arrangements before you arrive and once you are here.

Related links

- Consolidated research teams at the University of the Basque Country
- European calls for researchers' mobility
- European funding for individual researchers
- IKERBASQUE (Basque Foundation for Science) yearly fellowships for visiting researchers
- Additional info on research projects open calls
- Researchers' training fellowships at the University of the Basque Country

Visa and residence permits

The university provides support by giving detailed information on visa procedures for its incoming students, contacting the Spanish consulates and embassies to inform of the selected students and monitoring the visa process.

Upon arrival, the university also helps students to obtain the residence permit or visa extension, providing continuous support.

For researchers, the Euraxess network will be used to provide support for incoming scholars.

Family support

Students with a family will receive full support from the university regarding the schooling of children and/or specific housing needs.

Students/doctoral candidates with special needs

The Disabled Peoples' Service was set up to ensure the principle of equal opportunities by facilitating students' access to studies and services and their full participation in the university. The Service was created from the "Plan for Integration into the UPV/EHU of the University Disabled Community" (spanish version) (pdf, 586 KB), approved at the Board of Governors in September 2001 and is answerable to the Offices of the Vice-rector for Students. The service currently has units at the Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa campuses.

In recent years the number of disabled students enrolled at the UPV/EHU has grown, representing a challenge that the university is now seeking to address. The Service has developed a number of areas in response to the new needs and a new structuring of the work into four programmes:

- Information, Advice and Guidance
- Equal Opportunities
- Training and Awareness

- Universal Access

Training and Awareness Activities

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities: on 3 December, to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the Service screens short messages and photographs related to people with disabilities on the screens located at the entrances to the university centres.
- Courses in sign language at the three campuses: the Service organises courses in sign language at the three campuses for the entire university community in collaboration with the cultural outreach offices. These courses are given by deaf teachers from Euskal Gorrak (the Basque Federation of Associations of Deaf People).
- Symposium on Awareness of the Deaf Community: working in collaboration with the Service, Euskalgorrak's awareness team organises symposia at the university centres. The aim of these events is to publicise the situation of deaf people among hearing people, to seek strategies to improve communication and to eliminate barriers to understanding between deaf and hearing people.
- Awareness courses for Administration and Services Staff (ASS): working in collaboration with the Service, the Office of the Deputy Director for Administrative Training and Improvement organises courses of awareness for the Administration and Services Staff (ASS) at the different campuses. The purpose is to provide administration and services staff with the knowledge and resources that will allow them to attend to disabled students practically, efficiently and in a standardised and personalised fashion.

Language courses at the University of the Basque Country

Our Spanish and Basque language courses are specially designed for participants in mobility and exchange programmes in the University of the Basque Country. Here you will find all the information you need to enroll on our courses.

Available courses:

- Intensive Spanish August-September
- Autumn & Spring Spanish Courses
- Autumn & Spring Basque Courses
- EILC Basque course

Additional info

- Certificates and Credits
- Enrolment Conditions
- Important Comments
- Enrolment Form (Ask in your nearest Help Centre for Visitor Students or International Relations office)
- 2011-2012 Courses Brochure available in the same places

The University of the Basque Country, in partnership with the Spanish Instituto Cervantes, offer all their students the possibility to evaluate and certify their level of Spanish through the DELE exams (Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language).

Diplomas are structured in three levels: Beginners (A1 and A2), intermediate (B1 and B2) and advanced (C1 and C2) even if the University of the Basque country only organizes intermediate (B2) and advanced level exams (C1 and C2). Exams are held at The Campus of Alava of the University of the Basque Country in May and/or November. All students, including those on mobility programmes administered by the Vice-Rectorate for International Relations, shall pay the enrolment fee for the Diploma.

For further information about the DELE exam, please contact:

Secretary of Language Courses for Foreigners
University of the Basque Country
Vice-Rectorate for International Relations
Campus of Alava Ground floor, office nº 3
C/ Comandante Izarduy 2
01006 Vitoria-Gasteiz
Phone number: (+34) 945 013356
E-mail: cursosidiomas@ehu.es



More updated information can be obtained from
the following web sites

<http://www.soton.ac.uk>

<http://www.ehu.es>

<http://www.u-bordeaux1.fr>

<http://www.ulg.ac.be>

MER SECRETARIAT

R&D CENTRE FOR EXPERIMENTAL
MARINE BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
(PLENTZIAKO ITSAS ESTAZIOA; PIE-UPV/EHU)

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