

The Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) of the “GB Tiepolo” Academy of Fine Arts of Udine

The “GB Tiepolo” Academy of Fine Arts (ABAUD) in Udine, a non-state public institution founded in 2015, belongs to the system of Higher Education in Arts and Music of the Ministry of Education, University and Research. The Academy has developed an educational project characterized by the research in the field of Graphic Design (Bachelor degree), Painting (short program) and Higher Education School in Artistic Tattoo (three-year course). For the academic year 2019/20, two further three-year courses will be activated: Painting and Interior Design. We will enrich our courses with workshops and internships; this will give students the opportunity to go deep into art abilities. The aim is to create, in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, an internationally strong and attractive Higher Education Institution in the field of fine arts.

An explicit strategy for internationalization has not been formulated yet, however ABAUD is expecting to do so shortly a platform for prioritizing future efforts. At the same time it is now working on the creation of International Relations, a true Erasmus Office, as well as the new institutional web page design.

The internationalization of the ABAUD aims at establishing a framework of strategic alliances with European and non-European Institutions that share the same vision and the same approach, with the goal of promoting on the one hand effective synergies for students and staff growth and on the other hand for the growth of the Academy as a whole.

The main purpose of our Academy is to improve the mobility quality of its students and academic staff in order to achieve two many objectives: 1) network thematic depending and research on common interest fields chosen together with new institution partners; 2) to develop its internationalization process by selecting companies, professional studios and non-academic institutions abroad active in the field of graphic design, product design, including art galleries and museums of contemporary art. By doing so it will be able to organize work placements and traineeships for mobility students and to invite experts for workshops and seminars.

The Institution’s aim is to accomplish this vision both through Erasmus activities and the school’s extensive Erasmus network. The Academy was in 2017 one of the founding members of the network of Italian private academies of fine arts. Thanks to this network the school has started a collaboration with a number of Italian Academies of Fine Arts and shares with them the same didactic objectives of quality and international exchanges.

ABAUD intends to develop the agreements with HEI and organizations in other European countries, in particular with the regions close to the city of Udine, located in the north-east of Italy as well as with Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Croatia or in the countries where there are institutions with the same study courses; but also plans to develop exchange and cooperation agreements with China where ABAUD participates in the Marco Polo – Turandot Program (Ministerial Program of the Italian Republic and the People’s Republic of China).

The objective of the ABAUD internalization strategy is to start study mobility (3/5 outgoing students and 3/5 incoming students per year) and in the future, with the opening of new courses, to increase student mobility both inbound and outbound. ABAUD also intends to promote staff mobility both for teaching and training purposes. The choice is also based on the size of the Academy, by encouraging cooperation with similar partner institutions in this field, too. The small size of the “GB Tiepolo” Academy of Fine Arts in Udine allows us to follow the mobility in a flexible way, by developing from time to time collaborations targeted on the individual outgoing or incoming students’ attitudes. Moreover, the Academy intends to take advantage of the network of relationships of its professors, who have professional relationships at

international level inside and outside the EU. The cooperation is based on reciprocity, balance in mobility, trust between the institutions and academic profiles compatibility, as well as on appropriate quality standards assurance. The partner choice should take into account the educational offer (suitably presented), the teaching methods and the real possibility of running joint mobility programs.

ABAUD ensures a non-discriminatory policy providing equal opportunity and possibility of participation in all activities for its members, regardless of gender, political and religious ideas and social background.

Incoming exchange students are sent a welcome package once they have been accepted for an exchange. The package includes information on residence permits/visa, health insurance, practical information on moving to Italy and on finding accommodation.

A welcome session for all incoming exchange students is held just before every semester begins. The students are introduced to the curriculum and credit system and get an introduction to the course they have been accepted to.

All incoming students are offered an Italian language course which is held at the school. ABAUD is, in fact, the official partner of "Società Dante Alighieri", a non-profit organization for social utility that is also included in the Register of Organizations and Associations performing activities for the benefit of foreigners in Italy. Its main objective is to protect and develop Italian language and culture world-wide by organizing courses of Italian language and culture.

Private Company Internships will also offer the opportunity to gain practical experience in the labor market.

Our education will provide more and more competences to work in an international operating environment. We are aware that the international experience and connections both of the students and staff of Higher Education Institutions will improve the quality of education and support the internationalization of the Institution itself. Our Higher Education Offer will be oriented to high-quality education focused on operational fields of expertise (graphic design and in the near future in painting and interior design, too). In this way we want to improve the quality and relevance of students, to equip future graduates with the theoretical and practical knowledge they need to succeed in high-skill jobs. Furthermore, the Academy will be more and more active in using international cooperation opportunities, in particular, within the EU-countries searching with these new partners, new growing options, new ways to encourage cross-border co-operation to support Higher Education performance.