UNIVERSITÀ
degli STUDI
di CATANIA

Guide for foreign Universities

ECTS Information Package

Academic year 2017-2018

Guide for foreign Universities

ECTS

Information Package

Academic year 2017-2018

WELCOME FROM THE RECTOR

Dear international students, professors and administrative staff,

Thank you for choosing the University of Catania as your host university. I am honored to welcome you to the *Siculorum Gymnasium.* I hope you will enjoy your stay at our university, the oldest in Sicily, to achieve educational growth and formative experience in our town, rich in history and tradition.
The University of Catania, founded in 1434, is a public institution with a strong and ever growing international orientation and community. Our main goal is to provide international students with a stimulating learning environment, and to offer them an international dimension based on excellence and innovation, both key elements of the educational experience.
May your stay here be stimulating, pleasant and fruitful.
A warm welcome to all of you.

Francesco Basile
Rector of the University of Catania.

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1. University of Catania

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

A Brief Historical Background

An Institution in Continuous Development

The foundation of the University of Catania, the oldest in Sicily, dates back to 1434, when the king of Spain, Alfonso of Aragon (who was also King Alfonso I of Sicily), authorized the establishment of a *Studium Generale* with the privilege of issuing legally valid academic titles in the four core disciplines of theology, canonic and civil law, physical and joint philosophy, liberal arts. In 1444, the first four faculties of Medicine, Philosophy, Canonic and Civil Law and Theology and Arts were established. Students began to attend classes in 1445, however it was not until two centuries later that the university gained its own establishment in Piazza Università. It still stands in the piazza today, in the former grounds of St. Mark's hospital. The building was completely destroyed by an earthquake in 1693 and students were left without a place to continue their studies. In the interim period, before it was rebuilt, the resourceful students, unperturbed by such events and endowed with infinite determination, transferred classes to wooden huts by the harbor. The new building, designed by Giovan Battista Vaccarini, is a magnificent monument of Baroque architecture. The University of Catania was not only structurally powerful, it also held the exclusive right by Royal Decree to grant degrees within the Reign of Sicily. Although the hierarchical power of the university was in the hands of the Church, the Rector, an elected student in his last year of studies, had the power to put students on trial. Twenty-five chimes of the Cathedral bell marked the beginning of the academic year. Throughout the year, a porter marked daily any professor absence. The figures were then taken to a notary who subtracted a day's wages from their pay. At the end of his studies, a student was awarded his degree at the Cathedral building as well as a gold ring and a blessing from the Archbishop. Although this ceremony and many other traditions have fallen into disuse, the academic structure of the university is still as strong today as it was in the first half of the 15th century, when it started out with just ten students

The University Today

Today the university buildings are spread throughout the city, with a contrast between the modern, hi-tech campus "Cittadella Universitaria" and numerous historical buildings in the old city centre. It offers an attractive portfolio of academic titles and is committed to the creation of a "laboratory" where the ancient Mediterranean culture meets new technologies, in order to offer advanced training experience. Students wishing

to take an undergraduate degree will find our university to be a high quality educational institution, with degrees specifically aimed at the labor market, which prepare effectively for further studies. Excellent departments, schools and support services are offered throughout all of our university sites in Catania, Syracuse and Raguse. Here, students may also discover a culturally dynamic environment suitable for growing as students and individuals as well.

Those who are considering taking post-graduate, masters or doctorate studies can choose among a wide range at the top, developed by internationally recognized research groups. Students have the opportunity to begin their university career at the top. The University of Catania is also attractive for those companies interested in transfer technology developed in university departments and research centers

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

Facts and Figures

Learn about our programmes, people, innovations and campus through facts and figures .

Educational and Research Structures

17	Departments
20	Research Centre
3	Didactic Units
1	Schools

Educational Programmes (2016/17)

42	Undergraduate 1st Level Courses
7	One-Cycle Courses
49	Undergraduate 2nd Level Courses
16	Masters (2015/16)
15	Ph.D. Courses XXXI CYCLE
9	National Ph.D. Courses
6	International Ph.D. Courses

Students

46.607	Students enrolled
6.719	Students enrolled in 2015/16
6.833	Graduated (2014/15, latest available)

Staff

323	Full Professors
469	Associate Professors
427	Researchers
947	Non-academic staff

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA
Departments and Schools

Agriculture, Food and Environment

Address: Via Santa Sofia 100, I-95123 Catania
Director: Salvatore Luciano Cosentino
General contact: di3a@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: fbranca@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: gmarle@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 234313
Website: www.di3a.unict.it

Architecture (Didactic Unit - Siracusa)

Address: Piazza Federico di Svevia, I-96100 Siracusa
President: Bruno Messina
General contact: architettura@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: c.carocci@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: rspataro@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 0931 489404
Website: www.architettura.unict.it

Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences

Address: Cittadella Universitaria
Via Santa Sofia 64, I-95123 Catania
Director: Filippo Drago
General contact: biometec@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: livolti@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: enzograsso@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7384059
Website: www.biometec.unict.it

Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences

Address: Corso Italia 57, I-95129 Catania
Director: Carmelo Monaco
General contact: biomlg@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: distefan@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: antonio.fagone@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 6139931
Website: www.dipbiogeo.unict.it

Civil Engineering and Architecture

Address: Cittadella Universitaria (Building 3)
Viale Andrea Doria 6, I-95123 Catania
Director: Enrico Foti
General contact: dicar@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: dcafiso@dica.unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: mlombardo@ing.unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7382005
Website: www.dicar.unict.it/en

Clinical and Experimental Medicine

Address: Ospedale "Garibaldi Nesima"
Via Palermo 636, I-95122 Catania
Director: Francesco Purrello
General contact: medclin@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: rerizzo@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: chcantarella@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7598402
Website: www.medicina.unict.it/en

Chemical Sciences

Address: Citttadella Universitaria
Viale Andrea Doria 6, I-95125 Catania
Director: Roberto Purrello
General contact: dsc@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: sscire@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: gmarino@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7385125
Website: www.dipchi.unict.it

Drug Sciences

Address: Cittadella Universitaria (Building 2)
Viale Andrea Doria 6, I-95125 Catania
Director: Giovanni Puglisi
General contact: dsf@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: milena.rizzo@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: raprivitera@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7384009
Website: www.dsf.unict.it

Economics and Business

Address: Palazzo delle Scienze
Corso Italia 55, I-95129 Catania
Director: Michela Cavallaro
General contact: dei@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: imazza@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: russorob@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7537536
Website: www.dei.unict.it/en

Electric, Electronic and Computer Engineering

Address: Cittadella Universitaria (Polifunctional Building)
Viale Andrea Doria 6, I-95125 Catania
Director: Vincenzo Catania
General contact: dieei@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: riccardo.caponetto@dieei.unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: pinella.borgia@dieei.unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7382006
Website: www.dieei.unict.it

Educational Sciences

Address: Via Teatro greco 84, I-95124 Catania
Director: Santo Di Nuovo
General contact: disfor@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: r.piazza@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: tcaruso@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7466310
Website: www.disfor.unict.it

Foreign Languages and Literatures (Didactic Unit - Ragusa)

Address: Via Orfanotrofio 49, I-97100 Ragusa Ibla
President: Santo Burgio
General contact: lingueragusa@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: a.schinina@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: udipacrg@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 0932 2682764
Website: www.sdslingue.unict.it/en

General Surgery and Medical-Surgical Specialties

Address: Ospedale "Vittorio Emanuele II"
Via Plebiscito 628, I-95124 Catania
Director: Ernesto Rapisarda
General contact: chirmed@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: abiondi@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: giovanna.schillaci@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 333900
Website: www.medicina.unict.it

Law

Address: Villa Cerami
Via Gallo 24, I-95124 Catania
Director: Roberto Pennisi
General contact: giur@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: adistefano@lex.unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: servizi.didattici@lex.unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 230321
Website: www.lex.unict.it

Humanities

Address: Benedictine Monastery
Piazza Dante 32, I-95124 Catania
Director: Maria Caterina Paino
General contact: disum@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: b.bauman@unict.it
m.damore@unict.it - crizzo@unict.it - glalomia@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: giuliana.aiello@unict.it
matilde.vecchio@unict.it (study programmes) - ferlito@unict.it
(traineeship programmes)
Phone: (+39) 095 7102572 - 349 - 573
Website: www.disum.unict.it

Mathematics and Computer Sciences

Address: Cittadella Universitaria
Viale Andrea Doria 6, I-95125 Catania
Director: Giovanni Gallo
General contact: dmi@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: barba@dmi.unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: cmele@dmi.unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7337227
Website: web.dmi.unict.it

Medical and Surgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies

Address: Policlinico Universitario (Building 2)
Via Santa Sofia 78, I-95123 Catania
Director: Stefano Puleo
General contact: dgfi@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: veroux@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: cinzia.biondi@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 333900
Website: www.gfingrassia.unict.it/en/

Physics and astronomy

Address: Via SantaSofia, 64, I-95125Catania
Director: Valerio Pirronello
General contact: dfa@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: epaladino@dmfci.unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: saradef@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 377938
Website: www.dfa.unict.it/en

Political and Social Sciences

Address: Palazzo Pedagaggi
Via Vittorio Emanuele II 49, I-95131 Catania
Director: Giuseppe Barone
General contact: dsps@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: dirrera@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: urisp@unict.it
Phone: (+39) 095 7347264
Website: www.dsps.unict.it

School of Medicine

Address: Via Santa Sofia 86, I-95123 Catania
President: Giuseppe Sessa
General contact: scuoladimedicina@unict.it
Scientific contact for didactics: agodia@unict.it
Administrative contact for didactics: giovanna.schillaci@unict.it
Website: www.medicina.unict.it

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

European Policy Strategy

The University of Catania considers the internationalization process to be of deep importance for its development, therefore, it is willing to adopt strategic plans aiming at improving such process, thanks to some different actions to be realized in a short time and some others requiring longer times for their implementation, but all pursuing the goal of rising its visibility, reputation and attractiveness.

The University of Catania is the oldest of the Italian South Centre universities and it manifests some excellences in terms of didactics and research thanks to particular synergies and specific collaborations with several research institutes operating in its territory. Furthermore, Catania geographic position, even if off centered from North center European countries, is in a focal point with respect to Mediterranean area countries, with whom it is certainly possible to organize cooperation activities of great importance.

Other key points can be considered, enterprises working on the territory representing a reference point for study, research and industrial collaboration initiatives. Therefore, in order to improve the internationalization process, the university will adopt the following strategic actions.

Short-term actions:

- Enhance international activities communication through a more attractive web site and the creation of social network profiles.
- Increase the educational offer in English language, thanks to the activation of new courses and the creation of "course packages", useful for incoming students in the creation of their learning agreements.
- Reinforce English language courses in all degree courses in order to boost students' linguistic competencies and make them more competitive within the international job market.
- Enlarge the number of agreements with European countries and particular France, United Kingdom, Germany and Northern European countries.
- Implement services and facilities for incoming students, teachers and staff, with better accommodations services and dedicated procedures to obtain visas.
- Stimulate international mobility (European and Non-European) of teachers and administrative staff using simple administrative procedures.
- Implement services and facilities for incoming students,

teachers and staff, with better accommodations services and dedicated procedures to obtain visas.
- Enhance Italian language courses offer for foreign students.

Long-term actions

- Favor the activation of degree courses and/or Ph.D. courses with joint degree and increase their number.
- Rise incoming mobility of internationally recognized professors to do some didactics or seminars.
- Boost University of Catania active participation to the most important international inter-universities networks.
- Favor and promote the realization of multidisciplinary activities such as international high specialization summer school.

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA
International Mobility Office

The Mission
The International Mobility office (IMO) is the administrative unit that takes care and enhances the international dimension of the University. This ambition involves, in particular, a significant collaboration with universities and partner institutions abroad and taking care of the participation of the university in the most relevant international mobility programs.

Field of competence
- Management of Key Action 1 (KA1) of the Erasmus+ that allows students to spend a mobility period abroad in order to attend university courses or to do research for their final paper.
- Coordination of the main international traineeship programs for students and graduates to spend professional training periods in companies and institution abroad.
- Selection of professors for teaching period at the Universities associated in the context of KA1 within the Erasmus+
- Implementation of welcome activities and training period for foreign students, professors and administrative staff.
- Exchanges of students, graduates, professors and staff incoming and outgoing within cooperation agreements.
- Technical consultation and effective support in drafting proposals related to the Erasmus Mundus within the Erasmus Plus program.
- Partnership with "Convitto Nazionale Mario Cutelli" within the student training work project according to Law 105/2015.

Useful Contacts

Didactic Division Manager
Giuseppe Caruso
E-mail: carusog@unict.it

IMO Coordinator
Vincenza Tutino
E-mail: cinzia.tutino@unict.it

Erasmus Agreements and Outgoing Erasmus selection
E-mail: doriana.manuele@unict.it

Outgoing Erasmus Traineeship and Placements
E-mail: vmilici@unict.it

Outgoing Erasmus Students and Accounting
E-mail: f.trombino@unict.it

Professors, Staff in Mobility
E-mail: mluisa.leotta@unict.it

Study and Traineeship Incoming Students
E-mail: n.pascu@unict.it

Incoming International Students and Ph.D.
E-mail: tiziana.balestri@unict.it

Useful Information

Adress: Via di Sangiuliano, 197 (2nd floor) - 95131 Catania

Receiving hours: Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30 to 12.30 am

Fax: (+39) 095 /7307008

E-mail: umi@unict.it

Website: www.unict.it

Facebook: universitadeglistudidicatania

Erasmus ID code: I CATANIA01

Erasmus charter: 29276-LA- 1-2014- 1-IT- E4AKA1-ECHE

Introduction

Cooperation relations between universities in different countries and between universities and other economic and social actors are one of the most important aspects of university life as well as the most reliable element to assess the impact that an institution fails to have, both in the national context, as the international market. The main instruments for the implementation of cooperation with foreign universities for developing joint research and teaching and encouraging mobility of students and professors are Erasmus Agreements and the Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.).

Erasmus Agreements

The implementation of the Erasmus activities requires the activation of specific Inter-institutional Agreements, under which mobility flows of students and teachers, both outgoing and incoming, are planned to carry out the following activities: mobility of students for study purposes, mobility of students for internships and mobility of teaching assignment (STA). The Erasmus agreement is an official contract binding two institutes/ universities involved in cooperating within the Erasmus framework (i.e. providing funds and support for student, teaching and staff mobility).

Institutes/universities interested in entering into a new Erasmus agreement with the University of Catania shall contact the IMO specifying:

- institution name, ID code and Erasmus Charter number;
- duration of contract in academic years;
- names and contact details of both the institutional/ departmental coordinators and central administration officer;
- details on incoming/outgoing student mobility: subject area and code, level (1st cycle degree, 2nd cycle degree, Ph.D. courses), numbers of students and total months;
- details on incoming/outgoing teaching mobility: subject area and code, duration of week;
- information about academic calendar, educational programs, foreign language knowledge requirements, services offered to incoming students and professors.

Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.)

Within its internationalization policy, the University of Catania stipulates Memorandum of Understanding aiming at establishing and intensifying collaboration relationships with research agencies and universities all over the world in order to develop joint didactic and research activities and for increasing academic and cultural exchanges in education and research fields, as well as students, researcher's and professor's mobility.

These agreements don't have any financial backing.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/internazionale/accordi-inter-istituzionali-erasmus
www.unict.it/content/accordi-quadro-e-convenzioni

UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

Fields of collaboration

Departments	Isced code	Isced description
Agricultural, Food and Environment	0721	Food processing
	081	Agriculture
	0811	Crop and livestock production
	0812	Horticulture
	082	Forestry
	083	Fisheries
	0841	Veterinary
Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences	051	Biological and related sciences
	0511	Biology
	0512	Biochemistry
	052	Environment
	0521	Environmental sciences
	0522	Natural environments and wildlife
	0532	Earth sciences
	091	Health
Chemical Sciences	0531	Chemistry
Drug Sciences	0916	Pharmacy

Departments	Isced code	Isced description
Civil Engineering and Architecture Electric, Electronic and Computer Engineering	1041	Transport services
	061	Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
	071	Engineering and engineering trades
	0711	Chemical engineering and processing
	0712	Environmental protection technology
	0713	Electricity and energy
	0714	Electronics and automation
	0715	Mechanics and metal trades
	0716	Motor vehicles, ships and aircraft
	072	Manufacturing and processing
	0722	Materials (glass, paper, plastic and wood)
	0723	Textiles (clothes, footwear and leather)
	0724	Mining and extraction
	073	Architecture and construction
	0731	Architecture and town planning
	0732	Building and civil engineering
Economics and Business	1015	Travel, tourism and leisure
	0311	Economics
	041	Business and administration
	0411	Accounting and taxation
	0412	Finance, banking and insurance
	0413	Management and administration
	0414	Marketing and advertising

Departments	Isced code	Isced description
Educational Sciences	011	Education
	0111	Education science
	0112	Training for pre-school teachers
	0113	Teacher training without subject specialization
	0114	Teacher training with subject specialization
	031	Social and behavioral sciences
	0313	Psychology
	0314	Sociology and cultural studies
	0921	Care of elderly and of disabled adults
	0922	Child care and youth services
	1015	Travel, tourism and leisure
	0222	History and archaeology
	0223	Philosophy and ethics
Humanities	022	Humanities (except languages)
	0221	Religion and theology
	0222	History and archaeology
	0223	Philosophy and ethics
	023	Languages
	0231	Language acquisition
	0232	Literature and linguistics
	032	Journalism and information
	0322	Library, information and archival studies
Law	042	Law

Departments	Isced code	Isced description
Physics and Astronomy Mathematics and Computer Sciences	053 0533 054 0541 0542 061 0611 0612 0613	Physical sciences Physics Mathematics and statistics Mathematics Statistics Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) Computer use Database and network design and administration Software and applications development and analysis
Political and Social Sciences	0312 0314 0413 0923	Political sciences and civics Sociology and cultural studies Management and administration Social work and counseling
Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences Clinical and Experimental Medicine General Surgery and Medical-Surgical Specialties Medical and Surgical Sciences and advanced technologies	091 0911 0912 0913 0914 0915 0917 1014 1021 1022	Health Dental studies Medicine Nursing and midwifery Medical diagnostic and treatment technology Therapy and rehabilitation Traditional and complementary medicine and therapy Sports Community sanitation Occupational health and safety
Didactic Units - Architecture (SR)	073 0731 0732	Architecture and construction Architecture and town planning Building and civil engineering
Didactic Units - Foreign Languages and Literatures (RG)	023 0231 0232	Languages Language acquisition Literature and linguistics

2. Studying at the University of Catania

Academic calendar

The academic year is organized into 2 semesters, and each semester lasts about 20 weeks:

- 1st semester begins in September - October and ends in January - February;
- 2nd semester begins in February and ends in July.
- Subjects may be semester, long or yearlong and exams are held in January - February and June - July.
- Christmas break (end of December to the first week of January).

- Vacation period:
- Christmas break (end of December to the first week of January)
- Easter break - Summer break (from 1st to 31st August)

Local and National Holidays

- 1st November - All Saint's Day
- 8th December - Immaculate Conception
- 5th February - St. Agatha's Feast Day (Patron Saint of Catania)
- 25th April - Anniversary of Liberation
- 1st May - Labor Day
- 2nd June - Republic Day

Teaching and learning

Most teaching takes place in large lecture halls and laboratories. Students are also expected to carry out a considerable amount of self-study in order to prepare for exams.

Assessment

Exams are held after the teaching period and are mainly oral although some courses have written tests taking place during the semester or before the oral exam. Each exam has a number of dates offered during the exam session and students can choose which date they wish to take it. Students are also entitled to turn down a mark and take the exam again if they are not satisfied with the result.

Examination grading systems

Examinations are graded according to a scale ranging from 0 to 30, with 18 as a pass mark. A "cum laude" may be added to the highest grade as a mention of special distinction. All examination results are used to calculate the overall degree mark on a scale of 0-110. The final result is based on exam results plus the presentation of a project or dissertation.

Insurance and Medical Assistance

All incoming students and professors will take out an insurance policy limited to participation at didactic/training activities, excluding sport activities. Medical assistance is recognized to EU students, and professors only if they have the European Sanitary Card. Conversely, non-EU students and professors need to have their own medical insurance.

Visa

A VISA is necessary for all students and professors from non EU countries who plan to reside in Catania for more than 90 days. A student VISA to enter and legally remain in Catania must be requested at the Italian embassy or consulate in the student's country of origin or residence.

Residence Permit

Once in Italy, students and professors remaining for more than 90 days must apply for a residence permit drawing up the application that must be presented within 8 days of their arrival.

Students have to get the kit, an envelope containing the forms and instructions on how to fill them in, available at any "sportello AMICO" of any authorized post office. In order to facilitate the kit comprehension, the University of Catania has provided for 5 translation of the forms in English, French, Spanish, German and Arabic.

When delivering the kit to the post office, students will be given an appointment at the Immigration Office for a photographic registration and another at the Scientific police for finger prints.

The Fiscal code

The Fiscal code is a code made up of letters and numbers on the basis of first name, family name, date and place of birth and it is used by the Public Administration to identify the citizens living in Italy. All those living in Italy need to have one. This code is necessary in order to be enrolled at the University of Catania, to apply for the residence permit, to open a bank account, to enter into a tenancy agreement, to receive the payment of a scholarship, to earn a salary and carry out other procedures or activities. In order to obtain the Italian Fiscal Code students will have to go to the local VAT Office, bringing along their passport. If the Fiscal Code is lost or stolen, a duplicate can be requested at the local VAT Office.

Support in applying for Residence Permits and Fiscal Codes
Maria Sanfilippo
Address: Via Valdisavoia 9 95123 Catania
Phone: (+39) 095 2338526
Receiving hour: by appointment
E-mail: maria.sanfilippo@ssc.unict.it

The University of Catania has adopted the CFU accreditation system which corresponds to the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

ECTS

The ECTS system is based on the principle of mutual trust and confidence between the participating higher education institutions. The few rules of ECTS, concerning Information (on courses available), Agreement (between the home and host institution) and the use of Credit Points (to indicate student workload) are set out to reinforce this mutual trust and confidence.

ECTS Credits

The ECTS credits are a value allocated to course units to describe the student workload required to complete them. They reflect the quantity of work each course requires in relation to the total quantity of work necessary to complete a full year of academic study at the institution, that is, lectures, practical work, seminars, private work in the library or at home and examinations or other assessment activities.

The ECTS credits express a relative value. In ECTS, 60 credits represent the workload of a year of study; normally 30 credits are given for a semester and 20 credits for a term.
It is important that no special courses are set up for ECTS purposes, but that all ECTS courses are mainstream courses of the participating institutions, as followed by home students under normal regulations. It is up to the participating institution to subdivide the credits for the different courses.
Practical placements and optional courses which form an integral part of the course of study also receive academic credit.
Practical placements and optional courses which do not form an integral part of the course of study do not receive academic credit. Non-credit courses may, however, be mentioned in the transcript of records. Credits are awarded only when the course has been completed and all required examinations have been successfully taken.

ECTS Grading Scale

The ECTS grading scale provides a common currency to measure the quality of student achievement. It is important

to note that it is not meant to replace the local grade but to be used optionally and in addition to it.

ECTS students and Erasmus program

The students participating in ECTS receive full credit for all academic work successfully carried out at any of the ECTS partner institutions. They will be able to transfer these academic credits from one participating institution to another on the basis of prior agreement on the content of study programs abroad between students and the institutions involved. When the student has successfully completed the study program previously agreed between the home and the host institutions and returns to the home institution, credit transfer will take place, and the student can continue the study course at the home institution without any loss of time or credit. Students may be awarded a student mobility grant if they fulfill the general conditions of eligibility for the Erasmus program. They shall not be required to pay tuition fees at the host institution and continue to pay normal tuition fees to the home institution

Credits recognition procedures

The Academic Senate of the University of Catania, deliberated the Course Credits Recognition System Guidelines that establishes the principle parameters that characterize student's credits recognition in a range of activities carried out in foreign institutions before the student's departure.

Subjects recognition has to be based on a precise coherence between curricular activities and the course of study purposes.

The mark obtained by the student during his foreign didactic period is calculated by the office in accordance with the rules fixed by the University of Catania's official Grading Scale and its integration.

Grade System at UNICT

A	EXCELLENT	30
B	VERY GOOD	29/27
C	GOOD	26/23
D	SATISFACTORY	22/21
E	SUFFICIENT	20/18
F	FAIL	0
FX	FAIL	0

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/mobilità-entrata-incoming

Educational offer in Italian

One cycle degree courses (1st and 2nd cycle studies)

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	LMG/01	Law
	LM4	Architecture
	LM4	Construction engineering and architecture
	LM13	Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technology
	LM13	Pharmacy
	LM41	Medicine and Surgery
	LM46	Dentistry and dental prosthesis

Bachelor Degrees (1st cycle studies)

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	L1	Cultural Heritage
	L5	Philosophy
	L7	Civil and Environmental Engineering
	L8	Electronic Engineering
	L8	Computer Engineering
	L9	Industrial Engineering
	L10	Literature

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	L11	Euro-American and East European Languages and Cultures
	L12	Iintercultural Mediation and Languages
	L13	Biological Sciences
	L15	Tour Operator Training
	L16	Administration and Organisational Science
	L18	Business Economics
	L19	Education and Training Science
	L20	Language and Communication Science
	L21	Landscape and Territory Protection, Management and Planning
	L22	Sports science
	L24	Psychological Sciences and Techniques
	L25	Agricultural Sciences and Technologies
	L26	Food Science and Technology
	L27	Chemistry
	L27	Industrial Chemistry
	L29	Applied Pharmaceutical Sciences
	L30	Physics
	L31	Information Technology
	L32	Environmental and natural Science
	L33	Economics
	L34	Geological Sciences
	L35	Mathematics
	L36 /L39/L40	History, Politics & International Relations / Sociology and Social Work
	L/SNT1	Nursing / Obstetrics
	L/SNT2	Psychiatric Rehabilitation / Physiotherapy
	L/SNT2	Speech Therapy / Ophthalmology and Orthoptics
	L/SNT3	Biomedical Laboratory Techniques / Nutrition and Dietetics
	L/SNT3	Cardiocirculatory and Cardiovascular Perfusion Techniques
	L/SNT3	Acoustic-aid Techniques / Imaging and Radiotherapy Techniques

Master Degrees (2nd cycle studies)

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	LM6	Environmental Biology
	LM6	Clinical, Cellular and Molecular Biology
	LM7	Agricultural Biotechnology
	LM9	Medical Biotecnologies
	LM/SNT1	Nursing and Obstretics
	LM/SNT2	School of Health and Rehabilitation Science
	LM14	Modern Philology
	LM18	Information Technology
	LM23	Civil engineering of water and transport
	LM23	Structural and geotechnical civil engineering
	LM27	Telecommunication Systems
	LM31	Engineering Management
	LM32	Computer Engineering
	LM33	Mechanical Engineering
	LM35	Environmental and Territorial Engineering
	LM37	European and non-European languages and cultures
	LM38	Languages for the International Cooperation
	LM40	Mathematics
	LM51	Psychology
	LM52	Internationalization of business relations
	LM54	Biomolecular Chemistry
	LM54	Materials Chemistry
	LM54	Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry
	LM56	Economics, Policies and Land Management
	LM63	Public Administration Science
	LM67	Sciences and Techniques of Preventive and Adapted Physical Activities
	LM69	Agriculturaland Technological Sciences
	LM70	Food Science and Technology
	LM74	Geological Science

Master Degrees (2nd cycle studies)

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	LM74	Geological Science
	LM75	Territory, environment and landscape protection
	LM77	Business Management
	LM77	Business Finance
	LM78	Philosophical Sciences
	LM79	Geophysical Science
	LM84	History and culture of Mediterranean Countries
	LM85	Pedagogical sciences and educational project management
	LM87	Planning and management of social policies and services
	LM88	Sociology
	LM89	History of Art and Cultural Heritage

Educational offer in English

Location	Code	Courses
Catania	LM62	Global politics and Euro-Mediterranean Relations
	LM28	Electric Engineering
	LM29	Electronic Engineering
	LM25	Automation Engineering and Control of Complex Systems
	LM17	Physics
	LM22	Chemical Engineering for Industrial Sustainability
	LM17	Physics

Educational offer in partnership

Location	Code	Courses	Partner Countries
Catania	LM62	Global politics and Euro-Mediterranean Relations	Belgium
	LM65	Communication of Culture and Entertainment	France
	LM2	Archaeology	Poland / Turchia
	LM15	Classical Philology	Germany
	LM37	Comparative Languages and Literature	France

For further information about educational offer, please contact the relevant department.

University Master Courses

Aim: reinforce and broaden skills and expertise of graduates and postgraduates to meet the demands of the professional world.

There are both 1st and 2nd level University master courses that consist in advanced scientific courses or higher continuing education studies.

Access requirement: 1st or 2nd level degree.

Admission: subject to additional conditions.

Credits: 60

Duration: 1 year

For further information, please contact the Master Office
Address: Via A. di Sangiuliano,197 - I-95131 Catania
Phone: (+39) 095 7307953
E-mail: venera.fasone@unict.it

Advanced Course

Aim: refresher/permanent training course that allows students to develop their expertise and skills in order to further improve their professional qualities. No academic qualification is awarded. Students will receive a certificate with details on the acquired skills.

Every year the University of Catania activates specialization courses propaedeutic to background training and useful for professional integration.

Access requirement: 1st or 2nd level degree.

Admission: restricted entry

Duration: variable

For further information, please send an e-mail at
ac.adi@unict.it

Summer and Winter Schools

Aim: meet new cultural and interdisciplinary focus needs. They are intensive course programs with a varied didactic offer, lessons, workshops and also activities aiming also at the discovery Sicilian culture and tradition. Most of them are taught in English.

Access requirement: Italian and international students and newly graduates and, in some cases, to specific professional figures.

Duration: variable (from 1 to 4 weeks).

For further information, please send an e-mail at umi@unict.it

STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

Professional Qualifications and State Exams

Possessors of foreign qualification titles need to gain the Italian title recognition in order to legally practice their profession. Titles can belong to Italian or foreign citizens from European or Extra-European countries. The recognition title degree allows professionals to practice their profession in Italy and is published on the general site of the Official State Gazette. Recognition application must be submitted to the Italian Ministry of Justice.

Possessors of a foreign professional title in the sanitary area willing to practice their profession in Italy, need to gain their title recognition from the Ministry of Health website.

For further information, please send an e-mail at
ac.adi@unict.it

STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

Foreign Students Enrolment

EU and non - EU citizens can equally enroll at the University of Catania. In case of dual citizenship, the Italian citizenship prevails (L. 31 May 1995, n. 218 art. 19). Distinct application rules apply to: EU citizen; non EU citizen; Italian citizens with foreign academic qualifications.

EU Citizens

Those who wish to apply for an Italian degree course must observe the same deadlines and procedures of Italian citizens. Citizens from Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Republic of San Marino and Liechtenstein are treated as EU citizens. The same rule is applied for Non-EU citizens owning a residence permit (permesso di soggiorno) or a residence card (carta di soggiorno) for work, family, religion or asylum, and political refugees.

Prospective students can apply for only one degree course, although they may pre-enroll in several courses and take multiple admission tests. EU nationals and EU-equated citizens are not requested to take the Italian language test. They do not belong to places reserved to non-EU citizens (contingente riservato). They should respect, as Italian students, the deadlines provided by the calls of each course of study.

In order to enroll at the university it is compulsory to fulfill the online registration procedure on the "Portale Studenti" and submit the documents, described in the following paragraph, to the Foreign Students Office.

In order to accomplish the online enrollment, applicants must be provided with the Italian tax code (codice fiscale).

Enrolment Procedures

For 2nd cycle degree programs:

- The original copy of secondary school diploma obtained after at least 12 years of schooling. The diploma must be translated and duly validated;
- the declaration of value for the diploma to be released by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country to which the school/college belongs to;
- the 1st cycle degree obtained at any university the diploma must be translated and duly validated;
- declaration of value for the degree to be released by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country to which the university belongs to;

- the diploma supplement or certificate released by the relevant academic institution-translated and duly validated assessing the passed exams as well as the detailed programs and time plan devoted to the teaching and laboratory activities provided for each subject area;
- any certification assessing the knowledge of the Italian language if the Master Degree course is in Italian.

Non - EU Citizens

Every study program sets an annual quota of places available for non-EU students. To request pre-enrolment for a program, citizens should contact the Italian embassy-consulate in the student's country of residence, they cannot apply for a degree course (either for a first or a second cycle degree) directly to the University of Catania. Application deadline is established annually by the Italian Ministry of Education. At the Italian embassy or consulate, applicants fill a pre-registration request form and they can choose only one degree course.

Enrolment Procedures

For 1st cycle and One-long Cycle 2nd degree programs:

- the secondary school diploma (original copy) obtained after at least 12 years of schooling. The diploma must be translated and duly validated;
- the declaration of value for the diploma to be released by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country to which the school/college belongs to;
- the certificate assessing the student's passing of the academic admission/ proficiency test (where required), if provided for home country university access;
- any university study certificate or non university post secondary study certificate (exams passed and exam programs) for the obtainment of the enrolment to an academic year after the first one (shortening of the program time limits) or for the completing of the 12 year schooling required for the access to Italian universities;
- any certification assessing the knowledge of the Italian language.

For 2nd cycle degree programs:

- the original copy of secondary school diploma obtained after at least 12 years of schooling. The diploma must be translated and duly validated;
- the declaration of value for the diploma to be released by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country to which the school/college belongs to;
- the 1st cycle degree obtained at any university the diploma must be translated and duly validated;
- the declaration of value for the degree to be released by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country to which the university belongs to;
- the diploma supplement or certificate released by the relevant academic institution translated and duly validated assessing the passed exams as well as the detailed programs and time plan devoted to the teaching and

laboratory activities provided for each subject area;
- any certification assessing the knowledge of the Italian language if the Master Degree course is in Italian.

Italian Language Test

EU students with the following qualifications are exempt from taking the Italian language test and don't belong to "Contingente riservato":

- the 2nd level secondary school qualification obtained following four or five years of study at Italian schools abroad, or one of the secondary school final qualifications described in annex 2 of the provisions of the MIUR Memorandum;
- the certificate obtained in conjunction with a school diploma from Argentina that certifies that the program included 5 years Italian language course;
- the diploma in Italian language and culture issued by the University for Foreigners of Perugia and Siena, obtained after a course of at least one academic year;
- the Italian language proficiency certificates equivalent to levels C1 and C2 of the Council of Europe issued by the III University of Rome and by the University for Foreigners of Perugia and Siena, also issued in agreement with Italian cultural institutes abroad.
- Students with Italian language proficiency certificates equivalent to levels not lower that B2 of the Council of Europe, are exempt from the Italian language test, however admission in this case is determined by the number of places assigned to foreign citizens. Every year the date of the test (usually in early September) is set before the beginning of the academic year. Failing the test will prevent students from being admitted to any degree course in any Italian university; that's why an adequate knowledge level of Italian language is very important. Eventually, enrolment will be completed only after all the tests have been passed (Italian language test and entrance test).

Italian citizens with foreign academic qualifications

These Students are Admitted to the University under the same conditions as other Italian students.
The only difference concerns the certification of the foreign academic qualifications. Foreign academic qualifications must fulfill the requirements of the Annual memorandum of the Ministry of Education University and Research for foreign academic qualifications. Assessment of the degree qualification for Admission is subject to specific course requirements determined by each Master Degree board.

Enrolment Procedures

For 1st cycle course:

- the original copy of the High School Diploma authenticated and translated into Italian with its declaration of value done by the Italian Diplomatic Representation abroad. Moreover candidates must add the following documentation authenticated and translated into Italian:
- the original copy of the certificate proving that he has

passed such selections if in the country where the degree was issued the admission to universities is subject to competitive exams;

- the certificate issued by a foreign university or original certificate of educational qualification issued by a non- university institute stating the years of enrolment to prove that the candidate has reached the 12 years of schooling requested by law, if the student has got a High School Diploma which has been obtained after less than 12 years;
- certificate issued by a foreign university with the list of: passed exams, their contents (official study program), the number of theoretical practical teaching hours and marks given, if the candidate is going to ask to be admitted to year following the first. This certificate must be authenticated and officially translated into Italian.

For 2nd level degree course

Italian citizens in possession of a High School or university degree obtained abroad, must attach to the form of enrolment the following documentation:

- the original copy of the diploma (if obtained abroad) legalized and officially translated into Italian together with the declaration of value done by the Italian Diplomatic Representation;
- the diploma supplement or original copy of University diploma legalized and officially translated into Italian together with the declaration of value of the University diploma done by the Italian Diplomatic Representation;
- the original copy of the certificate of taken exams, issued by a foreign university, with the list of passed exams, marks given and their contents.

Students must provide the detailed study program for each exam, and the number of theoretical-practical teaching hours necessary for the issuing of the academic qualification. This certificate must be authenticated and officially translated into Italian.

For further information, please send an email at sestat@unict.it

3. Exchange students, professors and staff

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Students in mobility within Erasmus+

Introduction

Within the framework of International exchange programme, the University of Catania gives foreign students and professors/ scholars the possibility to spend up to one year mobility for study, training, teaching and research activities. The mobility can be activated from 1st October to 31st July of every academic year (in August and September there is no provision of didactic activities). Generally, the first semester ends on 28th February.

General Information

The University of Catania participates to Erasmus+, which is an European Union action in the sphere of student mobility. This program enables students, selected by their home higher education institutions in the frame of agreements (in specific thematic areas) stipulated between their institutions and the University of Catania, to study for a full academic year or a semester. Erasmus+ also allows students to spend a traineeship period in an enterprise or organization in Catania to develop specific skills including language skills
and to improve understanding of the economic and social culture of the country in the context of acquiring work experience. Students receive an Erasmus grant from their own institution.

Traineeship activity must be done in a company linked, for that purpose, with the University of Catania and must be tutored by a professor of the student's course in Catania, who will be in charge of the relationships between the University of Catania and the hosting company. Erasmus students do not pay any inscription or taxes fees and can activate their mobility from 1th October to 31st July of every academic year (in August and September there is no provision of didactic activities).
Mobility periods will start from the Welcome Day. Students and professors will receive administrative assistance and logistic support from the hosting university but should request mobility funds to their home institutions.

Mobility for study

This action involves University students of all levels (Ph.D. students included), selected under the Erasmus+ for a mobility period, within inter-institutional Erasmus Study Agreements, signed between their institution and the University of Catania, in thematic areas indicated in the agreements.
Erasmus students will not pay any inscription or taxes fees and can activate their mobility from the Welcome Day in

October (1st semester and full academic year mobility) or in March (2nd semester mobility) to 31st July of every academic year (in August and September there is no provision of didactic activities).
Once selected their students, each partner university will communicate their nomination, by e-mail, to the International Mobility Office (IMO) of the University of Catania.
IMO, after receiving selection communications, will inform students and partner universities, by e-mail, on administrative procedures available online.

For administrative procedure, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/erasmus-study-students

Mobility for traineeship

The action enables students to spend a traineeship period in an university structure, enterprise or organization in Catania. Students receive an Erasmus grant from their own institution and the traineeship period is recognized in their academic career. The university of Catania has created a new database of traineeship offers that will facilitate students choice and candidates selection.

For further Information please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/erasmus-students-traineeships

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Students in mobility within International Agreements

International students can carry out a period of mobility within the international framework Agreement or a related Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Catania and other institutions. This mobility, free of registration fees, can take place from the 1st of October to the 31st of July of each academic year (in August and September no teaching activities will be provided). Prior to being accepted, each single overseas student is expected to have the application filled in as well as the authorization signed from their sending International Relations Office. In case of a joint application from a group of students, the sending International Relations Office will have to submit an annual mobility programme to their target partners stating the number of incoming students, any personal data, mobility period (1st or 2nd term) and their respective learning plans. This information shall be included, prior to the student acceptance, in their learning agreements.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/international-students

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Students in free mobility

International free movers, coming from overseas universities without an international agreement with the University of Catania, and are interested in attending one or more single courses offered by the University, can sign up for them (up to 5 single courses for a maximum of 40 ECTS each year). It is, in any case, impossible to sign up for single courses belonging to degree courses with limited access at a national level. EU and non-EU citizens who reside in Italy on a regular basis (as prescribed by the Italian Law 286/1998, Art. 39, paragraph 5, including any further amendments) and are interested in attending one or more single courses, can sign up exhibiting their university card or any other translated and most importantly legal certificates. Non-EU citizens residing abroad can sign up for single courses through the Italian embassy.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/en/international/international-free-movers

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Ph.D. students in mobility

International Ph.D. students can spend out a mobility period (up to 11 months) at the University of Catania. This mobility can be carried out at any time during their academic year as long as it is consistent with the departments' availability for their research activities.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/international-phd-students

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Professors in mobility within Erasmus+

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/erasmus-professors-sta-mobility

Erasmus STA mobility

The University of Catania is delighted to welcome teaching staff, selected by their own institutions, for a teaching period under the Erasmus Plus Programme.

This action can be activate only if there is a Bilateral Erasmus Agreements, signed between their institution and the University of Catania. The mobility will not be financed by the University of Catania and it can take place from 1st October and 31st July every academic year (in August and September there is no provision of didactic activities).

Professors who wishes to come for a teaching period is invited to get in contact the Erasmus Office of his/her home institution in order to get all the necessary information.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Staff in mobility within Erasmus+

The Erasmus+ promotes the international mobility across European countries of administrative staff units and professors for training purposes.

This mobility involves the active participation of professionals from other universities in local activities to share experience, improve skills and exchange best practice in work performance. Participants will be expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs along with any subsistence costs through the Erasmus staff mobility funds available from their home institution.

STT Mobility can only take place between September 1st and July 31st of each academic year.

The University of Catania welcomes applicants for the STT Mobility in two different ways:

- Participating in the Erasmus Staff Training Week
  For a maximum of five days, this annual event will provide opportunities for networking and sharing best practice with colleagues interested in exploring or increasing the collaboration with our university through active participation in each of the sessions. It is specifically designed to all incoming European administrative and academic staff who wish to attend to a short-term training programme as a great chance to promote and share the respective knowledge on specific working methods and issues.
- Visiting a department or other structure of interest - Individual STT Mobility
  Professors and administrative units, coming from partner institutions who have already signed a Bilateral Erasmus Agreement with the University of Catania, may also choose to apply and be accepted by a specific department or other structure at UNICT for job shadowing practice or training. Visitors from higher education institutions are therefore expected to take this chance to exchange the knowledge they have in relation to a particular problem of a technical or cultural nature which may help both institutions to improve work skills and performance and enhance best practice.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/en/erasmus-mobility-training-stt-mobility

EXCHANGE STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND STAFF

Visiting Professors and Researchers

UE and non-UE professors and researchers can carry out a mobility period (from 2 weeks up to an academic year) at the University of Catania. Such mobility can be done in every moment of the academic year compatibly with departments' didactic or research activities.

This procedure must be followed both for mobility within the framework of international agreements and free for mobility.

For further information, please consult the website
www.unict.it/it/internazionale/international-visiting-professors-researchers-scholars

4. Facilities

FACILITIES
University facilities

Centre for Disability (CiNAP)
Address: Via A. di Sangiuliano 259, I-95131 Catania
Head: Prof. Massimo Oliveri
E-mail: cs.cinap@unict.iT
Website: www.cinap.unict.it/

Libraries and Documentation Centre (CBD)
Address: Via Etnea 742, I-95128 Catania
E-mail: cs.cbd@unict.it
Website: www.sida.unict.it/

Multimedia Languages Centre (CLMA)
Address: Via A. di Sangiuliano 197, I-95124 Catania
E-mail: cs.clma@unict.it
Website: www.clma.unict.it/

Accommodation and Meals (ERSU)
Address: Via Etnea 570, I-95128 Catania
E-mail: erasmus@ersucatania.gov.it
Website: www.ersucatania.gov.it/

University Sport Centre (CUS)
Address: Viale Andrea Doria 6, I- 95125 Catania
E-mail: info@cuscatania.it
Website: www.unict.it/en/university-sport-centre-cus

Career Guidance and Vocational Centre (COF)
Address: Via A. di Sangiuliano 197, I-95124 Catania
E-mail: cs.cof@unict.it
Website: www.cof.unict.it/

FACILITIES
Italian Language School

The School of Italian Language and Culture, is a Special Teaching Structure of the University of Catania and it was founded in 2016, on a proposal of the Department of Humanities, to promote the historical and advanced knowledge of Italian Language and Culture for foreign students and workers.
The School of Italian Language and Culture is pleased to offer foreign students different learning opportunities:

- organizes Italian Crash Courses (10 hours to get in touch with Catania and the essential communicative functions of Italian) free of any charge for all Erasmus Students in cooperation with the International Mobility Office;
- long term Italian Course based on the Common European Framework Levels, free of any charge for all Erasmus Students;
- e-learning Italian Course, in cooperation with ICON (Italian Language and Culture on the Net) a University Consortium which offers on line Italian Courses free of charge;
- a weekly linguistic info desk is available to help students in organizing their study or in acquiring the specific language they need at university;
- Italian language course entry test twice a year (first and second semester) in order to attend the right class of Italian (level A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2).

For further information, please contact the
Department of Humanities
Address: Piazza Dante, 24 I-95124 Catania
Contact person: Giuliana Aiello
Phone: (+39) 095 7102572
E-mail: italstra@unict.ii
Website: www.italstra.unict.it

HOUSING
ANYWHERE
student to student
housing platform

FACILITIES
Students Associations

The associations of students enrolled in the University of Catania are involved in the organization of cultural, sports and social activities related to Erasmus program.
In order to have access to some academic services and facilities the associations recognized by the University of Catania have to be recorded in an official register.

The Associations are in charge of:

- supporting foreign colleagues upon their arrival;
- helping them in getting familiar with Italian culture and context;
- assisting them in finding a stable accommodation for all the mobility period.
- Associations dealing with international activities are:
- Association des Etats Généraux des Etudiants de l'Europe (AEGEE)
- Erasmus Student Network (ESN).

'MBATE
SUGNU
ERASMUS
A
CATANIA

Association des Etats Généraux des Etudiants de l'Europe (AEGEE).

AEGEE was born 31 years ago bringing together students with different cultural backgrounds. Today, AEGEE is Europe's largest interdisciplinary youth organization: 40 countries, 200 cities, 13.000 friends. This network provides the ideal platform for young volunteers to work together on cross-border activities such as international conferences, seminars, exchanges, training courses and case study trips.

In line with the challenges young people are currently facing in Europe, AEGEE's work is focused on three main areas: Youth Participation, Bridging Europe and Inclusion of Minorities.

The most important event promoted by the association is the Summer University, that takes place during summer between one and four weeks in one of the cities where AEGEE is present. Understanding and exploring the multicultural dimension of the European continent, removing national borders, fighting for tolerance and creating open-minded citizens are some of the reasons why many young students from all over Europe come together in the Summer University to taste the diversity of multiculturalism.

To know all the services offered, please contact AEGEE
Address: Via Orto Limoni 5D, 95125, Catania
E-mail: contact@aegee-catania.org/aegeecatania@gmail.com
Website: www.aegee-catania.org
Facebook: AEGEE.Catania

SICULORUM GYMNASIUM
AEGEE
CATANIA

Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

In 2009, ESN Catania joined the ESN network, showing throughout the years a great deal of motivation. ESN Catania plays a key role on a local, regional and national level. It promotes, plans and manages all sorts of events, some including cooperation with other sections of the Italian network. Currently there are 25 active board members of ESN, providing a wide range of activities every semester. Among all activities, ESN Catania pays special attention to the Social Erasmus Programme. In fact, Catania was the first to promote Erasmus blood donation day, in partnership with AVIS. ESN Catania also takes part in a non-competitive yearly marathon charity named "Corri Catania" joined enthusiastically by Erasmus students and ESN members. Welcoming incoming students is a priority. Each semester is begun with a Welcome Week, during which, through formal and informal activities, the students get familiar with the association and the services provided.

These services include tutoring, a housing program, and many leisure activities such as treasure hunts, excursions, sightseeing tours and parties. Integration and language support are stimulated by a "tandem language learning program" and a biannual cinema club where movies in Italian language are screened and discussed at the end, creating opportunities for debates and exchange of views

To know all the services offered, please contact ESN
Address: Via del pino 24- Zafferana- 95019 Catania
E-mail: catania@esn.it
Website: www.esncatania.it
Facebook: esnerasmuscatania2015/2016

ESN

5. City of Catania

CITY OF CATANIA
Catania at a Glance

Catania is Sicily's second largest city, with a population of around 300,000. It lies on the Ionian Sea, under the shadow of Mount Etna. Mount Etna is ever-present and has to a large extent shaped both the history and the actual existence of Catania. On several occasions volcanic eruptions destroyed the city, the most devastating of which happened in the 17th Century.

In 1669 Catania was covered in lava and then, just 24 years later in 1693 an earthquake shook the town down to its foundations.

If Etna has been the cause of Catania's destruction, it has also been a vital source of the construction of the city, as much of the black volcanic rock which characterizes Catania's beautiful Baroque architecture was spewed from the heart of Etna. The way in which these past eruptions have formed the land, gives rise to the origins of the city's name. The historian Plutarch suggested that it came from the word Katane meaning "grated", referring to the uneven surface of the land surrounding Etna, upon which Catania stands. Catania is essentially a "grey" city and unique in the world for this.

Visiting Catania is quite easy, as the old town center is relatively small. An ideal starting point would be the main square, Piazza Duomo. This delightful square and all its surrounding buildings was designed by Giovanni Battista Vaccarini.

The Cathedral, dedicated to St. Agata, the city's patron saint, stands on the site of an 11th Century church that was almost entirely destroyed in the 1693 eruption. Its replacement is a very impressive, imposing Baroque structure that incorporates some Roman columns taken from the Amphitheatre. These are not the only Roman elements, however, as underneath are some Roman baths.

Inside, the Baroque theme continues with several ornate chapels and a fresco recording the 1693 earthquake. Bellini, Catania's most famous son, is buried here, as are (in ash form) three Aragonese kings: Frederick II, Louis and Frederick III. The other sides of the square are equally impressive and include the Diocesan Museum and the Municipio, (town hall) built in 1741.

In the center stands the city's symbol, a lava elephant fountain carrying an obelisk. It bears an enigmatic inscription, MSSHDEPL, which according to some is an acronym for "The mind of St. Agata is sane and spontaneous, honoring God and liberating the city". Such is the devotion to St. Agatha

in Catania that there are another two churches named after her, one just across the road from the Cathedral, the other just a short walk away off Via Etnea. Heading south from the piazza you will go under the 17th Century arch of Porta Uzeda towards the port. A quick right here will take you into Catania's colorful, bustling and odorous fish market. Get here before lunch and you will enter a different world, an atmosphere that has remained virtually unchanged for hundreds of years.
If you don't get lost in the hullabaloo of the market and head south west, you will come to Piazza Federico di Svevia and the old fortress of Castello Ursino. This imposing structure was built by Frederick II of Hohenstaufen in the 13th century on a rocky cliff overlooking the sea. However, the massive lava spill of the 1669 eruption pushed the sea back, creating in one fail swoop a new coastline and stripping Castello Ursino of its strategic position.
Moving back northwards you will come across a rather different aspect of the city: its ancient origins. Catania was founded in the 8th Century BC by Greeks from Chalcis.
It subsequently became a Roman city and amazingly, considering the dramatic series of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes that have so afflicted the area, three theatres have survived from this period.
The Teatro Romano, in Via Vittorio Emanuele, was built on the site of a Greek theatre in the 2nd Century AD.The use of lava stone demonstrates how long the excretions of Etna have been put to good use. Next door is the Odeon, a smaller theatre used for more intimate occasions, such as musical performances. The Amphitheatre, found in Piazza Stesicoro at the crossroads of Via Etnea and Corso Sicilia is and not

usually open to the public, though can be viewed from outside. It is well worth enquiring about a special tour, however, as it was the largest Amphitheatre in Sicily, said to accommodate around 15,000 spectators. A fascinating warren of passages runs underneath it, bringing to mind its more famous cousin the Colosseum. The area around the first Amphitheatre is given over to a series of churches and the Museo Belliniano, dedicated to Catania's most famous son, the composer Vincenzo Bellini. A short walk north east will take you to another building dedicated to his memory, the opera house Teatro Massimo Bellini. The opera season runs from around October to June and is well worth a visit if opera is your thing.

CITY OF CATANIA

How to get to Catania

By plane

If you arrive by plane, please consult available flights and useful information about the International airport "Vincenzo Bellini" Fontanarossa.
From the Airport to the city center and to the Train Station the "Alibus Service" leaves every 20 minutes from 5.00 am to midnight.

By train

If you reach Catania by train we recommend you to check out the Italian railway services online (www.trenitalia.it).
The Catania Railway Station is located in Piazza Giovanni XXIII
Phone: (+39) 095 532226
Switchboard: (+39) 095 532710
Ticket Office: (+39) 095 532227

By ship

It is possible to get to Catania by ship from Naples with the companies Tirrenia (www.tirrenia.it) or TTT Lines (www.tttlines.it). Moreover you can sail from Genova to Palermo with "Grandi Navi Veloci" (www.gnv.it) and then take the motorway A19 from Palermo to Catania (Km 190).

By car

Arriving by car from Milan, Motorway A1 Napoli-Milano, then take the Motorway "Salerno-Reggio Calabria", exit at "Villa San Giovanni" and get on the boat to Sicily. Then from Messina to Catania Toll-Motorway A18 (km 95). From Palermo to Catania: Motorway A19 (km 195). Updated information about the current road situation are available on-line at: www.autostrade.it

How to get around the city

If you approach Catania by car from the capital towns of the Sicilian provinces the distances are:
168 km from Agrigento
110 km from Caltanissetta
85 km from Enna
95 km from Messina
195 km from Palermo
104 km from Ragusa
60 km from Syracuse
317 km from Trapani

Climate

The climate of Sicily is Mediterranean, with warm summers with a high humidity level and mild winters. On the coast, especially the south-west, the climate is affected by most of the African currents occur and hot summers. Along the Tyrrhenian coast, and in general in inland areas the temperature is lower, the winters are colder and rainfall increases. On the Etna the climate is alpine. Especially in the summer it is very common to face the south wind, the wind from the Sahara. Rainfall is scarce, and the water deficit is revealed in some provinces where there are frequent water shortages. We recommend that appropriate winter garments be brought to be used on colder days.

Markets

Clothes, fruit and vegetable market in Piazza Carlo Alberto from Monday to Saturday in the morning and Saturday afternoon. Fish market in Piazza Di Benedetto from Monday to Saturday in the morning. Antique market in Piazza Dante every Sunday morning.

Shopping

The city center has a wide range of shops, which are open from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and from 4.00 to 8.00 pm in the winter. In summer working hours are from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and from 4.30 to 8.00 pm Pharmacies are also open at these hours, but it is always possible to find some open at night. Shopping centers are continuously open from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm. Shops are closed on Monday morning.

Medical Care

Students from EU member states should have the sanitary card before departure for Catania. This card should then be presented at an ASL office in case of medical necessity.

Local festivities and special events in the city

Catania is a city rich in festivals and events. There are music, art, film and theater festivals year round. Sant'Agata is Catania's patron saint and is celebrated in February from the 3rd to the 5th with one of the largest religious processions in Italy. This three-day festival includes an offering of candles, fireworks, and a procession carrying the image if the saint along the streets.

Local Transport

Catania's Municipal Transport Society Urban buses (the orange ones) are managed by the A.M.T. company and reach the whole town area. A single ticket costs € 1 and is valid for 90 min.
Free number: 800 018696

Out of town buses F.C.E. CircumEtnea (Railway - Bus Service)
Phone: (+39) 095 534323/ (+39) 095 541250
Departures: via Dusmet, near the Port, from 7.00 am to 20.00 pm.

A.S.T.- S.p.a - Azienda Siciliana Trasporti
Phone: (+39) 095 7461096

SAIS Autolinee
Phone: (+39) 095 536168
Departures: via D'Amico181, near Piazza Giovanni XXIII to Central Station.

ETNA Trasporti
Phone: (+39) 095 530396
Departures: via Archimede, in front of Central Station.

INTERBUS
Phone: (+39) 095 530396
Departures: via Archimede, in front of Central Station.

CITY OF CATANIA

Useful Numbers

Emergency 112
Health emergency 118
Police 113
Traffic police (+39) 095 493170
Fire Brigade 115
Sea Rescue Team 1530
Forest Fire brigade 1515

Carabinieri
Piazza Verga Giovanni 8
(+39) 095 530230

Police
Via Monsignor Ventimiglia 18
(+39) 095 7346111

Fire Brigate
Via Beccaria Cesare 31
(+39) 095 7248111

Financial Police
Via Fontanarossa
(+39) 095 347585

Health emergency
Croce Verde, Via Vezzosi 31
(+39) 095 373333

Croce Rossa Italiana
Via Ebe 2
(+39) 095 492486

First Aid
Corso Italia 234
(+39) 095 377122

Forest Fire brigate
Via Fontanarossa
(+39) 095 7233068

Harbour Master's office
Via Cardinale Dusmet
(+39) 095 538888

Prefecture
Via Prefettura 14
(+39) 095 4011111

Police Headquarters
Piazza S. Nicolella 8
(+39) 095 7367111

Cannizzaro Hospital
Via Messina 829
(+39) 095 7263030

Garibaldi Hospital,
P.zza S. Maria di Gesù 5
(+39) 095 7591111

Vittorio Emanuele Hospital,
Via Plebiscito 628
(+39) 095 7435252

Municipal Tourism Board
Via Vittorio Emanuele 173
800 841042

Provincial Tourism Board
Via Etnea 63
(+39) 095 4014070

Postal Services
Viale Africa
(+39) 095 7201111

Internet Point
Via Cibele 34/A
(+39) 095 7312052

Phone Center
Via Etnea 678
(+39) 095 434999

Studying, living, feeling at home ...
Welcome to the University of Catania

Notes

Edited by
International Mobility Office

Created by
Office Coordinator: Vincenza Tutino
Communication Officer: Maria Luisa Leotta

This handbook has been produced thanks to the Erasmus Plus Programme

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