

# Call for Applications

## Student Exchanges

**Closing on 23 March 2025 at 23:59**

The Office for International Affairs (OIA) presents the semester 2025 call for outgoing mobility, which is open to all UFS students to spend part of the second semester at one of the following universities:

### **Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility programme Partners**

*Deserving students will be awarded the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility grant upon a successful nomination.*

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| • <a href="#"><u>Aeres University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands</u></a>           | All Faculties                               |
| • <a href="#"><u>Babes-Bolyai University, Romania</u></a>                                | Msc & PhD                                   |
| • <a href="#"><u>Fulda University, German</u></a>  | Social Work & EMS Students only             |
| • <a href="#"><u>Pedagogical University of Ludwigsburg (PH Ludwigsburg), Germany</u></a> | Department of Sociology, Qwaqwa Campus ONLY |
| • <a href="#"><u>Riga Technical University, Latvia</u></a>                               | All Faculties                               |
| • <a href="#"><u>University of Groningen, The Netherlands</u></a>                        | All Faculties                               |

### **Unfunded Exchange Programmes**

*Nominated students must fund all their exchange expenses (e.g., flights, visa, accommodation, living costs, etc.), excluding tuition at the host university.*

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| • <a href="#"><u>Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium</u></a> | All Faculties |
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- [Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands](#) All Faculties
- [Sciences PO Bordeaux, France](#) The Humanities student

## 1. Eligibility Requisites:

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following general conditions:

- Senior (from second-year) UFS students must be registered and enrolled for bachelor's, honours, or master's degrees
- Bachelor's students must have successfully completed one full academic year
- Must have an academic record of 65% average or above in the previous semester
- Identify courses offered by the abovementioned partner universities that are equivalent to your UFS programme requirements (links to the courses offered at the partner universities are attached in the above list).

***NB: The UFS is regarded as the home institution, while the partners listed above are referred to as the host/partner university.***

***Some opportunities are Erasmus+ funded, and some are funded by the host universities.***

## 2. Application Process:

Applicants must **complete an online application form** and attach the following documentation:

- **Comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV)**
- **Two-minute motivational video**
  - Your motivation should offer your thoughts on how this exchange will contribute to your academic, personal, and professional (career) development. Moreover, state your reasons for choosing the preferred international partner university.
- **Learning agreement** (unsigned, to be found on partner universities' websites).
  - This must list the preferred suitable programmes/courses you would like to take at the partner universities listed above.
- **Letter of support (master's students)**
  - This must be provided by the supervisor or academic staff who can endorse your eligibility for the exchange. **There is no predefined format for the**

**recommendation letter; however, the following points might serve as guidance for the motivation:**

- The relevance of the applicant's selected/preferred course in comparison to their study programme at the UFS
- The applicant's strengths, graduate attributes, and academic opportunities
- How the applicant will benefit from the exchange.

### **Duration of Exchange:**

- The student exchange runs between July 2025 and December 2025/January 2026, depending on when the host institution's second semester concludes.
- Students selected for this mobility will be required to travel to the host country/university for orientation purposes a week before the commencement of the academic semester.
- The host institution will finalise all the mobility dates.

### **3. Fees:**

- Tuition fees are waived at the host university and the students are not expected to pay any tuition at their host university.
- Student exchange programmes **are not funded**. Nominated students have to fund their exchange expenses (e.g. flights, visa, accommodation, living costs, etc).
- Deserving students will be awarded the **Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility grant** at partner universities where an Erasmus+ partnership exists.

### **4. 2025 Academic Registration, Learning Agreements, and Post-Exchange Period**

#### **Process:**

- Students selected for this exchange will remain registered with the UFS and will be required to register at the host university.
- A formal learning agreement will be signed before the student commences with the mobility. This is to ensure that the UFS recognises the credits accumulated during the exchange period.

#### **4.1. Academic recognition before the study abroad period:**

- The selected student, together with their sending and receiving institutions, must sign a Learning Agreement for studies to ensure transparent and efficient preparation of the

exchange abroad, as well as to agree on how activities successfully completed abroad will be recognised.

- The Erasmus+ funded students will receive a copy of the Erasmus+ Student Charter (if applicable), explaining their rights and obligations for the exchange period.
- Selected students will need to sign an indemnity agreement.

## **ERASMUS+ FUNDED PROGRAMME CONDITIONS**

### **5. Grant Conditions:**

- **In the event that students are awarded Erasmus+ grants:** Students selected for this mobility will receive an individual support grant that will cover all costs related to visa, travel, meals, and accommodation. The funding provided is sufficient to cover all costs related to the mobility. **However, the grant will only be released to the student upon arrival at the partner university.**
- Lower priority will be given to applicants who have never received mobility grants under Erasmus Mundus consortia, Erasmus Mundus joint master's degrees, or the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (KA107) Programme.

### **6. Evaluation and selection criteria:**

The exchange programme, including the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme, will be awarded on a competitive basis, dependent on the evaluation of the quality of applications and following a procedure that guarantees fairness and transparency. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Quality of the proposed programme/courses corresponding with the research areas at the host university, and expected impact of the research stay
- Proof of curriculum alignment
- Quality of the application.

### **7. Information:**

Should any doubt arise regarding the interpretation of this call document, please contact **the Outgoing Mobility Team**: [outgoing@ufs.ac.za](mailto:outgoing@ufs.ac.za)

### **8. Disclaimer:**

The Office for International Affairs and its partner universities have the discretion to cancel student exchange programmes or recall students abroad if

- insufficient academic progress is being made; and
- the student is subjected to any disciplinary actions or misconduct.

**Closing date:**

**23 March 2025 at 23:59**

**No late applications will be accepted.**