

Erasmus Policy Statement

The Theologische Universiteit Utrecht (formerly Theologische Universiteit Kampen) has been awarded the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education for the Erasmus+ programme 2021-2027. The Erasmus Policy Statement shows our institutional strategy in relation to the Charter.

The Theologische Universiteit Utrecht (TUU) is a theological institution in the Netherlands, which participates in an expanding international network of theological institutions. Internationalization is a key objective of our institution through which we seek to improve and modernize the primary and secondary educational processes, to contribute to the quality of research, to strengthen international cooperation and to increase the number of inbound and outbound exchanges.

An important way to pursue 'internationalization at home' are two English Master programmes:

- Intercultural Reformed Theology
- Church and Mission in the West.

In both programmes international and Dutch students study together and an increasing number of international Master students is attracted in this way: 10-15% of our regular students are international students. In this way a positive change in attitude towards internationalization is achieved at all levels of our university. Foreign guest lecturers participate in teaching in these programmes as well.

We are open to cooperate with foreign institutions to develop joint BA, MA and research programmes or projects.

The main goals of our internationalization strategy are:

1. Strengthening the international profile and position of our university by broadening and enhancing our international cooperation and international network.
2. Stimulation of international exchange for teachers, researchers, students, and staff, in order to improve the quality of our educational processes and research.
3. Internationalization and modernization of our institution by learning from 'best practices' of other institutions, teachers, and staff.

Our university wants to contribute to the academic discourse with in-depth research, also in cooperation with European and non-European theological institutions. We intend to achieve our goals by facilitating and stimulating structural international contacts with an increasing number of our teachers, researchers, students, and supporting staff from non-Dutch institutions.



Internationalization is realized through the support of the Board of Directors and the work of the International Office.

Participating in the Erasmus programmes contributes towards the internationalizing and modernization of our institution. By participating in the Erasmus programmes, our institution will be able to attract foreign PhD-students and researchers to do (part of) their research in Utrecht and in cooperation with our researchers. As a result of the implementation of our plans, the international position and profile of our institution will be strengthened. Erasmus+ contributes to improve the competences of teachers, researchers, and staff members through teaching and training mobilities. Feedback will help us in the process of continuing internationalization and modernization of educational practices and process.

Erasmus is a helpful tool for offering digital services, like Erasmus+ app and Erasmus Dashboard. This contributes to the modernization of our institution and enhances the possibilities for online education for our institution.

We foresee that the impact of the European Union's Modernisation and Internationalisation Agenda in Higher Education will be noticed at the Theologische Universiteit Utrecht by the following actions:

1. Putting more emphasis on third cycle research and cooperation with our partner institutions: Stimulating our PhD-students to partake in a short-term academic project at one of our partner institutions as part of their research programme and receiving PhD-students from our partner institutions for short-term academic projects
2. Improving the inclusivity of our buildings and facilities
3. Developing digital education and the possibility of blended mobilities (international classroom)
4. Start with the implementation of the European Student Card as far as feasible
5. Active promotion of Civic engagement in students' lives
6. Encouraging students and teachers to travel environmentally friendly

