

ERASMUS PLUS (E+)

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY UNIVERSITY OF EXTREMADURA (UEX) AND CHINESE INSTITUTIONS

1. What is the ERASMUS PLUS Programme (E+)?

It is an education programme promoted by the European Commission to encourage cooperation among European Countries (called Programme countries) and also among European and non-European countries (also called Partner countries).

ERASMUS PLUS finances, among others, mobilities of Students, Teachers, Researchers and University Staff.

2. How does ERASMUS+ work?

A University within the EU territory who will act as coordinator needs to build a network of Universities for a mobility project, and apply to the European Commission to get funding to move candidates from that European University to Partner Universities and vice versa.

The University of Extremadura, UEx, located in the south west of Spain is a modern and dynamic University very focused on internationalization. After more than two decades of mobility programmes with European and American Universities, we took the chance of the Erasmus Plus program to expand our target areas to China, aware of the relevance the "Asian Giant" has in the international landscape.

In this context, UEx presented a mobility project to the European Commission last march 2015 and passed a really hard selective process. The European Commission assessed very positively UEx proposal because of its demonstrated capacity to manage International Projects and long experience in hosting international students.

3. Who are participating?

University of Extremadura is the Coordinator Institution and the one managing the funds.

10 Chinese Universities were included in the project.

4. How many mobilities will be funding the European Commission?

- ✓ A total of **19** mobilities for China to UEx (Spain) in different modalities: Students (undergraduate, master or doctorate), Teachers and Technical staff.
- ✓ A total of **7** mobilities from UEx to Chinese Universities (all must be Doctoral, Teachers or Technical Staff)

5. How will they be distributed?

Each University will select a minimum between 2 and 4 candidates, according to the general conditions that UEx will establish (following the European Commission rules) and the specific

conditions that each University decides to establish. Principles of equality, merit and transparency must be respected.

If the number of applicants is higher than the number of grants, UEx will have the power to decide the final selection, respecting the principles above.

The University of Extremadura financed at least 1 institution mobility. The maximum depends on the number of institutions that finally propose candidates.

There is the possibility of coming to the UEx unfunded, but under the same conditions as other students ERASMUS PLUS (academic recognition, waiver of fees in UEx).

6. How much will students get?

4000 € for cost of stay

Maximum 1.100€ for the trip

Important: To facilitate mobility, UEx can offer compulsory insurance and travel for participants. The cost of travel and insurance will be deducted from the amount of the scholarship. Students will be duly informed of such a situation.

7. What is next?

All Chinese Universities will have to sign and Interinstitutional Agreement with UEx. This is a template of the European Commission containing information about each institution (such as what is the tuition language, which disciplines you offer, which kind of accommodation you offer, what is your grading system, etc).

In this template we will fix the number and the disciplines for exchanges. By signing this document both institutions commit themselves to do their best to ensure mobilities take place in the best possible conditions.

Institutions also commit themselves to recognize at home the contents students have taken at the host institution (UEx).

Interinstitutional Agreements should be signed as soon as possible and before mobilities take place.

8. Where do Universities find the Interinstitutional Agreement template?

UEx will be sending it to you for you to complete your info and make it sign by your Rector or legal representative.

In the next days, UEx will contact you to ask you for some data to be included in this template.

9. When are students selected?

Students should be selected as soon as possible, so UEx sends the invitation letters on time to get visas.

9. How are students selected?

UEX will establish the general bases all Universities must respect, following the European commission regulations. Each University will establish specific conditions according to their own selection criteria.

ORIENTATIVE CALENDAR

Previous to Mobility:

- **October:** exchange of information between UEx and Chinese partners to prepare Institutional Agreements. Solving doubts, enquiries, etc.
- **November:** Preparation by UEx of Interinstitutional Agreement and General Bases that Chinese Universities need to consider for their selection processes.
- **End of November:** selection process in Chinese Universities and communication to UEx of the selection results.
- **End of November** Sending out invitation letters to Chinese students for visa application and providing orientation and advice to students.

Academic calendar of Second Semester :

12th-January 2016: Arrival of students at UEx

13, 14, 15th January 2016: Orientation days

18th -31rd January 2016: Intensive Spanish Language Course*

1st February: start of lectures

30th May: end of lectures

1-30 June: exams

1-15 July: extraordinary exams (for subjects failed)

*IMPORTANT: Spanish Language Course needs to be confirmed. If we did not finally succeed in offering this course, students should be arriving the last week January.