



ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN POLICY STATEMENT 2014

The University of Worcester international strategy operates through focused strategic partnerships and overseas recruitment and through ensuring that the education of its students is enriched through experiences which have an international dimension. The university is engaged in developing an international perspective to its curriculum so that University of Worcester graduates will understand the international, cultural, professional and academic contexts of their discipline. Graduates will understand global issues and the requirement to participate in society as a global citizen. They will be able to work with others across different contexts, cultures and countries.

The university will expand the number of strategic partnerships it has with international organisations that share its ambitions, mission and values, to increase international recruitment and international exchange opportunities for students and staff. The university will ensure that its international partnerships are mutually beneficial and sustainable and that it is an innovative and reliable partner. The university is seeking to diversify its staff base to include well qualified staff from a range of cultures and backgrounds who will contribute to international developments through teaching, research and knowledge exchange.

The university selects its partners strategically; some are progression partnerships which ensure a flow of well qualified students into UW courses. Characteristically, these would be selected in line with the international recruitment strategy and would be first cycle students from Asia who have completed a B Tec or HND qualification progressing onto a top up year at University of Worcester to complete a Bachelor's degree. Worcester Business School also has a progression agreement where second cycle students who have completed a PG Diploma equivalent come onto the final third of a UW MBA.

Exchange partners within Europe are selected with a view to achieving a diverse range of partners from Scandinavia, through Central Europe to Eastern Europe. As the University of Worcester does not offer degree programmes in Modern Foreign languages, partners are chosen which can offer courses taught in English. However, so that our students are not disadvantaged socially, the Language Centre offers a small range of in house credit bearing MFL modules and a full range of online MFL modules. Typically, members of academic staff identify synergies with partner institutes at conferences or through research networks. They then research the potential partner through OM and TM funding to establish compatibility

before embarking on the partnership. The objective is to enhance the students' learning experience by a flexible approach to module matching and a diverse range of partners in terms of size, setting and geographical spread. UW is very responsive to requests from partners for second cycle exchanges, though the nature of our taught degrees has so far meant that we have not yet reciprocated. Outside Europe, University of Worcester has selected partners in English speaking countries such as US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand but is developing partnerships in China, India and Russia with a view to offering a broader range of experience to staff and students.