

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

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Participation in Erasmus+

At LCI Barcelona, we value and select the Erasmus+ students' profiles that we consider most appropriate. To do this, we consider the following aspects:

- ➔ Complete and orderly **portfolio** showing the student's work and experience in the learning area.
- ➔ **Curriculum Vitae and Motivation letter**: we are looking for people who really want to enjoy an Erasmus+ experience at LCI Barcelona and who are enthusiastic about their studies and learning.
- ➔ **Language level certificate**

The Erasmus+ exchanges take place during the third year of the bachelor's Degrees. When awarding places, the academic record, the knowledge of the host country language and the personal motivation of the student are considered.

In the same way, every year LCI Barcelona receives students from different countries who want to enjoy not only the academic experience of learning at school, but also all the opportunities that the city of Barcelona offers in the social, cultural, and economic context. This is a reciprocal enrichment since their participation in the classes brings an international and multicultural vision within the LCI community.

Our school have participated for several years in Erasmus program. In our case, we always request the project Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility of individuals (Mobility project for higher education students and staff).

Most of the mobilities we manage are for studies or traineeships. However, and thinking about the future, our intention is to continue growing and promoting other types of mobility as Staff mobility for teaching and Staff mobility for training. In addition, we would like to develop international mobility and collaborate with partner countries.

Unfortunately, we do not plan to offer Blended intensive programs in the next academic year.

► Strategy, objectives and impact

Our school is a member of LCI Education, a Canadian network present on the 5 continents that now boasts 23 higher education campuses and a staff of nearly 3000 workers, dedicated to teaching 17,000 students around the globe every year. All this makes us the most international school of design in Barcelona.

We believe that this internationalization contributes to further development of the educational community. In this way, students, teachers, and staff receive a comprehensive educational and job training and added value to their careers.

In addition, we can create synergies and international collaborations that can benefit the students, teachers, and staff of LCI Barcelona and our partner institutions.

Erasmus+ helps our educational community enjoy an international experience and to know and share common methodologies and knowledge within the European Education Area.

Our main objective is to interact more internationally and expand new visions of collaboration and cooperation. We work to participate in new projects that promote the creative and human potential of the entire LCI Barcelona community.

► Indicators

1. Promote international mobility to partner countries (for example Australia or Canada) in the next years.
2. Greater participation in Staff mobility for teaching and Staff mobility for training in the next years.
3. Promote sustainability and digitization among our students, teachers and staff for the new project 2021-2027.

2. ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

2.1 General organisation and management

General organisation and management

The international department of LCI Barcelona is led by a person whose responsibilities are the following:

- Maintain dialogue with international partner universities to correctly implement mobility programs, strengthen the institutional relationship and detect new possibilities for collaboration.

Our purpose is to identify opportunities, seek new international collaborations that enrich the profiles of our students, teachers, and staff, and help create synergies and expand borders.

Our goal is to create and offer a complete and satisfying experience for both incoming and outgoing.

- Manage the different international mobility programs (procedures before, during and after the student's stay at the destination university) of incoming and outgoing students of study and internship mobility to increase the flow of mobility and ensure compliance with the normative.

- Coordinate and manage the different management tools of the International Service and the different interlocutors involved in the mobility process, to ensure the optimal development and correct registration of the mobility of incoming and outgoing students.

- Create and organize information sessions and other training and networking events for incoming and outgoing students to promote international mobility, create meeting spaces between the university and exchange students, promote their integration, train and provide them with the necessary information for their stay.

- Motivate, advise, train, and serve the student, to increase international mobility and provide a quality service that ensures the resolution of their queries.

- Participate in the drafting of European Erasmus+ projects, prepare the reports requested by the EU of the project and maintain dialogue with the Erasmus agency for the correct participation of LCI Barcelona in the Erasmus+ program.

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2.2 Quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

On the one hand, we work following an academic calendar and a planning guide to organize each of the steps that are part of the mobility process.

Thanks to the communications and instructions that the National Agency is sending us, we can implement the projects correctly and ensure satisfactory mobility for our students, teachers, and staff.

Our training methodology is based on experience and professional practice. We offer a dynamic and constantly updated education platform, closely linked to social, cultural, and economic context to integrate, and transmit to the student the evolution of techniques and the needs of people, companies, and institutions.

The LCI Education network campuses offer more than just a qualification. They provide students with comprehensive learning experiences in a warm, inclusive, and dynamic environment. They push students to develop their skills in entrepreneurship and encourage them to innovate by fully assuming their place in society, as global citizens.

LCI Barcelona works hard to foster the creative and human potential of each student in its community through a methodology that combines the academic rigor and the dynamism of the creative industries.

To carry it out, the school comprises a group of professionals committed to consolidating a creation and experimentation center in continuous development, promoting the spirit of collaboration and sustainability in design and society.

On the other hand, in the international department we analyse the following indicators:

- No. Mobility:

- Student mobility for studies (outgoing and incoming)
- Student mobility for traineeships
- Staff mobility for teaching
- Staff mobility for training

- Origin / destinations: the countries with which we participate more in mobilities.

- Inter-Institutional Agreement: we maintain dialogue with international partner universities to correctly implement mobility programs, strengthen the institutional relationship and detect new possibilities for collaboration.

- Activities: Analyse the number of activities and / or events aimed especially at the international community of the school

2.3 Communication and visibility

From the first moment that the student / teacher contacts the school, our international and student services department informs, not only of the study programs, but also of the services we offer, Internships, international mobility programs (Erasmus+ and LCI Education Network), accommodation, Visa, events...

We accompany them from the moment they contact us and arrive at the school, until their experience on campus ends.

Our goal is to guide, throughout the entire journey, making them aware of our culture and values.

The intention is to create a welcoming environment and ensure the well-being of the educational community, fostering an environment of respect and tolerance towards all cultures and above all guaranteeing equality and non-discrimination based on sex, race, religion, disability, age. and sexual orientation.

Students who are pursuing Higher Art Education are informed in the first year of the possibility of participating in the Erasmus+ study program. Student mobility for studies at LCI Barcelona take place during the third year of the bachelor's Degrees and Student mobility for traineeships when they are in the fourth year.

From the international and student services department at LCI Barcelona, we explain to all students Higher Studies the steps to follow in the Erasmus+ participation process, requirements, conditions, important dates, partner institutions... through information sessions. And the same goes to incoming students from our partner institutions who want to come to LCI Barcelona to study for a semester or a year.

On the LCI Barcelona website, students can find information about Erasmus+ program in the resources - mobility - Erasmus+ section: <https://en.lcibarcelona.com/students-resources/mobility/erasmus>

The guide to apply for Erasmus+ place is sent directly to outgoing students once the information session is held, and to incoming students after they have been nominated by their home institution.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECHE CHARTER PRINCIPLES

3.1 ECHE fundamental principles

Non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion

Our Mission: Connecting our people to opportunity through quality education.

Present today on 5 continents, the LCI Education network consists of 23 select higher education institutions, and some 3000 employees offering instruction to over 17 000 students throughout the world each year. From one country to the next, LCI Education favors the harmonization of its programs, which makes for greater flexibility, better control over the quality of its services, and deeper respect towards the various cultures it works with.

Shared values

As LCI Education strives to fulfill its mission, the administration has identified a set of six values that orient its operation, guide the actions of each employee, and drive its collective force towards one common goal.

Quality

Care for the quality of work in all that is undertaken must be a leitmotif for all employees. The organization aims for nothing less than excellence in all its operations.

Initiative

LCI Education believes in the importance of a sense of initiative, in each employee, when it comes to finding solutions to difficult situations that may occur at work. This quality enables employees to take calculated risks to achieve their goals.

Creativity

Being open to change, inspiring innovation and continuously aiming for improvement are fundamental to maintaining a progressive edge. This openness nurtures constructive criticism in the working environment and encourages innovation.

Mutual consideration

Mutual consideration, tolerance and respect for peoples' individuality and differences underpin an LCI Education – fostering employee motivation and satisfaction. Social and environmental issues are also at the heart of LCI Education's mission.

Commitment

LCI Education's greatest strength resides in both the expertise and sense of belonging of the institution's staff. Here, they feel supported and fulfilled, understanding its corporate values, adopting its standards and working in harmony with their peers. To an LCI employee, the institution's successes are their successes, its failures theirs to rectify.

Sharing

The spirit of sharing is the essential LCI Education attribute that empowers the network. The institution's employees are called upon to share its successes, resources, knowledge, and best practices.

Pedagogical Project

The LCI Education network campuses offer more than just a qualification. They provide students with comprehensive learning experiences in a warm, inclusive, and dynamic environment. They push students to develop their skills in entrepreneurship and encourage them to innovate by fully assuming their place in society, as global citizens.

ECTS credits

Quality is one of the distinguishing features that have turned LCI Barcelona into an educational institution ever attentive to the changing needs of our students. All professors and campus support staff share a series of values associated with the excellence with which we do our work each day.

In 2015, the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya) approved the design of our School's Internal Quality Management System (SGIQ) based on the AUDIT-EAS program. Since then, the SGIQ has been implemented gradually and is periodically reviewed to keep it up to date, as established by the school's quality objectives. The SGIQ includes the definition of internal quality assurance processes that enable the continuous management and improvement of training programs, of teaching-learning process and student support, of external practices, of student mobility programs, of academic staff and of services and material resources. Our main objective is to achieve the best academic results, satisfaction, and job placement outcomes possible for the students and alumni of LCI Barcelona, not to mention support in their personal growth.

This SGIQ is essential since the school offers four official bachelor's degrees (see documentation <https://en.lcibarcelona.com/about-us/quality/documents>) in Higher Art Education.

Higher Art Education is part of university education in Spain, as shown in the following table: <https://www.ciencia.gob.es/stfls/MICINN/Universidades/Ficheros/cuadro-meces.pdf>

Our Higher Degree in Art Education of Design is equivalent to a university degree, with all of them corresponding to MECES level 2. The three master's degrees in Art Education that we offer are equivalent to university master's degrees, with all corresponding to MECES level 3.

The legal framework for Higher Art Education is provided by Organic Education Law 2/2006, developed in Royal Decree 1614/2009. The latter already incorporates all the elements to ensure convergence with the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). As a result, all official degrees had to be adapted to the EHEA after its publication.

The fundamental objectives of the EHEA are to place the student at the center of the education system and to harmonize the different national systems to promote mobility so they may study

and enter the job market in other countries. Different initiatives were launched in this regard, such as the ERASMUS exchange program (which has recently evolved towards ERASMUS +) and the European Degree Supplement (EDS), the establishment of a common mechanism to calculate a student's dedication to a program (ECTS credits, the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System), the recognition of credits and the establishment of a common European framework for degrees (EQF, European Qualifications Framework). At LCI Barcelona we take full advantage of the benefits of this shared European space to remain open to as many international students as possible and promote our students' mobility.

Higher Art Education in Catalonia is the responsibility of the Catalan Ministry of Education, which in 2012 established an agreement with AQU to include these studies in the Verification, Monitoring, Modification and Accreditation framework (VSMA), so that the programs are subject to the same external quality assurance processes as university and master's degrees. Thus, in 2013, our bachelor's degree in Design was verified, and in an event at the headquarters of AQU Catalunya, the final evaluation reports of all the verified degrees were submitted to the directors of the schools, including the director of Felicidad Duce, LCI Barcelona's School of Higher Education in Design.

In accordance with the VSMA framework, at the school we monitor all our degrees each year so we can identify possible areas for improvement and take the right steps to maintain a high level of excellence, which is included in the Improvement Plan. The result is a process of continuous improvement of our degrees, which is one of the school's quality objectives. The monitoring reports of the official degrees are supervised by AQU Catalunya, and the indicators of the degrees are published on our website.

Finally, we are committed to transparency and to the objective of working tirelessly so our students can acquire the knowledge, tools, and values they need to become competitive professionals in a global world and responsible citizens committed to society.

European Student Card and Erasmus+ App

Our national agency has informed us of both initiatives, and we look forward to developing them and encouraging our students to use it starting in the next academic year 2021-22.

Environmentally friendly practices

During their training at LCI Barcelona, students learn to anticipate trends, challenge established paradigms and improve the world by considering elements such as sustainability and commitment to the environment and society.

Students work by applying these values to their projects according to the characteristics of each sector, while promoting collaborative and research methods with other areas to take advantage of the benefits of interdisciplinarity. Three very clear examples are the collaborations with B-SEArclar, Aflote and LibreGuard. <https://en.lcibarcelona.com/about-us/educational-centers>

Civic engagement and active citizenship

Our training methodology is based on experience and professional practice. We offer a dynamic and constantly updated education platform, closely linked to social, cultural, and economic context to integrate, and transmit to the student the evolution of techniques and the needs of people, companies, and institutions.

LCI Barcelona works hard to foster the creative and human potential of each student in its community through a methodology that combines the academic rigor and the dynamism of the creative industries.

To carry it out, the school comprises a group of professionals committed to consolidating a creation and experimentation center in continuous development, promoting the spirit of collaboration and sustainability in design and society.

On the other hand, the LCI Education Foundation offers to the 17,000 students of the network spread over 5 continents the possibility to contribute their time, talent, and effort to promote school perseverance, especially in emerging countries where LCI Education is present. The members of the LCI community can grow as citizens of the world thanks to this social participation program that has already carried out projects with Shakira's Pies Descalzos Foundation and Maman Dion Foundation. <https://en.lcibarcelona.com/about-us/educational-centers>

3.2 Mobility activities (Student / staff mobility)

Course catalogues (before mobility)

Every year LCI Barcelona receives students from different countries who want to enjoy the experience of learning at the school. This is a reciprocal enrichment since their participation in the classes brings an international and multicultural vision within the LCI community.

All students selected to participate in the Erasmus+ Program and our partner institutions can find all the information about our bachelor's Degrees at LCI Barcelona website:

Programs of 240 ECTS equivalents to university degrees in all respects. They allow to access official masters, apply for Ministry of Education scholarships, participate in Erasmus program and present to A1 open competition exams.

Like the rest of our educational offer, they promote sustainability, are closely linked to the business world, and have a clear international vocation thanks to the LCI Education network.

As a result of the evaluation process carried out by AQU Catalunya, LCI Barcelona has been accredited by obtaining a rating of outstanding in its Occupational Quality Index. Our high rates of labor insertion are higher than those of the rest of the college graduates, especially those of Higher Art Education.

Inter-institutional agreements for study and teaching mobility (before mobility)

From the international department of LCI Barcelona, we are continuously in contact with international partner universities to correctly implement mobility programs, strengthen the institutional relationship and detect new possibilities for collaboration.

So far, we have signed 25 inter-institutional agreements and recently we have established new agreements with 3 new institutions in Italy, France, and Poland.

Support for outgoing students/staff

From the academic department of LCI Barcelona, and specifically from Student Services, we make sure that the student / staff is heard, advised, and assisted by the school before, during and after his/her time of mobility.

LCI Barcelona provides an advisory service for all its students / staff in aspects related to life in the city and guidance in matters not related to the academic field, but crucial for the personal development of the student / staff.

Support for incoming students/staff (during mobility)

Every year LCI Barcelona receives students from different countries who want to enjoy the experience of learning at the school.

LCI Barcelona, through the Student Service Department, welcomes and advises all international students who year after year begin their studies at the center.

Before the arrival in town

The home university must have an exchange agreement with LCI Barcelona so that students / teachers can apply for an Erasmus+ place at our school.

After submitting the required documentation, a committee will evaluate the incoming student / teacher application and confirm his/her admission. To formalize it, you must fill out the relevant forms.

The Student Service and International Department send the acceptance letter confirming her/his registration at LCI Barcelona as an Erasmus+ student / teacher.

Once the student is accepted, we send him/her a schedule form with the subjects that he/she must choose for each semester. In the case of teachers, we send them the schedule of the classes in which they will participate. Also, he/she receives a guide with information about the school, legal procedures, and the city.

Throughout the process, we are in contact with the student and / or teacher, who receives support through different platforms (email, contact telephone number, teams...) to ask questions and have direct contact with the school.

The entire LCI Barcelona team is available to attend to each case and offer an individual and personalized welcome.

Planning of the trip and stay in Barcelona

The school has collaboration agreements with student residences and other types of accommodation that offer preferential conditions to LCI Barcelona students. When the student is accepted into the school, she/he will obtain a guide that includes all the information in this regard, and she/he will have the advice of the center's professionals.

Upon the arrival in the city

At LCI Barcelona we offer an individual and personalized welcome. We suggest to the incoming students/staff to arrive a bit earlier and let us know the exact day of arrival to arrange a meeting and discuss the subjects, the schedule or availability of the classes.

During her/his experience in Barcelona

Beyond her/his training, she/he will be able to enjoy all the activities and events organized by the school and she/he will have the opportunity to discover one of the capitals of design and creativity: Barcelona.

Full automatic recognition of credits (after mobility)

For the academic credit that the student obtains at LCI Barcelona to be transferable to their studies at their home university, it is important to comply with the following sections:

1. The home university must have an Inter-institutional agreement for study mobility with LCI Barcelona.
2. The student must be studying at a European partner university (which entitles him/her to Erasmus+ internships) or at a non-European partner university.

In this case, the student remains enrolled at her/his home university but will take courses at LCI Barcelona during the period of their mobility.

3. Students must be enrolled in official Higher Education studies

Recognition of staff mobility (after mobility)

The school comprises a group of professionals committed to consolidating a creation and experimentation center in continuous development, promoting the spirit of collaboration and sustainability in design and society.

From the international and student services department at LCI Barcelona, we explain to our staff employed the steps to follow in the Staff mobility participation process, requirements, conditions, important dates, partner institutions... through information sessions.

LCI Barcelona teachers are active professionals within their respective sectors. The Erasmus+ program gives them the opportunity to continue training in their area, creating and experimenting in other spaces and collaborating with other education professionals.

3.3 Cooperation projects

Promotion of cooperation projects

In our case, we do not participate in Erasmus+ Key Action 2: Partnerships for cooperation.

Support engagement

Non applicable

4. DECLARATIONS

Commitment to the ECHE Charter

<p>By submitting this application, the institution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• acknowledges that it has read and fully understood and that commits to apply/comply with all the principles of the ECHE Charter.• accepts that the implementation of the Charter will be monitored by the Erasmus+ National Agencies and that a violation of the Charter may lead to the withdrawal of the certificate by the European Commission.	YES
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