



Erasmus+ Programme

Key Action 1
– Mobility for learners and staff –
Higher Education Student and Staff Mobility

Inter-institutional agreement for calls 2020-2023

Agreement n. 2020-1-IT02-KA107-078488

between
The University of Messina

and
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU)

[Minimum requirements]¹

The institutions named below agree to cooperate for the exchange of students and/or staff in the context of the Erasmus+ programme. They commit to respect the quality requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education in all aspects related to the organisation and management of the mobility, in particular the recognition of the credits awarded to students by the partner institution.

A. Information about higher education institutions

Name of the institution (and department, where relevant)	Erasmus code	Contact details² (email, phone)	Website (eg. of the course catalogue)
University of Messina/Italy	I MESSINA01	Francesca Scribano Head of Extra – EU Mobility Programs, International Education	https://international.unime.it/

¹ Clauses may be added to this template agreement to better reflect the nature of the institutional partnership.

² Contact details to reach the senior officer in charge of this agreement and of its possible updates.

		and Cooperation E-mail: fscibano@unime.it Tel: +390906768539	
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	BGU Beer-Sheva / 999846222	Dr. Stavi Baram – Director oiaa@bgu.ac.il phone: 972-8-6479798 Ms. Ada Morpurgo – Staff Coordinator Erasmus@bgu.ac.il Phone: 972-8-6428234 Ms. Judith Saban– Student Coordinator BguOutgoing@bgu.ac.il phone: 972-8-6477679	www.bgu.ac.il/global

B. Mobility numbers³ per academic year

The partners commit to amend the table below in case of changes in the mobility data by no later than the end of January in the preceding academic year.

FROM [Erasmus code of the sending institution]	TO [Erasmus code of the receiving institution]	Subject area code * [ISCED]	Subject area name *	Study cycle [short cycle, 1 st , 2 nd or 3 rd] *	Number of student mobility periods	
					Student Mobility for Studies	Student Mobility for Traineeships *
[total number of months of the study periods or average duration*]						
ISRAEL BGU	I MESSINA 01	421	Biology	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd	12 months (2 mobility for an average duration of 6 months)	
I MESSINA 01	ISRAEL BGU	421	Biology	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd	12 months (2 mobility for an average duration of 6 months)	

[*Optional: subject area code & name and study cycle are optional. Inter-institutional agreements are not compulsory for Student Mobility for Traineeships or Staff Mobility for Training. Institutions may

³ Mobility numbers can be given per sending/receiving institutions and per education field (optional*:
<http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Pages/international-standard-classification-of-education.aspx>)

agree to cooperate on the organisation of traineeship; in this case they should indicate the number of students that they intend to send to the partner country. Total duration in months/days of the student/staff mobility periods or average duration can be indicated if relevant.]

FROM [Erasmus code of the sending institution]	TO [Erasmus code of the receiving institution]	Subject area code * [ISCED]	Subject area name *	Number of staff mobility periods	
				Staff Mobility for Teaching	Staff Mobility for Training *
ISRAEL BGU	I MESSINA 01		ADMINIST RATIVE STAFF Mobility		7 days (1 mobility)
		421	Biology	7 days (1 mobility)	
I MESSINA 01	ISRAEL BGU		ADMINIST RATIVE STAFF Mobility		
		421	Biology	7 days (1 mobility)	

C. Recommended language skills

The sending institution, following agreement with the receiving institution, is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates so that they can have the recommended language skills at the start of the study or teaching period:

Receiving institution [Erasmus code]	Optional: Subject area	Language of instruc- tion 1	Language of instruc- tion 2	Recommended language of instruction level ⁴	
				Student Mobility for Studies [Minimum recommended level: B1]	Staff Mobility for Teaching [Minimum recommended level: B2]
I MESSINA 01		English		B1	B2
ISRAEL		Hebrew	English	B2 English	B2 English

⁴ For an easier and consistent understanding of language requirements, use of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is recommended, see <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr>

BGU					
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For more details on the language of instruction recommendations, see the course catalogue of each institution

University of Messina courses taught in English

<https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/erasmus-icm-incoming-extra-eu/>

Specific academic offer at the Department of Pharmaceutical and Environmental Chemical Biological Sciences <https://www.unime.it/it/cds/biologia>

Academic Offer at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU)

<https://in.bgu.ac.il/en/international/Pages/default.aspx>

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev courses taught in English

<https://edit.bgu.ac.il/en/Global/Pages/General/Courses-in-English---Lists.aspx>

D. Additional requirements

[To be completed if necessary, other requirements may be added on academic or organisational aspects, e.g. the selection criteria for students and staff; measures for preparing, receiving and integrating mobile students and/or staff]

[Please specify whether the institutions have the infrastructure to welcome students and staff with disabilities.]

Selection criteria are jointly defined by the partners, based on transparency, fairness, equal opportunities, accessibility for all. Each sending institution will be responsible for the internal selection procedure of its outgoing students/staff; transparency and fair treatment is ensured by agreed selection guidelines. Each University will select its outgoing students and staff, validating applications from an administrative (complete applications based on requested documents at the moment of the call for applications) and an academic point of view (excellence). Selections will be transparent, fair, and documented, respecting equal opportunities and gender balance and based on:

Student Mobility for Study (SMS)(PhD):

- Academic performance (50%): average mark (I&II cycle students); Master Degree final mark for PhD students
- Language skills (15%): level B2 (English/Italian)
- Motivational letter/interview (15%)
- Quality of the Learning Agreement for Ist and II cycle students/Research Proposal for PhD students (20%)
- Priority to disabled students with the same grade.

Staff (STT/STA)

- Academic CV for STA (20%)
- Experience in the scientific area for STA (20%)
- Language skills (20%) for STA: level B2 English/Italian
- Language skills (20%) for STT: level B2 English/Italian
- Quality of the Workplan (40%) for STT
- Quality of the Workplan (30%) for STA
- Impact of consolidation and expansion of relations between Universities.

Partners will be jointly responsible for the selection process and will guarantee the integration of beneficiaries with disabilities, socio economic disadvantage, and commit to guarantee gender equality.

Where relevant, the receiving institution will organize Skype interviews to verify language skills.

The Ben-Gurion University of the Negev has the basic infrastructure to welcome students and staff with disabilities. Details have to be discussed upon individual request.

1. For an additional optional fee, students may become members of the Student union and receive benefits and discounts to events organized by the union as well as free entrance to the BGU sports center. Like all BGU students, international students should pay a mandatory university services fee.
This all amounts to 150 euro per semester (prices are accurate for the time the agreement is signed.)
2. Courses Taught in English can be found at the following link:
<https://edit.bgu.ac.il/en/Global/Pages/General/Courses-in-English---Lists.aspx>
Opening of English courses depends on the amount of students enrolled to each specific course. Incoming students will have to check the relevance of the courses they are interested in.
1. Once all students are officially nominated by their home institution they will be asked to fill out an online application form: <https://www.tfaforms.com/399172>
Admissions requirements:
 - Minimum GPA of 3.0 or an average grade of 80 out of 100
 - English: Grade 80 in Advanced B2
 - Nomination Letter
 - Official copy of your Transcript of Study
 - 1 Personal Recommendation Letter
 - Personal Statement/Motivation Letter
 - A digital photograph (JPG)
2. Information for students with disabilities can be found at the following link-
http://in.bgu.ac.il/Deka_nat/en/Pages/default.aspx

E. Calendar

1. Applications/information on nominated students must reach the receiving institution by:

Receiving institution [Erasmus code]	Autumn term* [month]	Spring term* [month]
I MESSINA 01	30 th November	30 th June
ISRAEL BGU	15 th May	15 th November

[* to be adapted in case of a trimester system]

2. The receiving institution will send its decision within 2 weeks.
3. A Transcript of Records will be issued by the receiving institution no later than 4 weeks after the assessment period has finished at the receiving HEI. *[It should normally not exceed five weeks according to the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education guidelines]*
4. Termination of the agreement

In the event of unilateral termination, a notice of at least 6 months should be given. Neither the European Commission nor the National Agencies can be held responsible in case of a conflict. In case of unilateral termination, a notice of at least one academic year should be given. The termination clauses must include the following disclaimer: in this case, "Neither the European Commission nor the National Agencies can be held responsible in case of a conflict."

[It is up to the involved institutions to agree on the procedure for modifying or terminating the inter-institutional agreement. However, in the event of unilateral termination, a notice of at least one academic year should be given. This means that a unilateral decision to discontinue the exchanges notified to the other party by 1 September 20XX will only take effect as of 1 September 20XX+1. The termination clauses must include the following disclaimer: "Neither the European Commission nor the National Agencies can be held responsible in case of a conflict."]

F. Information

1. Grading systems of the institutions

UniMe adopts the Italian Grading Scale from 18 (less than 18 the exam is failed) to 30. UniMe officially adopts the ECTS conversion scale https://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/ECTS_AD_2020-Scienze%20chimiche%2C%20biologiche%2C%20farmaceutiche%20ed%20ambientali.pdf

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU)

Grades are awarded in percentage (1-100), where the minimum passing grade is 56 for a Bachelor degree and 65 for a Master's degree

For PhDs, the research activity carried out at the host site is certified by a certificate of work accomplishment, in line with what was agreed in the Research proposal. Where they occur prerequisites, we proceed with the activation of joint thesis.

UniMe students will see the activity recognized by the Degree Course Council, according to the procedures established by the University Regulations on the recognition of credits earned abroad.

[It is recommended that receiving institutions provide the statistical distribution of grades according to the descriptions in the ECTS users' guide⁵. A link to a webpage can be enough. The table will facilitate the interpretation of each grade awarded to students and will facilitate the credit transfer by the sending institution.]

2. Visa

The sending and receiving institutions will provide assistance, when required, in securing visas for incoming and outbound mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

Information and assistance can be provided by the following contact points and information sources:

Institution [Erasmus code]	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
I MESSINA 01	Francesca Scribano Head of Extra – EU Mobility Programs, International Education and Cooperation E-mail: fscribano@unime.it Tel: +390906768539	https://international.unime.it/
ISRAEL BGU	All students and staff must obtain	http://www.bgu.ac.il/en/Global/Pages/Hospitality/Visa_List.aspx

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/docs/ects-guide_en.pdf

	<p>the appropriate visa before coming to Israel.</p> <p>Office of International Academic Affairs</p> <p>vhi@bgu.ac.il</p>	
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3. Insurance

The sending and receiving institutions will provide assistance in obtaining insurance for incoming and outbound mobile participants, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

The receiving institution will inform mobile participants of cases in which insurance cover is not automatically provided. Information and assistance can be provided by the following contact points and information sources:

Institution [Erasmus code]	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
I MESSINA A 01	<p>Concetta Butà</p> <p>Head of Welcome Office</p> <p>E-mail: uopwelcomeoffice@unime.it</p> <p>Tel: +390906768356</p>	https://international.unime.it/
ISRAEL BGU	<p>All students and staff must have proof of health insurance for the duration of the stay in Israel. They can contact us if they would like to buy an Israeli policy.</p> <p>Office of International Academic Affairs</p> <p>vhi@bgu.ac.il</p>	http://www.bgu.ac.il/en/Global/Pages/Hospitality/HealthInsurance.aspx



4. Housing

The receiving institution will guide incoming mobile participants in finding accommodation, according to the requirements of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

Information and assistance can be provided by the following persons and information sources:

Institution [Erasmus code]	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
I MESSINA A 01	Concetta Butà Head of Welcome Office E-mail: uopwelcomeoffice@unime.it Tel: +390906768356	https://international.unime.it/
ISRAEL BGU	Ms. Laila Perelman- Soppi Incoming Student Coordinator E-mail: lailap@bgu.ac.il Phone: 972-8- 6428579	http://www.bgu.ac.il/en/Global/Pages/General/HousingHospitality.aspx

G. SIGNATURES OF THE INSTITUTIONS (legal representatives)

Institution [Erasmus code]	Name, function	Date	Signature ⁶
I MESSINA 01	Prof. Salvatore Cuzzocrea Rector	24/2/22	
ISRAEL BGU	Prof. Chaim Hames Rector	19/1/22	

⁶ Scanned signatures are accepted



