

We are now officially opening the applications period for students interested in spending a period of studies/placement at the U.Porto. Therefore I take this opportunity to send you information about the Application Procedures for next Academic Year 2012/2013 , so that your students can follow it carefully. We would also appreciate if you could forward the information to your Departments and Coordinators.

- **All Applications should be submitted ONLINE.** Therefore no paper forms and documents have to be sent to us, except if demanded by the Home University.

1 - Academic application procedures

Students selected by their Home University, and Freemovers, have to register online in order to get the username and password needed to access the **Application Form**, in the U.Porto website :

http://sigarra.up.pt/up_uk/web_base.gera_pagina?p_pagina=122272 or
(*International >Life at U.Porto> Administrative Procedures -> Ask for login*)

Students will receive an e-mail containing a temporary username and password. Please note that, for security reasons, this password will expire automatically, therefore you will have to create your personal and definitive password to login and access the Application Form.

We strongly advise students to read the Online Application Guide also available in the same page (sidebar on the right).

For a more effective and easier way to fill the Application, we recommend students to organize all the information with the responsible for the mobility at the Home Institution, before accessing the Application Form.

The Application Form should be completed on-line and submitted, then printed, signed by the student and the Erasmus Coordinator, stamped and uploaded.

The **deadlines for the arrival of the application forms/learning agreements** are:

Full Academic year - 15th June 2012

1st semester - 15th June 2012

2nd semester - 30th November 2012

In order to know **detailed information about semester dates, study catalogues, course programmes, ECTS guide and the dates for the exams** you are most welcome to consult each Faculty's site for a detailed description (under 'Cursos / Degrees').

Information in English is available by clicking on the British flag at the top of the pages:

Detailed [Education Offer](#)

You may also contact our Faculty of interest directly. The contact details of the Faculties are also available on-line at the same place.

We strongly advise students to read our web page very carefully before their departure to Porto:

[International Student Guide](#)

2 - Portuguese Language Courses

Very Important:

Practically all subjects lectured are taught in Portuguese, so students should try to have some preparation in Portuguese before their arrival.

Some teachers may allow students to write assignments and take exams in other languages, namely in English, but this situation can only be agreed upon arrival in each individual case.

Although these might seem a constraint, that does not stop foreign students from choosing the U. Porto for a study period or to continue their studies. We are the University in Portugal that more Erasmus students receives, over 700, and we are between the first 40 universities receiving Erasmus in Europe, from the ranking of the E.U. Actually, you are over 1.500 exchange students per academic year from all over the world.

You should also have in consideration that Portuguese is spoken by over 260 million people in the world. It is the 3rd most spoken language in the Occident and the 5th most spoken language in the world. It is also the official language of 10 countries. So, learning Portuguese is also a big advantage for in the labor market worldwide and a big value for your curriculum.

For information about the **Portuguese Intensive Language Courses** offered at the U.Porto, students must consult the following site

[Portuguese Language Course](#)

or contact our Faculty of Arts through the following address:

Att. Mr Pedro Oliveira
Formação Contínua
Faculty of Arts
Phones: + 351 22 607 71 67/00
Fax: + 351 22 607 71 53
e-mail: pmoliveira@letras.up.pt

3 – Accommodation

Regarding the **accommodation**, we inform you that the International Office only manages accommodation in the University Halls of Residence

Halls of Residence:

- The procedure for attribution is on a "first come first served" basis
- The request will be only **considered after the approval of the Learning Agreement**

proposed

- Your request does not justify a legal claim for receiving a room in the University of Porto Halls of Residence
- An answer to the request will be given in due time and **always after the approval of the Learning Agreement by the U. Porto**
- You may apply for accommodation in your Student Application Form

Private accommodation:

We provide a list of rooms/apartments available; however, we do not assume any responsibility for this accommodation as it is not managed by the University.

In case you are interested on this information, we will be pleased to send you the list under request to: incoming.mobility@reit.up.pt.

4 - ESN - Erasmus Student Network

To help you on your **integration in the U.Porto and city**, there is a group of voluntary students, **ESN-Porto** (Erasmus Student Network), that you can get in contact before or after your arrival:
info@esnporto.org

<http://esnporto.org> There you can also search for information how to get a Buddy in Porto
(buddy@esnporto.org), in case you are interested.

Please note - Students that cannot come in due time to attend classes since the first day **must arrive until the end of the second week of classes.**