

NetCu Compendium of Showcases

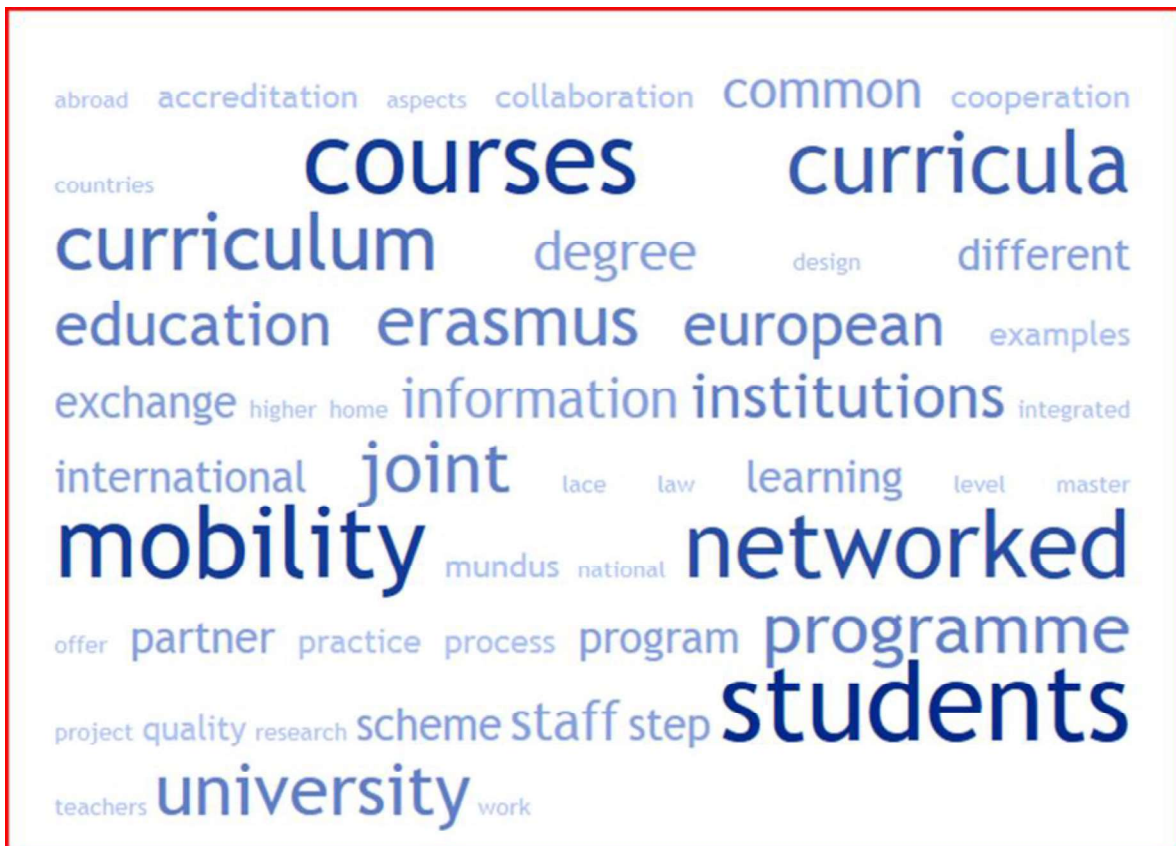


Table of Contents

1.	Uninettuno (IT).....	4
1.1	MedNet’U – Mediterranean Network of Universities	4
1.2	Double degree programme in Information and Communication Technologies Engineering	13
2.	Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (ES)	20
2.1	Erasmus Mundus EUROMIME.....	20
2.2	Euro-Latin American Master’s Degree in Intercultural Education (INTER Master’s Degree)	28
3.	Tallinn University (EE)	34
3.1	Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Course Digital Library Learning	34
4.	Fernuniversitat Hagen (DE).....	44
4.1	The Lived Experience of Climate Change (LECH)	44
5.	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (BE).....	48
5.1	LACE, Literature And Change in Europe.....	48
6.	Open Universiteit (NL)	51
6.1	Free Technology Academy.....	51
6.2	EVS – European Virtual Seminar on Sustainable Development.....	55
7.	Anadolu University (TR)	67
7.1	Anadolu University-Empire State College, State University of New (SUNY-ESC) York e-MBA Program.....	67
8.	Open University of Cyprus (OUC).....	73
8.1	Educational Leadership	73
9.	Universidade Aberta (PT)	84
9.1	Doctor's Degree in Digital Media Arts.....	84
9.2	El Gate - University International Department Management	87
10.	CADUV (CZ)	90
10.1	Interuniversity Study.....	90
11.	MESI (RU)	94
11.1	Building networked curriculum in an umbrella (distributed or multicampus) university	94
11.2	Double degree bilingual programme	97
11.3	Master's Degree bilingual programme	100
12.	Kaunas University of Technology (LT).....	102
12.1	Information Technologies of Distance Education (ITDE)	102
13.	Formation Universitaire à distance (CH).....	109
13.1	Bachelor of Science, Business Administration and Economics.....	109

14.	Hungarian e-University Network	112
14.1	International Master in Heat Treatment and Surface Engineering	112
14.2	Erasmus Mundus Minerals and Environmental Programme (EMMEP)	120

9. Universidade Aberta (PT)

9.1 Doctor's Degree in Digital Media Arts

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Level of the programme

- Doctoral (PhD)

Size of the programme

The doctor's degree in digital media arts is an post graduate academic programme, designed according the Bologna Process. It delivers 180 ECTS in 3 years, taught in an b-learning for a maximum of 40 students per year.

The Partnership

The programme is organized and coordinated by Universidade Aberta and Universidade do Algarve in Portugal. The coordinating role of the programme is assumed alternately by each university partner on a year basis. The first edition of the doctoral program (2012) will be coordinated by Universidade Aberta. The non-university partners are: Fundação da Bienal de Arte de Cerveira; Teatro Municipal de Faro; Cineclube de Faro; Instituto - Centro de Computação Gráfica; Associação de Professores de Expressão e Comunicação Visual; Computer Arts Society; InSEA - International Society for Education Through Art and Artech-International.

Teaching language

The official language of the programme is Portuguese, so this is the language adopted for the production of the didactic materials and for the evaluation. Nevertheless Spanish and English can also be used in written materials and teaching.

Degree/diploma awarded

The programme is a joint degree by Universidade Aberta and Universidade of Algarve with one diploma, awarded by institutions on a single document.

Financial support

The program hasn't any kind of financial support.

1. Description of the collaborative programme

This course aims at training professionals in digital media arts for the more diverse working areas, be it in research, education and artistic, technological and communicational development, with solid skills in computer technologies, communication sciences and artistic and intercultural intervention; capable of assuming the leadership of experimental/research-action projects of artistic and intercultural

intervention, either individual or collective, covering the development of new applications, products and aesthetic narratives.

These professionals will assume duties as managers of research projects, in education and of development and creation of new highly innovative aesthetics discourses that strongly exploit the informative and sensory expressiveness of multimedia contents, technological interfaces and interaction, aiming at constructing interventional artifacts for the creative industry, in the artistic and cultural expression, education and entertaining.

The doctoral program has a duration of 3 years, for full time students, and 5 years for partial time students. The first year embraces a set of compulsory learning units in the scientific areas of information and communication technologies, communication sciences and artistic expressions. These set of units constitute an advanced course in digital media arts, corresponding to 60 ECTS, divided in two semesters of 30 ECTS each. The program's second and third years are reserved for the preparation of the doctoral thesis corresponding to 120 ECTS. The doctoral program's three years of duration correspond to a total effort of 180 credits ECTS which allow the access to the doctoral diploma in digital media arts.

The doctoral course will run primarily in online open distance learning (ODL) mode using an e-learning platform, which includes virtual laboratory facilities, and applying the virtual pedagogical model of UAb. However, there are planned some classroom sessions of intensive laboratorial experimentation up to two weeks per semester, especially considering here the first year of the course (curricular part).

During the two years of preparation of the doctoral thesis it is planned a week per semester for presentation /demonstration of intermediate results.

The face-to-face teaching sessions will be organized in the premises of the Open University (Portugal) (headquarters, external delegations and the several Local Learning Centers distributed along the country) and the University of Algarve.

The programme provides intermittent mobility periods of up to two weeks per semester of internships, atelier/workshops that are compulsory. The range of study points in mobility are 30 ECTS. Staff (4-5 teachers) have to come to the host university (coordinating one) to teach / supervise student work, atelier and workshops up to two weeks each semester.

2. Admission and selection for our collaborative programme

Candidates that may apply for the doctoral course are :

- a) holders of a master degree (or equivalent qualification) in visual arts, performing arts, arts education, design, music, literature, computer science and information technologies, multimedia, communication sciences, or other related areas;
- b) holders of an undergraduate degree (or equivalent qualification) in visual arts, performing arts, arts education, design, music, literature, computer science and information technologies, multimedia, communication sciences, among others, with a relevant professional or academic curriculum, either scientific or artistic, that is recognized by the competent organ as evidence of the candidate's capacity to satisfactorily undertake the doctoral course;
- c) on an exceptional basis, holders of an outstanding professional or academic curriculum, either scientific or artistic, that is recognized by the competent organ as evidence of the candidate's capacity to satisfactorily undertake the doctoral course.

The Admission and selection process is organised by a Coordinating Board – led by the Doctoral Program Director and including staff members from both university partners.

3. The main incentives for our teaching staff to organize/participate in this collaborative programme

The main incentives for the teaching staff to organize/participate in this collaborative programme is recruiting international students for subsequent collaboration (research, PhD,...), reinforcing research links and reputation building.

4. Online support of the collaborative programme and related mobility

This course is delivered primarily online through the course e-learning platform where all the support is given. The mobility in terms of internships are organized by the hosting partner university which provides all assistance needed for the students residency and living during the mobility.

5. Added value of the programme

This course adopts an approach that is intended to be balanced with respect to the areas of technology and of art and communication, combined with the art-intervention dimension in the domains of communication, education, culture and entertainment, which is only comparable to other 3 - 4 doctoral courses offered in the European space. Moreover, by functioning primarily in online distance education mode, this doctorate adopts a pioneering role worldwide.

Added value of the partner collaboration in this programme *for your students.*

The added value of the partner collaboration in this programme for the students is assured by the following aspects:

- To participate in a doctoral program that is delivered primarily in online distance education mode. - To participate in a virtual collaboration network embracing experts, professors and stakeholders of the field of study;
- The International cooperation with other students (in projects, seminars, courses, thesis work; internships companies);
- The International recognized title of the programme;

- The Learning complementary subjects for different competence profiles (not taught at the home university), related to complementary research and innovation.

Added value of the partner collaboration of this collaborative programme *for your institution*

The added value of the partner collaboration of this collaborative programme for the institutions of the consortium and the partners is assured by the fact that partnership offers an additional multidisciplinary dimension to the programme.

6. Sharing within the networked curriculum

The networked curriculum is assured through different activities:

- Courses, course material, content;
- Staff (through (joint) lectures, projects, seminars, workshops, thesis, summer schools, projects,...);

- Students (through mobility or (joint)lectures, projects, seminars, workshops, thesis, summer schools, projects,...).

9.2 El Gate - University International Department Management

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Level of the programme

- Vocational Program

Size of the programme

The El Gate programme delivers 4 ECTS for about 50 to 75 students.

The Partnership

The programme is organized and coordinated by Università Telematita Guglielmo Marconi (Italy) and the partner universities are Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (Brazil), Universidade Aberta (Portugal), Universidad del Salvador (Argentina), Fundación Uvirtual (Bolívia) and Universidad Estatal a Distancia (Costa Rica). There isn't any non-university partners

Teaching language

The official languages of the programme are Portuguese, Spanish and English.

Degree/diploma awarded

A certificate is awarded to the students who finish the course.

Financial support

The programm was financed by the European Commission through the ALFA III Programme.

1. Description of the collaborative programme

The project addresses the problematic of university internationalization working on the priorities of the reorganisation of cooperation processes inside Latin American universities and its International Departments (ID) capacity building. The main target group of the action is Latin American university managers in charge of identifying and implementing cooperation activities.

In Europe several programmes were established both at national and international levels directed at the development of the international dimension of higher education. The European Commission supports education in Member States in a number of ways, managing programmes to stimulate educational co-operation and mobility within the Community and with third countries. Several Member States have reinforce the international dimension of their national programmes, as United Kingdom thought the

British Council, France through Edufrance Agency and Germany through DAAD, the German Academic Exchange Service.

In addition to changes in the design of education programmes and new possibilities offered for study in other Member States, many universities have set up or reinforced their offices for international relations.

More, some European universities are experiencing new models of integration in local systems and cooperation at a global level, acting as a gate between local and international dimensions, linking local actors to the knowledge produced by the world community of teachers and researchers. The implementation of those models requires developing new functions in University structures and incorporating representatives of the non-academic world within universities' management and governance structures.

Using the European experience as a reference, the Course promotes the capacities of Latin American universities in codifying and surveying the evolution of successful international cooperation models, supporting their own International Department managers in developing and implementing a dedicated model. A formalised cooperation model, recognised within the university, namely by its organization charter, which facilitates the role of ID managers in dealing with the confusion and the inefficiency of a series of multi-person and a multi-line cooperation processes widespread among universities. A strategic model for internationalization that puts IDs as the focal points and guidance centers for cooperation activities inside the university. In this way the Course is designed to contribute to strengthening management and governance of Latin American universities. Moreover, it is relevant for the EU education policy, contributing in the straightness of the multilateral dimension of higher education national systems.

The specific objective of the Course is to improve the capacities of International Department managers of Latin American universities to design and implement a more effectiveness and efficiency university cooperation model, recognized and formalized into the university organization chart, integrated into the university development strategic lines, and able to find and to put in action resources (human, technologic and financial) to run cooperation activities.

The network implemented 6 Working Packages (WP) respectively committed to:

WP 1 – the analysis and codification of university cooperation models and the relate skills;

WP 2 - the development of the course and setting up of the e-learning platform;

WP 3 - the delivery of the course;

WP 4 - the design, developing and management of the Community of Practices including the launch of the study visits' programme;

WP 5 - the implementation development of the communication tools and of the dissemination strategies;

WP 6 - the management, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

It were attributed to the students the possibility to carry a study visit each to an ID of a different LA university with good experience in internationalization. Also, at the end of the course, students had also the opportunity to present their cases studies at two international events. There were no staff mobility.

2. Admission and selection for our collaborative programme

Admission was made to all students involved in related programmes in the partnership. The Admission and selection were jointly organised by Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (Brazil) and Universidad del Salvador (Argentina).

3. The main incentives for our teaching staff to organize/participate in this collaborative programme

The main incentives for the teaching staff to organize/participate in this collaborative programme were: i) responding to the demand of students for an international experience; ii) increasing the “employability” of the course on the labour market; iii) Making an attractive international programme together with partners abroad; iv) raising the quality by complementary content; v) raising the quality by complementary pedagogical approaches; vi) reinforcing research links and vii) reputation building.

4. Online support of the collaborative programme and related mobility

Using a Learning Management System (e-learning platform).

5. Added value of the programme

Added value of the partner collaboration in this programme *for your students.*

The added value of the partner collaboration in this programme for the students is assured by the following aspects:

- Intercultural experience, learning in another environment/language learning;
- International cooperation with other students (in projects, seminars, courses, thesis work; internships companies);
- Learning complementary subjects for different competence profiles (not taught at the home university), related to complementary research and innovation;
- it's a recognized international certificate although not an official title.

Added value of the partner collaboration of this collaborative programme *for your institution*

The added value of the partner collaboration of this collaborative programme for the institutions of the consortium and the partners is assured by:

- The programme is more cost-effective through the collaboration;
- A more complete range of subjects and learning activities is offered;
- The partnership offers an additional multidisciplinary dimension to the programme;
- The programme has become more attractive, hence it has more impact and more students can be recruited;
- The partnership reflects research and innovation links with the partners.

6. Sharing within the networked curriculum

The networked curriculum is assured through different activities, namely:

- Courses, course material, content;
- Learning environments, learning communities.