ACADEMIC GUIDE
Crossing Borders

An interdisciplinary and inclusive answer to urban challenges

SPRING 2020

KAREL DE GROTE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE - ANTWERP
THE PROGRAMME

Crossing Borders is an Erasmus+ programme organized by the Faculty of Applied Social Sciences, Teacher Education and Health Care of Karel de Grote University College. The programme is open to both exchange students and local students and is offered in the spring semester (only).

Crossing Borders offers a fine selection of courses presented by both guest lecturers, our own staff and professionals. All modules are taught in English. The subjects are open to all students from social work, teacher education and health care. The courses are also open to Belgian students as electives hence ensuring further opportunities for integration.

The programme focuses on the main challenges caused by urbanisation. Students in the Crossing Borders programme gain deeper insights into the three central urban challenges which are: superdiversity, inequalities and liveability. Through lectures, field visits and dialogue, students will gain insight in these challenges and will learn how to cope with it.

Crossing Borders is a crossover between social (educational care) work, education and health. In their daily practice, teachers, social workers and healthcare practitioners face the same challenges. Within a safe and small scale setting students and teachers actively engage in exchange and dialogue. Through dialogue and exchange, students will learn to develop an interdisciplinary and transcultural approach.

The urban setting of Antwerp offers the perfect setting to explore the urban challenges by field visits, observations, lectures and practical assignments.

At the beginning of the programme (during the last week of January) ‘Orientation Days’ are organized for all incoming students. A detailed programme will be sent to the students after acceptance.
Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum Crossing Borders</th>
<th>30 ECTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary &amp; diverse-sensitive competences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Migration &amp; Superdiversity</td>
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<td>Poverty</td>
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<td>Gender &amp; sexuality</td>
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<td>Ethics &amp; human rights</td>
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<td>Urban Health Challenges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban challenges in Education</td>
<td>4</td>
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The course Interdisciplinary & diverse-sensitive competences is **mandatory** for all exchange students.

**An overview of all courses can be found at the end of this brochure. A detailed description in the course catalogue is available at** [ects.kdg.be](http://ects.kdg.be)

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

**SPRING 2020**

- Orientation days All students: 29 – 30 January
- Orientation day Crossing Borders + registration and administration issues at Campus Zuid: Friday, 31 January
- Start of the modules: **first period** of the programme: Friday, 31 January
- Deadline changes LA: 11 February
- Spring holiday: 24-28 February
- Examinations first term: 30 March- 3 April
- Easter holidays: 6-17 April
- Start of the modules: **second period** of the programme: 20 April
- Examinations second term: 8-12 June
- End of semester Crossing Borders: 19 June
- Farewell event: to be confirmed
Contacts
At the campus of Applied Social Sciences, Teacher Education and Health Care students will find an enthusiastic team which is in charge of the programme Crossing Borders. Students can contact us with all their questions and we will try to make their stay in Antwerp an unforgettable experience.

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All classes will take place at one single central campus, unless stated otherwise.

The address of the central campus is:
Campus Zuid Brusselstraat 45
2018 Antwerp
DUTCH FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEVEL A1-A (EXTRACURRICULAR)  
= “DUTCH A1-A”

For those who are interested, KdG offers a language course “Dutch A1-A” aiming at all exchange students. Classes will take place at Campus Groenplaats (Nationalestraat 5) and will be organized in the evening from 18:00 till 20:00.

The course includes 24 contact hours in class. Attendance is compulsory. In addition you will need to spend around 50 hours on preparation, homework and studying.

You can only be successful when you take an active part in the lessons. The approach is communicative, interactive and task-based. It concentrates largely on listening-, speaking- and reading skills. Your language portfolio will be important for the writing skill.

Learning Dutch must be seen as a gradual process. You progress at your own pace; at first it is to be expected that you will speak Dutch that isn’t perfect at all. Always keep in mind that you learn from your mistakes!!!


There are no prerequisites for this course.

A detailed course description can be found in the course catalogue  ects.kdg.be under Crossing Borders

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in Crossing Borders should be competent enough in English to participate actively in the courses, hence Level B2 is strongly recommended. If students are not proficient enough in English to participate actively in the courses, there is always the risk of failing assignments or examinations. This is entirely the responsibility of the sending institution.

Short after their arrival at the college, all Crossing Borders students will be taking a placement test in writing, reading, speaking and listening. The results of these tests have no binding force. However, if a student does not reach level B2, he/she is strongly recommended to take up the offer of English coaching provided by Karel De Grote University College: ‘The Language Room’.

‘The Language Room’ focuses on improving the knowledge and the level of mastery of a foreign language.

This assistance comes in various formats:
  • digital support module
  • workshops on the four skills
• individual counselling
• referral to language courses

In addition, students can take English (or other) language lessons in the language center of the University of Antwerp (see www.linguapolis.be). For applications and fees please contact Linguapolis directly.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATION

Every lecturer decides which type of evaluation is appropriate for their course. You can find the specific course information in the course descriptions below and in the ECTS study guide. The grading can be based on a combination of several (types of) evaluations (e.g. post-assignment, group work, presentation, examination).

The retake exams will be held in September (exact date will be confirmed). Retake exams can be organized (if mentioned in the course description) upon request by the International Office of the home institution. This can be done in the following ways:
- Retaking assignments: conditions and practical arrangements: see the ECTS study guide
- Retaking written examinations:
  - EITHER at the Karel de Grote University College
  - OR in the home institution for all students at the same time

Dates and hour will be announced by the programme coordinator of Karel de Grote University College and the exam copy will be sent by e-mail to the coordinator of the International Office in the home institution. After the exam has been taken, the scanned copy should be sent by email to the coordinator at the Karel de Grote University College.

The KdG Education and Examination Regulations are applicable to all exchange students and can be found on the KdG website.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

In order to be able to measure and compare the learning achievements and to transfer them from one institution to another, the European Community has developed a useful tool that guarantees academic recognition: the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS). It is a credit system based on the students’ workload which involves lectures and self-study. In other words it includes all the work needed to prepare for an examination. The basic allocation of the academic credit system is 60 credits per year of study or 30 credits per semester.

Credits are awarded only when all required course examinations have been successfully completed. Grades are awarded using the local grading system of a score out of 20. The local grades can then be converted to the ECTS grading system.
An official ECTS grading table will be sent to the home institution together with the Transcript of Records. The table below explains our grading system. The home institution will be responsible for the full recognition of credits and grades awarded to the student.

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<tr>
<th>ECTS grade</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>18-19-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>16-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>12-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Sufficient</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fx</td>
<td>Tolerable failure</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Complete failure</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not attended</td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass with distinction</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
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<td>6</td>
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**COURSE MATERIAL AND EXPENCES**

Course materials depend on the courses for which students are registered. Books and syllabuses will be available on our electronic learning platform ‘Canvas’, in our library or in our shop. The maximum cost will be around 50 euros. Some modules will include visits to organizations, museums and cities. The total cost of these excursions will be around 50 euros.

**INSURANCE**

All international exchange students (one or two semesters), including students within the Erasmus Belgica programme, need to have their health insurance covering illness and accidents, including accidents during study and third-party liability insurance arranged before arrival. The validity of the insurances must cover the whole stay.

Health insurance means suitable cover for medical costs in the case of illness or injury.

Third-party liability insurance covers you if you are sued for compensation by a third party, where they feel that they have suffered a loss as a result of your negligence or carelessness. In case you are successfully sued by a third party, your third-party insurance will cover the costs of damages awarded against you and any legal costs that you have incurred as a result of disputing the case.
For more information, please contact international@kdg.be or visit our website for more information at https://www.kdg.be/en/education/apply#insurance

RESIDENCE PERMIT

Registration at the Migration Office is mandatory for:

- students of non-EU member states
- students who will study two semesters in Belgium (both EU and non-EU members)
- students who want to work in Belgium (EU and non-EU members)
- students who want to open a bank account in Belgium (EU and non-EU members)

The procedure is explained on our website: https://www.kdg.be/en/education/apply#belgianimmigration

APPLICATION DEADLINE

2nd semester (Spring semester): 15 November

NOMINATION BY INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR

The sending institution nominates the students by sending an email to the exchange officer of Crossing Borders Annemie.versweyveld@kdg.be. She will send a nomination form to the students and the international office of the sending institution.

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

After your nomination by your International coordinator, you will receive a mail that contains a link for your application. Soon after you will receive another e-mail that contains your KdG e-mail address, password and registration number.

Later on, in a next step, you will receive an e-mail with a link to Mobility Online. This is an online tool where you can complete the rest of your application - for example insurance and emergency contact details - and where you can upload a proof of your current level of English. We strongly recommend level B2 or higher. If you don’t master this level yet, we advise you to use the coming months to take extra lessons. You can also take part of our ‘Language room’ as described earlier.

In Mobility Online, each step will be checked and approved (or rejected) by the exchange officer of Crossing Borders at KdG. The application is complete when the student enters the step: [AI] Exchange confirmed by KdG. Moreover, in Mobility Online you will be able to download your Learning Agreement (= the courses that you had selected earlier).

All these steps have to be completed well before arrival.
**Technical helpdesk Mobility Online:** international@kdg.be
For any other question on Crossing Borders, please contact us via:
Annemie.versweyveld@kdg.be

**CHANGES TO THE LEARNING AGREEMENT**
Once Crossing Borders has started, students are allowed to change the Learning Agreement before the communicated deadline (see academic calendar).

**TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS**
We will upload the Transcript of Records and the Confirmation of Study Period in Mobility Online. Students can download it and hand it over to the coordinator of their home university.

Information on the Grading Conversion Table and the procedure of the second chance exams will be sent to the student by mail at the end of the study period.

**ACCOMODATION**
Students in Flanders usually rent single rooms in a student house that share a kitchen, toilet and shower. One month’s rent will then cost an average of approximately 300 euros. If you want to rent a room with private toilet, bathroom and cooking facilities, the price can go up to €400 or more. Landlords usually ask for a deposit of one (or two) month’s rent, returned at the end of the contract.

Take a look at our website for some tips:

**STUDENT LIFE**
Antwerp is a wonderful historic old town and a student-friendly city, with many things
to do. There are numerous theatres, cinemas, concert halls and museums such as the Rubens House, Plantin and Moretus, MAS, Middelheim, Fine Arts, Modern Arts, Fashion...
Antwerp has an exciting nightlife but also offers plenty of daytime activities. Within the first few days after their arrival, students will receive a student card. This card entitles them to reductions at sports centers, cinemas, cultural events, restaurants, parties, etc.

Discover Erasmus in Antwerp on the following websites: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbmxAQuCE8g

There are also opportunities for entertainment organized by student clubs: local student clubs and ESN (Erasmus Student Network) http://www.esnantwerp.org.

If you want to meet the incoming students in advance, you can also ‘like’ our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/kdginternational

OVERVIEW OF THE MODULES
The course catalogue can be found at ects.kdg.be