

The inclusion of Erasmus exchange students

At BURG Halle, we do have a settlement of inclusion for the integration, training and employment of people with disabilities. It implements the existing legal regulations and requirements in the context of the University of Art and expressly includes the course of studies and thus all students.

Incoming exchange students

B For this target group, there are specific frame conditions for a student exchange at BURG. If a student is planning an exchange at our university, this person shall notify the International Office as long before the intended period as possible. This should happen in due time before the application deadline to settle the conditions and determine whether the exchange can be realized according to the student's needs. The Department of Student and Academic Affairs will get in touch with the senate representative for students with disabilities and chronic conditions as well as the lecturer of the respective course. They will exchange ideas regarding the situation on the premises, teaching and other factors to convey this information to the student. In the case of an application we kindly ask to precisely describe the needs in the cover letter. **U**

In case of being accepted there is the possibility to offer a fellow student from our university as tutor for smaller tasks during the stay (e.g. pick up after arrival, inspecting the premises, campus tour.) However, this person does not replace an accompanying person if necessary. The university will support you in contacting our local student union in finding accommodation.

R There is a distinction between the accessibility concerning all relevant persons and concerning only a specific person's disability. Our university tries to meet both requirements. One should consider the different building materials at BURG. They range from medieval structures under preservation orders – which can only be adapted to a limited extent – to new buildings that meet all requirements. Depending on the chosen faculty for the Erasmus stay, there are different study locations. The university has the art and design campuses, as well as the premises of the Hermes area and media centre. All locations are distinct further to their accessibility.

The *art campus* is located in the very old structure of the lower castle of Burg Giebichenstein. There, our university has implemented automatic doors, railings, a toilet, ramps and step-free entrances in the "Kornhaus" lecture building, cafeteria and "jacquard" lecture room. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee for the accessibility of the seminar rooms on the upper floors. Most of the buildings used by students on the *design campus* are accessible by elevators. There are several accessible toilets for people with impairments. Ramps have the necessary gradient. The *central facilities* on the design campus, **C**

such as the library/media library as well as the cafeteria and the central lecture hall have a fully accessible parking lot, elevator and toilet. The *workshops* belong to the faculties; the central workshops are located on the design campus. Prior to an Erasmus exchange, it is necessary to obtain precise information about working conditions in the respective workshops. With prior notice, we may be able to provide temporary ramps or special parking spaces.

Every incoming student with physical impairments will remain an individual case, for which we have to evaluate the specific requirements and options. Concerning the infrastructure for physical handicaps, the development at our university has fortunately advanced and our university is constantly striving for improvements. This does not yet apply to facilities for students with visual or hearing impairments. BURG offers psychological counselling to students. However, we cannot fully guarantee this for the brief period of an Erasmus exchange and in a foreign language.

Outgoing students

Funding from Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design does primarily mean financial support within the scope of the funding options of the Erasmus programme, subject to the availability of funding. Before applying at a partner university, we kindly ask concerned students to report an existing degree of disability to the International Office. In the case of an exchange, students with a degree under 50 percent can receive a financial grant to the regular monthly Erasmus scholarship (Top Up). Students with a degree over 50 percent are eligible for an individual application, which can cover additional costs up to a certain amount for the student and the accompanying person. The corresponding additional costs may be reimbursed after the stay, subject to the donor's approval. Since the conditions may vary depending on the current Erasmus programme, a consultation with the International Office is necessary. With the application for exchange, the student shall inform the International Office of the partner university about their needs, clarify the local conditions and check whether an exchange is possible. The BURG's Department of Student and Academic Affairs is happy to support the communication with the partner university.

Our university will also financially support other disadvantaged groups of people by increasing the scholarships (Top Ups) to the extent that the Erasmus programme provides. It is pertinent to prove the disadvantage is necessary, for example, handing in the child's birth certificate and confirmation of departure regarding the target group of students with children.

Representative of Senate for studying with disabilities and chronic conditions - Karl Schikora

International Office - Bernhard Frank Lange

Department of Student and Academic Affairs - Teresa Falkenhagen