

# Mobility programme for language assistants

## Description

The Mobility programme for language assistants gives students the opportunity to integrate professional work experience into their academic education biography, manifest language skills and to acquire scientific, pedagogical and intercultural knowledge. Language assistants have the option to teach language courses or work on language related projects at one of our partner universities. Before, during and after their mobility the participants will be supported by mentors and academic and administrative staff.

## Working areas and work tasks

The working areas of language assistants are as diverse as languages themselves. The tasks and working areas of a language assistant depend on the preferences of the students themselves, the guest university/institution and available places.

Language assistants can assist and teach language courses at the language centres of the guest universities, but also at external cooperation partners like neighbouring schools. Another working option for language assistants is to assist in designing and delivering language and intercultural related workshops, projects or language cafes.

For personal and professional development of the language assistants, they will be supported during the whole process and experience by pedagogical/administrative staff and mentors. Accompanying workshops, before during and/or after the internship provide opportunities for reflection on the interns' experiences and capacity building within the field of language didactics and teaching. Existing stand-alone online and in-person training opportunities on teaching foreign languages in general and language specifically are integrated into the intern's professional development experiences.

## ERUA language teaching opportunities

The ERUA language courses pool offers a broad repertoire and includes classes in the ERUA languages, other European languages and non-European languages. Languages are taught on different levels, from A1-C2, offered to varying degrees at the different institutions. Some of the languages are offered for specific purposes (e.g. English for business) or on thematic topics (e.g. Polish through stories and translations) and also specifically for second/foreign language learners

(e.g. *Français Langue Etrangère (FLE)* at P8 as part of the Department COM (Communication) - FLE) or with yet a particular focus on refugees.

UKON & P8 Both language centres at UKON (*Sprachlehrinstitut (SLI)*<sup>1</sup>) and P8 (*Centre de Langues (CDL)*<sup>2</sup>) offer a wide variety of language courses. At the UKON language institute an offline based language tandem program<sup>3</sup> has been established in the last decades. With the digital advancement as a result of the corona pandemic lockdowns and within the scope of ERUA, an online component has successfully been piloted with UKON and P8 students from the *Centre de Langues (CDL)*. Both centres are currently working together on establishing the tandem program at the *CDL* and to further advance their language tandem collaboration.

RUC At Roskilde University, languages are studied within the project work or as part of the Roskilde language profile. The Roskilde language profile (*Sprogprofilen*)<sup>4</sup> is currently offered in the languages French, German and Spanish. Students acquire academic language skills and working knowledge in these languages based on project work. It is an extracurricular CLIL (content and language integrated learning) program with no ECTS provided. A stay abroad for one semester can be included.

NBU The pool of compulsory foreign languages is covered by the Department of Foreign languages and cultures<sup>5</sup>, based in the Faculty of Basic Education. The NBU Research Center for Computational and Applied Linguistics' (CCAL)<sup>6</sup>, which develops distance learning courses, conducts mother tongue and foreign language classes through a particularly designed e-Platform that provides specifically designed exercises.

UAegean<sup>7</sup> The UAegean Language Center missions is to teach Modern Greek as well as the Mediterranean and other languages. in the Department of Mediterranean Studies (DMS)

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.sli.uni-konstanz.de/en/> for an overview of the centre and its languages on offer: <https://www.sli.uni-konstanz.de/en/language-courses/>

<sup>2</sup> See <https://ufr-langues.univ-paris8.fr/-langues-proposees-> for an overview of languages offered

<sup>3</sup> See [Sprach-Tandems](#) (original German title), link to English online version

<sup>4</sup> See [Roskilde language profile](#) for more information

<sup>5</sup> See <https://flc.nbu.bg/en/> for a description

<sup>6</sup> See <https://ccal.nbu.bg/en/> for a description

<sup>7</sup> See <https://www.aegean.edu/languages-program/> for descriptions for the languages programs of the Language Center, Greek language courses, Chinese and French language courses; see <https://dms.aegean.gr/en/arabic-language-teaching-program/> for the Arabic language teaching programme and this news post about the Hellenic-Chinese Language and Culture Center: <https://studyingreece.edu.gr/hellenic-chinese-language-and-culture-center-at-the-university-of-the-aegean/>

compulsory courses in Arabic, Hebrew or Turkish are part of the degree. French and Chinese are offered in online courses in partnership with the French institute and an online Chinese training company. A Hellenic-Chinese Language and Culture Centre has been established for the two-way promotion of the Greek and Chinese languages at UAegean. There are Linguistics Laboratories at the Department of Primary Education and the Department of Mediterranean Studies in the School of Humanities, with expertise in translanguaging.

Interested students can research the language institutions and initiate contact with the respective language programme coordinators independently or get in touch with the ERUA Multilingualism coordinator ([erua@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:erua@uni-konstanz.de)) to get further information and assistance in finding the right programme.

## Integration of the programme into your studies

There are several different options how students can integrate the programme into their studies.

### Classic training model

In the classic training model students work almost full-time as language assistant. Participants can't enrol at the host university, nor can they attend study courses, but a study period before or afterwards can be combined with the programme.

A short application for this model is at any time possible. The start and duration of the internship can be chosen flexible and spontaneous.

The internship is funded through **Erasmus+ traineeship** mobility (between 2-12 months).

### Work & study model

The mobility programme for language assistants can be combined with the Erasmus+ student exchange programme. In the Work & study model students enrol at the host university and attend study courses besides their work as language assistant. That's why the monthly working time is limited to 20 hours.

For this model funding through **Erasmus+ study** mobility is possible.

## Alternative programmes

Besides the two options above, the internship can be funded through additional or other grants, sponsorships, allowances, varying on the length of stay and amount of funding. Some options are listed below.

- Support by federal or regional governments, e.g. *Auslandsbafög* in Germany
- An option for all internationals for internships in France is the French national teaching assistant programme *TAPIF*
- Master students can do an internship in France as lecture of languages at French universities
- For German students the *PAD (Pädagogischer Austauschdienst)* programme offers opportunities to work as language assistant in France.
- Between France and Germany, the *DFJW/OFAJ (Deutsch-Französisches Jugendwerk/L'Office Franco-Allemand pour la Jeunesse)* offers scholarships, independently or in conjunction with the Erasmus+ traineeship mobility funding, also for a short-term stay (less than 2 months)

## Points of contact to help organizing the internship through your home University

For further practical information about the organisation of a funded mobility, contact the Erasmus+ traineeship coordinators at your home university [last updated June 2023]:

UKON: Verena Ladegast, [verena.ladegast@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:verena.ladegast@uni-konstanz.de)

RUC: Elena Panos Gundersen, [epg@ruc.dk](mailto:epg@ruc.dk)

NBU: Stefani Kaldaramova, [skaldaramova@nbu.bg](mailto:skaldaramova@nbu.bg)

Paris 8: Filomena Fazio, [filomena.fazio@univ-paris8.fr](mailto:filomena.fazio@univ-paris8.fr)

UAegean: [erasmus@aegean.gr](mailto:erasmus@aegean.gr), <https://erasmus.aegean.gr/en/students-mobility-european>