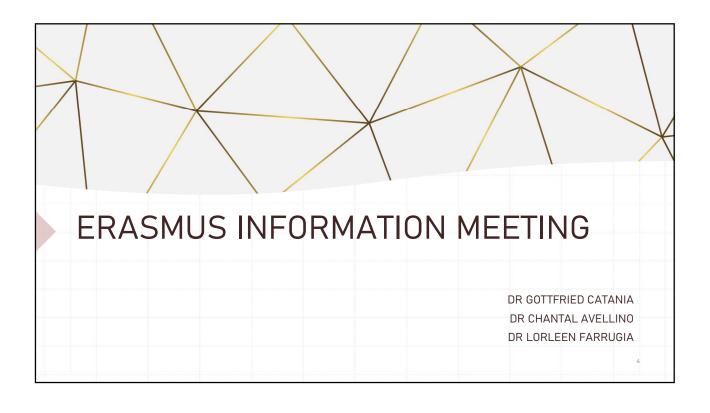
# STUDENT EXCHANGES INFORMATION MEETING FOR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS

15th December, 2023

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# Programme:

- 12:00 12:05 Introduction and Welcome
- 12:05 12: 20 Presentation by Ms Monique Mallia International Office- ISEP
- 12:20 12:30 ISEP Q&A
- 12:30 12:45 Presentation by Dr Lorleen Farrugia Department of Psychology Erasmus
- 12:45 13:15 Presentation by Mr Bernard Cachia Zammit International Office Erasmus
- 13:15 13:30 Erasmus Q&A





## What is Erasmus?

 The Erasmus programme (European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) is an EU funded programme that organises student exchanges

# B. Psy (Hons)

- Generally, B. Psy students attend Erasmus programmes when they are in the second semester of second year
- During semester 2 of year 2, B. Psy students in Malta are required to sit for compulsory study units:
  - PSY2610 Psychopathology
  - PSY2623 Work Psychology
  - PSY2633 Health Psychology

- Usually, EU-universities often tend to have study-units that relatively match the course descriptions of these compulsory study-units
- B.Psy students are required to complete 180 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) throughout their three-year course. These are split into 60 ECTS per year
  - However, study-units offered by EU universities have different weightings
- Therefore, students who go to Erasmus might exceed 60 ECTS when they come to the end of second year (e.g. in second year, an Erasmus student might have completed 64 ECTS)

## However...

- A student who goes on Erasmus can only proceed to the third year of the B.Psy programme if they have completed 60 ECTS
  - If they have completed less than 60 ECTS, then they cannot proceed to third year
- If a second year student goes on Erasmus and completes second year with for example, 64 ECTS, the student still needs to complete 60 ECTS in third year- the ECTS from the second year cannot be carried into the third year of the B.Psy programme

Selecting an appropriate University...

John is interested in going on an Erasmus exchange when he is in Year 2, semester 2 of his B.Psy programme. It is his responsibility to search for a university which offers study-units as similar to those currently offered on the B.Psy programme. He can research the study-unit descriptions of the EU University to see if they complement the study-units offered here in Malta, including the ECTS value.



# Selecting an appropriate University...

- John manages to find two study-units at the EU university that are very similar to PSY2610 Psychopathology and PSY2623 Work Psychology
- However, he cannot find the equivalent for PSY2633 Health Psychology
- In that case, John can take a different study-unit to PSY2633 when he is on Erasmus
  - He can then sit for PSY2633 in third year instead of an electiveyear

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#### Another scenario...

- John manages to find one study-unit at the EU university that is very similar to PSY2633 Health Psychology. In this instance, he can select other studyunits at the EU university
- Then, when he is in third year, John can sit for PSY2610 Psychopathology and choose the elective study-unit PSY3647 Selected Topics in Organisational Psychology in second year
  - In this instance, the elective study-unit PSY3647 Selected Topics in Organisational Psychology can be taken in lieu of PSY2623 Work Psychology
  - Note: PSY2610 Psychopathology and PSY2623 Work Psychology cannot both be taken in third year

## Therefore, what do I need to do?

- Find an EU university where the study-units offered match the B.Psy programme of studies
- It is the student's responsibility to verify that the credits selected match- contact the Host University's Erasmus office & lecturer concerned (Malta) to verify comparability
- On the Erasmus website one can find a list-matching exercise:
  - https://www.um.edu.mt/studentlife/internationalopportunities/erasmus
  - https://www.um.edu.mt/studentlife/internationalopportunities/erasmus/umstudents/listofplacements/facultyforthesocialwellbeing

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- Please note that B. Psy students cannot go on Erasmus when they are in their third year of studies. This is because some year-long compulsory study-units do not have equivalency with study-units offered at other universities abroad
- Also note that you <u>cannot</u> take <u>an elective study-unit on</u>
   Erasmus that you have <u>already done</u> previously in Malta or
   that <u>you intend to complete</u> in third year



### B.A. Students

- B.A. students go on Erasmus when they are in the first semester of second year
- The compulsory psychology study-unit for BA students in year 2, semester is:
  - PSY1606 Social Psychology

# B. A. Psychology & Other Area

- BA students need to ensure that by the end of year 2, they have completed: 26 credits in Psychology, 26 credits in the other area, 8 credits optional study-units.
- Those students who wish to read for the Higher Diploma in Psychology (once completed undergraduate studies), will also need to ensure that they have passed the pre-requisite study-units for this course. These include:
  - Quantitative & qualitative research methods
  - Biological psychology 1

## Next...

- Discuss your choices with the Erasmus coordinator, Dr Lorleen Farrugia- via email- title of email "Erasmus" (3-5 choices)
- Complete the <u>Department of Psychology Agreement Regarding</u>
   <u>Compulsory Modules</u> and ensure that it is signed by the coordinator and the Head of Department
  - Ensure that a signed copy of this is stored in your student file
- Complete the <u>Programme of Studies & Learning Agreement</u> document that is provided by the <u>Erasmus Office</u>

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## Application and Selection

- Applications open in December/ deadline January- please contact the Erasmus office to check when applications open
- If a university receives many applications from different students, it is possible that they will select a limited number of students. This selection usually depends on academic performance, where students with the highest grades will be chosen