

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT
THE ROYAL DANISH ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
SCHOOLS OF VISUAL ARTS

Overall Erasmus+ co-operation strategy of *The Schools of Visual Arts*

The Schools of Visual Arts is a Government-subsidized higher education institution whose mission is defined under a consolidated act as the task, on an artistic and scientific basis, of offering education until the highest level in painting, sculpture, graphic arts, media arts, and other modern idioms, as well as carrying on artistic developmental activity and performing visual arts research.

The Schools of Visual Arts originates in the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts established 1754. As the foremost Danish visual arts institution it has a centuries-old tradition of ensuring the foundations and the conditions of growth of the high level and continual development of Danish art. Now as in the past the aim of the study is to lay the optimal foundations for the students to develop their creative work and acquire the practical and theoretical qualifications necessary for the realization of a contemporary artistic project.

The Schools of Visual Arts is keeping its European academy tradition alive, in particular through the part the professor schools play in the curriculum. It is especially this study situation, with focus on the development of the particular student's artistic talent, which the Erasmus exchange student will benefit from.

The Schools of Visual Arts offers a six-year study programme in visual arts. The curriculum is divided into a three years BFA program and a 3 year MFA program. The two first years at the BFA program is the basic studies, where the teaching primarily is conducted in Danish. Due to this structure, the students are not allowed to go abroad until they have fulfilled the basic studies programme; just as the Basic Studies Department cannot receive exchange students, as it is not expected that students will be able to participate in the tuition when it is in Danish. It is also the opinion of the professors that one year of visual arts studies does not give the student the necessary ballast to go abroad and work on his/her own with his/her own artistic project.

The Schools of Visual Arts does not use any system of marks but only qualitative evaluations. The curriculum is an overall framework of the education and is carried into effect differently by each of the seven professor schools according to the particular professor's profile and views on art and the school's normally 10 to 20 students. The professor and the students jointly decide on a study programme for the study year. The study programme is, obviously, changing every year. Since the education is not divided into modules *The Schools of Visual Arts* only recognizes the studies taken by Erasmus exchange students on the basis of the semester, giving the credit of 30 ECTS points per semester. Receiving Erasmus exchange students and signing their Learning Agreements, they are informed about this. An introduction of their professor, their school and its secretary is mandatory. As to accommodation, unfortunately *The Schools of Visual Arts* has to refer incoming students to a Copenhagen municipal agency or the private market.

Counselling of the outgoing students is taken care of by the Erasmus coordinator and the Students' Council who can draw on the experience of former exchange students.

Since Danish is one of the less widely used European languages the students of *The Schools of Visual Arts* have organized themselves an English language course.