

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Laba Academy of Fine Arts of Brescia, legally recognized since 2000, is an Art Academy located in the north of Italy. The academy offers several EQF Level 6 degrees (Design, Painting, Fashion design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Stage Design and Graphic Design & Multimedia) and EQF Level 7 ones (Cinema and Video, Digital Communication, Industrial Design, Interior & Green Design, Stage Design with a concentration in Performance arts); in 2019 a research centre has been also created. The Academy has 3 different location, each one easily reachable with public transport.

Over the last decade we have seen our Erasmus flow increasing considerably: both inbound and outbound number of participants rose, as well as types of mobilities (particularly internships, thereby emphasizing the urgency of spending abilities outside academic reality).

We aim to double the number of incoming and outgoing individuals, and we are working on different levels to reach the goal:

- enhancement of the Erasmus Office;
- financial aids to ensure everyone the possibility to participate in the programme and turning mobility abroad into a norm;
- providing classes in English;
- promoting staff mobility (in and out) through the creation of common initiative with partners;
- creating a network of enterprises in order to offer 360 degrees possibilities of internship and placement as well as to develop common projects;
- cooperating, through the Research center, with other Universities in order to exchange good practices and work on innovative projects.

Through these actions LABA aims to create a new internationalization strategy, more actual and capable of involving working environment, teaching staff and students in a homogeneous and fluid way, in order to include about a hundred subjects per year in the project.

During the last few years LABA Academy has known a strong desire for renewal and modernization in teaching and teaching methods and in terms of instrumentation offered. The almost natural consequence of this opening has been the need to cross the border and open up not only to new countries, but also to new areas and sectors. Specifically, the opening of a space dedicated to Research and Innovation is the bearer of the desire to create new bridges with institutes, associations, experimental centers, professionals of the sector in order to work on innovative projects that will involve students and academic staff. Hence the desire to create a bridge between the mobility carried on so far (that of course will continue to exist) and the field of research. A bridge that is projected in the direction of greater spendability of the study in the world of work, and that aims to reduce early school leaving. The result is a focus on learning new languages that make mobility from and to other countries an essential requirement for the training of each student, a fundamental and integral part of the academic path. We strongly want to increase the sense of Europe as a great and unique nation, where different cultures and approaches coexist, and from which to draw and learn. New teaching methods will be activated, online and in presence, in order to guarantee the same tools and the same possibilities for the student, regardless of his/her structural and socio-economic conditions. LABA is based on the values of openness, innovation, responsibility, freedom, transparency, virtue, passion, devotion. Those values materialize in:

- Didactic excellence
- Quality of learning
- Skills recognition
- Enhancement of creativity
- Innovation
- Internationalization

- Integration with the territory
- Continuous reinvestment of resources
- Research development
- Crossover projects among departments
- Workshops and seminars for development of disciplines in communication, business, art market/fashion/industry-related professional roles
- Interdisciplinarity, collaborative learning, e-learning
- Didactic skills or "21th century skills" to prepare students to critical thinking and to the digitalized, connected and fluid world.
- Highly professional courses taken in English

Alongside the fundamental objectives of Training and Research, LABA pursues the Third Mission, promoting direct application, development and use of knowledge to contribute to the social, cultural and economic development of its territory and, more generally, of society as a whole.

Other objectives are:

- Stimulation of the entrepreneurial spirit of the students
- Establishment of the Alumni association for the lasting bond with graduates and for the enhancement of human capital formed by LABA
- Creation of interdisciplinary training courses (crossover projects)
- Creation of an individual academic portfolio of the student
- Increase of extracurricular opportunities through the choice of teachers and guest professors who will bring their contribution to broader paths
- Attention to new technologies, as well as to issues of sustainability and circular economy.