

# ArtEZ Institute of the Arts

## **Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)**

ArtEZ Institute of the Arts trains students for professions in which art, knowledge and creativity play a central role. For more than 3000 students, ArtEZ offers a related selection of Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in visual art, architecture, fashion, design, music, theatre, creative writing, dance and art education. At the same time, ArtEZ is a specialized knowledge institute where lecturers combine theory and practice. ArtEZ works together with a large number of partners at home and abroad, such as other educational institutes, companies, governing bodies and non-profit organizations.

At ArtEZ, education is focused on students' artistic, intellectual and personal growth. They are trained in a professional role that closely matches their talent, personality and ambition and they receive support from lecturers who have more than earned their spurs in professional practice. Because of this individual approach, students are well prepared for their future careers as arts and culture professionals.

ArtEZ is one of the major art institutes in the Netherlands, with locations in Arnhem, Enschede and Zwolle. About 20 % of the students are international and ArtEZ works with many international universities and research institutions. Students have opportunities to participate in exchanges with universities abroad.

### *International policy framework*

Art and music are international languages by nature. They can be understood without words, and therefore rise above boundaries. They have the possibility to create new and fresh insights and ideas, and can connect cultures visibly and audibly. Cultural and multilingual diversity adds to the content of curricula offered and to professional experience of students and staff. It stimulates creativity and competitiveness and makes it easier to realise their profession in a worldwide professional context. Therefore ArtEZ stimulates international cooperation and exchanges for their staff and students which is fully acknowledged as part of the study program (expressed in ECTS and academic acknowledgment).

In 2011 ArtEZ developed a new general policy, "ArtEZ.eu: Internationalisation Policy", a framework for internationalization. The main objective for internationalization is the improvement of the quality of the education and research by:

- the development of international curricula for those disciplines that have an international focus and international student population
- examination by international standards
- increasing cultural diversity within the organization
- Improving of the international reputation

These policy objectives aim to give tutors and teaching staff the possibility to exchange knowledge and experience in an international context. Students are offered an international environment and alumni profit from an international network and international career opportunities.

ArtEZ only signs Inter-institutional agreements with HEI's that are considered to be of good quality and offer excellent study opportunities for students and staff. The Head of Department may nominate Institutions for partnerships to the Faculty Director. The Faculty Director will determine the quality

together with the International Office. ArtEZ has a focus on Europe as well as on cultural hotspots such as Beijing, Berlin, London, New York, Paris.

ArtEZ wants to connect with the international policy on culture by the ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Since ArtEZ has different locations in Arnhem, Enschede and Zwolle, the international focus of these cities has to be part of the international orientation of ArtEZ.

The main objectives are firstly the mobility of staff and students. Secondly, international cooperation in projects and festivals. And thirdly, introducing cultural diversity by creating an international classroom.

ArtEZ signed the Code of Conduct international student in higher education. This code intends to contribute as a quality tool to the ambitions of the Dutch government and ArtEZ regarding internationalization as a means to turn the Netherlands into an attractive destination for knowledge and development.

ArtEZ does not participate in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees.

### **The expected impact of our participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on the modernisation of ArtEZ**

In order to increase attainment levels ArtEZ intends to limit the percentage of dropouts in the 1st year of the bachelor of the programme by 25%, by investing in the quality of preparatory courses and a strict selection of talented students by application as agreed in the Performance agreements with the ministry of Education, Culture and Science in September 2012. Furthermore ArtEZ intends to consolidate a bachelor study efficiency of 72,5 % a year. By participating in the Programme ArtEZ is able to welcome exchange students from all over the world, creating international classrooms and an international environment which is attractive for national and international students, who are looking to prepare themselves for an international career in the Arts.

In selecting students and developing study programmes special attendance is given to possible students from minority and foreign groups. Special provisions can be made for disabled students, in consultation with the student counsellors.

ArtEZ is educating students for a worldwide professional career in the Arts. The Programme allows ArtEZ to send students abroad for exchanges and internships. An international environment stimulates students to develop international capacities, preparing them for an international career or a national career in international operating businesses.

As stated in de policy framework, internationalisation and mobility of staff and students contributes to the strengthening of the quality of the curricula. The quality of the courses is reflected by the level of recognition that students and staff achieve throughout the professional field, national and international. Cultural and multilingual diversity adds to the content of curricula offered and to professional experience of students and staff. It stimulates creativity and competitiveness and makes it easier to realise their profession in a worldwide professional context.

ArtEZ feels responsible for creating and contributing to an attractive and stimulating cultural environment and infrastructure. During the last decade ArtEZ has increased the regional anchoring with trade and business in the eastern part of the Netherlands and the Euroregion. ArtEZ participates in the platform Creative Industry and in projects such as 'Gelderland Valoriseert', together with educational organisations, governance, trade and business.

The Branche code Governance, a Dutch governance protocol for institutes of higher education that was adopted in 2006 by the General Assembly of the Dutch Council for Higher Education, contains

rules for good leadership, supervision and stakeholder involvement in education and research. The Supervisory Board is charged with the task of supervising the Board of Governors and general affairs at ArtEZ. They oversee the allocation of public funds and act as a sounding board for the Board of Governors, ensuring that policy and other planning are well founded, dilemmas are expressed and risks are identified.