

## University of St Mark & St John Erasmus Language Policy Statement

4<sup>th</sup> March 2015

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### Outgoing Students

The University of St Mark and St John seeks to ensure that outgoing participants in the Erasmus + programme are able to speak the local language of the country they are visiting before they leave, preferably as soon as their ERASMUS + application has been accepted. The University also aims to ensure partner institutions offer sufficient levels of language support for outgoing participants. It is anticipated that the majority of students will look to study courses delivered in English in partner institutions.

Exceptionally, when students with proficiency in a European language wish to study through that language the University will seek to ensure that students have their proficiency assessed and receive guidance as to their preparedness for study, and (if their proficiency is close to B2 level on the CEFR) how to prepare further.

Students will be advised about language learning options offered by partner institutions. The University will also provide support in cultural issues and the logistics of travelling to and living in a foreign country.

The University Web Pages will provide details of appropriate online language courses and levels of achievement which outgoing participants will be expected to undertake

## **Incoming Students**

Incoming students whose first language is not English will be encouraged to undertake appropriate language training for a period of time at their home institution before they arrive at the University of St Mark and St John, preferably as soon as their application has been accepted.

Incoming students will also be required to provide evidence of their English language proficiency, in order to successfully complete their study period. The Centre for International Language Teacher Education (CILTE) oversees the language needs of incoming international students and staff and works with local international study providers and language schools to refer students for support when individual learner needs are identified.

The level of language proficiency achieved would normally equate to IELTS 6.0 or equivalent (equivalent to B2 level of CEFR framework) for undergraduate study and IELTS 6.5 or equivalent for postgraduate study (see University website

<http://www.marjon.ac.uk/courses/international/courses-application-english-levels-tuition-fees/english-language-requirements/> for further details.)

If the students do not have an appropriate IELTS or equivalent qualification, they may be able to enrol on a Pre-Sessional Intensive language course on arrival, or enroll on an online course prior to leaving their home country.

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