# Erasmus Exchanges for Informatics Students

School of Informatics
University of Edinburgh
Taku Komura

November 3, 2011

## What is Socrates/Erasmus?

- It's an EU-funded student exchange program;
- available to undergraduate and postgraduate students (incl. PhD students);
- you can spend between 3 and 9 months abroad;
- you get a Socrates/Erasmus mobility grant to cover the additional costs of studying abroad (about € 350 per month);
- all Edinburgh students can participate, but only nationals of EU and associated countries are eligible for the grant;
- you can't take part more than once;
- the partner university doesn't charge tuition fees; in some cases you don't pay Edinburgh fees either.

## When is the best time to go?

- Undergraduates typically benefit most when they go abroad in their third year;
- it's best to go for a full year (9 months), as the semester dates at partner universities are often incompatible with ours;
- but sometimes semester-long exchanges can be arranged;
- Erasmus application deadline is mid-February for the academic year starting next September;
- speak to your School Erasmus Coordinator (Taku Komura, tkomura@inf.ed.ac.uk) if you're interested in applying.

## Do I get credit for it?

- Your stay abroad is part of your degree, you will receive full credit for courses taken at the partner university;
- your School Erasmus Coordinator will advise you on which courses to take;
- most universities use the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates transfer of credit;
- a normal course load (1 year) is 60 ECTS points, which corresponds to 120 UoE points;
- *However,* if you go abroad in your third year, then the marks obtained at the partner university don't contribute to your honors classification.

## The Language Barrier

- What if you don't speak Catalan, German, Dutch, Polish, Italian?
- Erasmus can provide funding for language courses, either in Edinburgh (before you leave) or at the partner university;
- you may be able to get ECTS credits for language courses at the partner university;
- most of our partner universities teach some of their courses in English (esp. advanced courses);
- but you might need language skills for non-academic purposes;
- and there's always Ireland.

# Barcelona

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

**Barcelona**
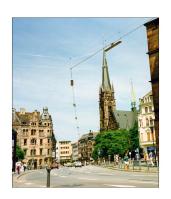Saarbrücken
Antwerp
Warsaw
Trento
Other Universities

## Barcelona

- Partner: Barcelona School of Informatics, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC);
- we have places for two outgoing students per year;
- available to all undergraduate and postgraduate students taking Informatics degrees;
- languages:
    - undergrad teaching mostly in Catalan or Spanish;
    - masters-level teaching in English;
- main research areas: theoretical CS, bioinformatics, machine learning and AI, speech processing.

General Information
Partner Universities
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
Warsaw
Trento
Other Universities

# Saarbrücken

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
**Saarbrücken**
Antwerp
Warsaw
Trento
Other Universities

## Saarbrücken

- Partners: Department of Computer Science and Department of Computational Linguistics, Saarland University, Saarbrücken;
- also there: DFKI (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence), Max Planck Institute for Computer Science;
- we have places for two outgoing students per year;
- available to all undergraduate and postgraduate students taking Informatics degrees;
- languages:
    - undergrad teaching either in German or in English;
    - masters-level teaching in English;
- main research areas: theoretical CS, programming languages, bioinformatics, image processing, computer vision, computer graphics, computational linguistics.

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
**Antwerp**
Warsaw
Trento
Other Universities

# Antwerp

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
**Antwerp**
Warsaw
Trento
Other Universities

## Antwerp

- Partner: Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Antwerp;
- we have places for two outgoing students per year;
- available to all undergraduate and postgraduate students taking Informatics degrees;
- languages:
    - undergrad teaching in English in courses taken by international students;
    - masters-level teaching in English;
- main research areas: databases, theoretical CS, programming languages, AI, software engineering, computational linguistics.

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
**Warsaw**
Trento
Other Universities

# Warsaw

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
**Warsaw**
Trento
Other Universities

## Warsaw

- Partner: Institute of Informatics, University of Warsaw;
- we have a place for one outgoing students per year;
- available to all undergraduate and postgraduate students taking Informatics degrees;
- information on languages and research areas incomplete, but teaching seems to be mainly in Polish.

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
Warsaw
**Trento**
Other Universities

# Trento

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
Warsaw
**Trento**
Other Universities

## Trento

- Partner: Department of Information and Communication Technology, University of Trento;
- also there: FBK (Fondazione Bruno Kessler);
- we have places for one outgoing student per year;
- available to all undergraduate students taking Informatics degrees;
- languages:
  - undergrad teaching mostly in Italian;
  - masters-level teaching in English;
- main research areas: automated reasoning, communication technology, bioinformatics, computer networks, cognitive science, computational linguistics.

General Information
**Partner Universities**
Find Out More

Barcelona
Saarbrücken
Antwerp
Warsaw
Trento
**Other Universities**

## Other Universities

- What if none of the Informatics partner universities appeals to you?
- UoE has 150 Erasmus partners in 23 countries;
- in principle all exchange links are open to all UoE students;
- but the students studying in the School the link belongs to have priority;
- a database of all links can be found on the web page of the International Office;
- there are also international exchanges (non-Erasmus links); these are administered by the International Office directly (they are not specific to Informatics).

# Find out more about Erasmus

- UK Erasmus Council: `http://www.erasmus.ac.uk/`
- International Office:
  `http://www.international.ed.ac.uk/`
- School Erasmus Coordinator: Taku Komura
  (`tkomura@inf.ed.ac.uk`)

*Next application deadline: mid-February.*