



**Jean Monnet Module on
EU Interdisciplinary Studies:
Widening Knowledge
for a more Resilient Union**

Project no. 621262-EPP-1-2020-1-RO-EPPJMO-MODULE



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Addressing skill mismatch by improving tertiary education in European Studies in Romania

European Studies programmes & curricula

Study program	Faculty, University, Country	Link	Strong points
Bachelor level European Studies	Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University, the Netherlands	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each year has a core focal point, respectively: European diversity, European unity, Europe's place in the wider world; - Course on Professional Skills (Language and Professional Skills: Negotiation Skills); - Course on Research Skills (Research and Study Skills).
Master - full-time European Studies	University of Groningen, the Netherlands	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Master focused on Euroculture; - The presence of an internship (2nd year); - The programme has two options: a research track and a professional track.
Bachelor level European Studies	Trinity College Dublin, Ireland	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This programme encourages students to think about our continent in all its complexity, and to analyse Europe's cultures, history, and politics; - Four years programme; - Dual BA programme (Dual BA Programme between Trinity College Dublin and Columbia University offers students a unique opportunity to



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			earn two BA degrees while spending the first two years at Trinity and years three and four at Columbia University in New York).
Master and PhD	Social Sciences Universite de Fribourg / Universtat Freiburg, Switzerland	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - interdisciplinary, academic, critical perspective; - multilingual approach: Most courses are taught either in French or German, or bilingually. There are a few teachings in English.
Bachelor European Studies	Nantes Université, France	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An entire semester devoted to Policy Tools; - An entire semester devoted to European values and challenges.
Bachelor European Studies	University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong language options (Arabic, Catalan, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Modern Greek, Polish, Russian, Scandinavian languages (Danish, Norwegian, Swedish), Spanish and Turkish); - Develop specific academic skills, such as academic writing and conducting independent research; - five majors: European Culture, European History, East European Studies, European Law and European Economic; - The programme allows for an internship and/or to study abroad for a period of time.
Advanced Master in European Integration	The Brussels School of Governance (BSoG) - an alliance between the Institute for European Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) and Vesalius College;	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Programme operates as a “Master after Master” in European studies, requiring students to have strong and consistent marks across a minimum of four previous years of study; - Its curriculum offers you the choice to study two policy field specialisations; - Students have the flexibility to obtain this Advanced Master degree in 1



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	Belgium		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> or 2 years; - It's a very international programme and has a balanced classroom mix of young professionals and full-time students.
Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and European Studies	Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Bucharest, Romania	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All courses are taught and examined in English throughout the entire program; - All students are enrolled for one full academic year in internship activities (governmental institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and foreign embassies in Bucharest; representations of various intergovernmental organizations such as the United Nations agencies and the EU institutions; top national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs); media outlets with sections dedicated to European or international affairs; national and transnational companies; academic and/or policy research centers with projects relevant for international relations and/or European studies).
Bachelor of Arts in European Studies	University of Limerick, Ireland	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BA in European Studies offers a core European Studies programme and a wide degree of choice between options in European History, Sociology, Politics, Economics or Marketing, Law and European Literature & Film; - Strong language programme: the opportunity to develop an in-depth knowledge of French, German, Irish / Gaeilge and Spanish languages and cultures.
Master of European Studies: Transnational	KU Leuven, Belgium	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity of specialized modules (two out of eleven modules on choice): European History, Integration and Political Order; European Diversity



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and Global Perspectives			<p>and Cultural Policy; European Governance; European External Relations; Globalising Europe; European and Global Political Economy; Social Europe and European Welfare States; Sustainability and Europe; Europe and its Eastern Neighbourhoods; Europe and its Southern Neighbourhoods; Europe and Asia; Comparative American – European Studies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Master of European Studies organizes an internship and job information session, during which the students meet alumni who work for European institutions, non-governmental organisations, lobby groups and private companies.
Master's programme European and Nordic Studies	University of Helsinki, Finland	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong tracks: The programme has two tracks i.e. Humanities track and Social Sciences; - Strong regional emphasis on the Humanities track (Nordic Europe, CEE, Baltic area, SE Europe); - Some courses use active learning or flipped classroom pedagogy; - All classes are thought in English.
Master's Degree Programme European Studies	Aarhus University, Denmark	Link	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on EU institutions and work with the analysis of cultural, social and political processes in Europe; - International Master's degree programme; - The teaching is conducted in English; - Applied Qualitative Research Methods; - Profile courses: cross-disciplinary courses targeting the labour market for third-semester students;



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			- Project placements or internships.
Masters European Studies	Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy	Link	- The teaching is conducted in English (75%); - Strong emphasis on the economic and legislation dimension.
Master's Programme in European Studies	University of Gothenburg, Sweden	Link	- Double Degree-University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; - the first year in Chapel Hill (USA), and the second in Gothenburg (Sweden); - The courses have problem-based research assignments that enable students to train their capacity in critical reflection and independent written and oral presentations.
Master's Programme in European Studies	Centre for European Studies, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania	Link	- The program ensures interdisciplinarity, by integrating into the curriculum disciplines from the economic, legal, political, socio-cultural, geographical, etc. spheres. Central study areas: development economics, European integration, European law, EU international relations, governance in the EU, European policies, European history, culture and civilization, etc.

Based on the identified strong points from other European programmes (both bachelor and master studies), several recommendations are addressed in order to improve the quality and impact of Romanian programmes in European Studies. This process requires a comprehensive approach that focuses on four key factors: internationalization, accessibility, professional skills, and research capabilities. Drawing inspiration from the strong points identified in other European Studies programs across Europe, here are some recommendations:



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A) Internationalization:

This can be done through *multilingual approach* (introduce classes in English, French, and German to promote language diversity and attract students from various linguistic backgrounds; ensure a balance between languages, with some courses taught bilingually, reflecting the multilingual nature of Europe), but also *exchange programs* (establish partnerships with universities across Europe to facilitate student exchanges; encourage students to spend a semester abroad, promoting cross-cultural understanding and international collaboration). This particular approach can facilitate *dual degree programs* (develop dual-degree programs with reputable European universities to provide students with a broader academic experience). For example, explore partnerships with institutions like Trinity College Dublin or Columbia University, allowing students to earn degrees from both Romanian and international institutions. For the pro-orientated students, this approach can create *Internship Opportunities Abroad* (facilitate internships in European institutions, foreign embassies, and international organizations to expose students to a global work environment or collaborate with renowned organizations to ensure a diverse range of internship options).

B) Accessibility:

This dimension is focused on the *Open Admission Policies*, such as simplify admission processes for students of other nationalities, making it easier for them to enroll in the program or promote inclusivity by actively encouraging a diverse student body. Additionally, the action will be supported by *Language Support Services*, by providing language support services for non-native speakers to enhance their academic experience and by offering language courses and tutoring to help students improve their proficiency in the language of instruction.



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C) Professional Skills:

The third key factor can be supported through *Professional Skills Courses* (Implement a course on professional skills similar to the one mentioned in the European Studies programs across Europe; Include modules on negotiation skills, communication, and practical skills relevant to careers in European institutions and international organizations) and through a mandatory *Policy Tools Semester* (Design a semester dedicated to practical training in policy tools, providing students with hands-on experience in analyzing and formulating policies).

D) Research Skills:

Finally, the fourth key factor can be achieved through solid actions during the entire duration of the programme, such as: i) Introduce a course specifically focused on research skills, emphasizing academic writing, independent research, and critical analysis; ii) Provide workshops and seminars on advanced research methodologies; iii) Encourage students to undertake independent research projects, fostering a culture of inquiry and critical thinking; iv) Establish mentorship programs with faculty members to guide students in their research endeavors.

Besides the key factors, the Romanian universities can integrate additional measure to enhance the attractiveness and impact of their Bachelor and Master programmes in European Studies, such as implementing a thematic approach with core focal points for each academic year, similar to the successful European Studies programs in Europe (focus on European diversity, unity, and Europe's place in the wider world in successive years), introducing specialized tracks, such as European Culture, History, Law, Economics, and East European Studies (to allow students to choose their track based on their interests and career aspirations), integrating internships (ensuring that students gain practical experience and exposure to the professional world), or organising regular sessions where alumni



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share their experiences and insights with current students (networking opportunities to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world applications).

By incorporating these recommendations, the European Studies curricula in Romania can create a dynamic and internationally oriented learning environment, equipping students with the skills and knowledge needed for successful careers in the field.