

Procedure for assigning Study Abroad destinations

During their undergraduate studies, all ISIT students are required to spend a semester studying abroad at one of ISIT's partner universities.

Students are not required to pay tuition fees at the partner university. However, some institutions (particularly in North America) may ask students to pay administrative fees or to provide evidence that they have sufficient financial resources to complete a semester abroad (e.g. South Korea).

To help departing students prepare for their time abroad, ISIT's international Office organizes **two mandatory information meetings**:

- **The first meeting** explains the different types of academic mobility offered at ISIT, as well as the possible destinations, the online platform containing information on our partner universities, and the criteria used to assign destinations.
- **The second meeting** presents the timeframes and deadlines for the various stages leading up to the semester abroad, possible sources of funding (with a particular focus on the Erasmus+ program), and the administrative formalities to be completed before, during and after the placement, as well as some advice and useful websites (e.g. France Diplomatie).

After the first meeting, students are also given the contact details of students who have already studied abroad. Additional information about insurance etc. is provided after the second meeting.

After the first meeting, students have two months to select three partner universities, explaining the reasons for their choices. The International Office then deliberates with the heads of the various language departments to assign a destination to each student.

The factors considered when assigning destinations are as follows:

- **The order of preference** of the student's destinations of choice
- The **pertinence** of the reasons given for the student's choices
- The student's **linguistic needs**: students should preferably be assigned a destination where they will be taught in the weaker language in their language combination
- The **number of places available** at each partner institution and the level of demand for those places
- The **partner institution's** academic and linguistic **requirements**

Students with Chinese in their language combination will spend the entire third year studying abroad, as the additional complexity of the Chinese language makes a prolonged period of immersion essential. The administrative formalities begin in January, 8 months before the student begins their third year.