Disclaimer: Outgoing exchange students

Semester 2, 2021-2022

The TU Delft Executive Board has decided to allow exchange study programmes for the second semester of the academic year 2021-2022. Students can travel to European (Erasmus+) partner universities and selected Non-EU partner Universities in the following countries: Australia, USA, Japan, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Argentina, Chile, Singapore and South Korea. This document provides you with important information highlighting the potential risks, should you decide to go abroad as a part of your study programme. Please read carefully.

Before your departure

- Some of our partner universities have not yet decided whether they will allow student mobility in the second semester of the 2021-2022 academic year. There is no absolute certainty, and we cannot exclude that your exchange could be cancelled by the host university. Should this happen, we recommend that you have a plan B (i.e. alternative plan for a semester at TU Delft).
- TU Delft permits students to travel to green and yellow coded countries for their study programme.
- TU Delft allows travel to orange coded countries, but does not recommend it because it comes with additional risks. The colour coding of countries through government analysis is not only based on the COVID-19 pandemic. If a country is declared to have an orange code it could be due several factors such as:
  - Rates of COVID-19 infections
  - An entry ban on travel from the Netherlands
  - A national disaster (i.e. volcano eruption/earthquake risk)
  - Risk of terrorism and/or kidnapping.
If the country you are travelling to is coded orange and even though it is not recommended, you can only travel if the orange code is due to the COVID-19 reasons listed here:
  - A mandatory negative PCR test before arrival at the foreseen destination
  - And/or proof of COVID-19 vaccination
  - And/or obligation to go into quarantine upon arrival
  - And/or other applicable Covid-19 registration obligations of the host country
- TU Delft does not allow travel to red coded countries. This colour code refers to:
  - A life-threatening situation due to very serious safety risks.
  - Extensive corona measures, you cannot travel in or out of the country or area. The Dutch government cannot bring you back to the Netherlands.
- If you are planning to proceed with your study abroad programme, discuss the academic, health and financial risks involved with your own support network, such as family. Here is a summary of possible risks, more details can be found further in this disclaimer.
  - Academic risks: study delay, ECTS not being recognized by your faculty
  - Health risks: quarantine, infection, hospitalisation, lung COVID symptoms, death, impossible to repatriate due to closed borders
  - Financial risks: travel costs, housing, quarantine, visa and residence permit costs, extra costs as a result of contracting a Covid-19 infection, having to repay part of the Erasmus+ grant (minimum stay abroad is 3 months)
- You must register your stay abroad in MyTUDelft so that TU Delft knows where you are in the event of an emergency and as a result of this, the stay will be covered by the free travel insurance of TU Delft.
- You must register and attend the TU Delft Safety training before the start of the exchange. This training will be offered online, and registration instructions are provided here.
• You are asked to sign up for the information service of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the moment you decide to continue with your exchange preparations to receive travel advice updates. In addition, once on exchange, you should register with the Dutch embassy in the host country via the same information service, this way the embassy is aware of Dutch nationals currently in their country. If you have a different nationality, you should register with the embassy of your respective home country.

• We recommend you to wait as long as possible before making practical and financial arrangements, as there are usually no reimbursements/refunds made by the host university. Additionally, when booking any tickets, we encourage you to select rebookable/refundable tickets, as the situation may change.

• Student housing is at an all-time low, in and around Delft. Would you consider subletting your accommodation to an incoming student? If you are interested please contact the housing department via email (Contactcentre-esa@tudelft.nl)

• Your physical presence at the host university is required regardless of the volume of courses delivered online. You must receive ECTS for your study programme abroad. A purely virtual mobility is not an option.

Insurance:

• The TU Delft travel insurance covers travel to countries with green, yellow, and orange coded travel advice. If claims are made in relation to Covid-19, the insurance will examine on a case-by-case basis whether there is cover, including the following points: has the student taken sufficient measures to prevent or minimize the medical risks, for example adherence to the rules of the (local) governments and agencies, for example by staying away from large crowds.

• In the event that TU Delft travel insurance does not provide cover, all costs related to your stay abroad (for example any costs in the event of repatriation) are at your own expense. Please ensure you read the TU Delft Travel Insurance policy thoroughly, you may wish to purchase an additional insurance.

Travel:

• Travel is at your own risk. In the event of a lock down, the Dutch government will not repatriate Dutch nationals. The TU travel insurance has an exclusion clause for these situations.

• If, prior to departure, the travel status of the destination changes to red, the approval to participate in the (Erasmus+) exchange program is automatically withdrawn, and TU Delft will reclaim your scholarship (if you have applied for it). If you decide to go to a red coded country, you will no longer be eligible for study credits (ECTS), your study abroad will not be mentioned on your transcript of records and you will not be eligible for funding. If going abroad for an exchange programme, the partner university will be contacted to notify them of the cancellation of your study exchange programme.

• Travel to the host country/host university will be, as usual, dependent on any restrictions and regulations in place at the host.

• You are advised to get fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before your departure, this is not mandatory for TU Delft. Some countries such as Singapore and the USA require you to be fully vaccinated to be able to enter.

• Please note that you may have conditions of entry in the host country such as:
  o a mandatory negative PCR test before arrival at the foreseen destination
  o and / or proof of COVID-19 vaccination
  o and / or obligation to go into quarantine upon arrival

• and / or other applicable Covid-19 registration obligations of the host country.

• Any additional costs associated with conditions of entry cannot be reclaimed from TU Delft.
Arrival at Host University:

- If you become infected with Covid-19 during your stay abroad, you should take into account that you cannot travel back to the Netherlands by plane, international train, or bus. The extra costs incurred for an extended stay are your own responsibility.
- Your physical presence at the host university is required regardless of the volume of courses delivered online. You must receive ECTS for your study programme abroad. A purely virtual mobility is not an option.
- All other possible consequences are at your own risk, for example the consequences for your study progress due to failure to return on time for (other) educational obligations.
- In the event of an unexpected change of colour code from green/yellow/orange/ to red, during your stay abroad, TU Delft strongly advises you to check whether your stay abroad is really necessary and whether there are options to go home. TU Delft will not be able to assist with repatriation, should the borders be closed or if flights have been cancelled.
  - Should you be unable to return to the Netherlands, you need to ensure you have safe accommodation, stay informed of local and national developments, and inform the faculty exchange coordinator of any changes to your plans. You may have taken out extra travel insurance yourself. Check your travel insurance policy to clearly understand what the consequences of not leaving are for your insurance coverage.
  - Should you decide to remain where you are, you therefore confirm you are aware of the risks involved regarding travel, finance, insurance, and the possible study consequences of your decision. In order to remain eligible for the Erasmus+ scholarship your physical stay at the host institution must be at least 3 months (90 days).
  - Should you decide to return to the Netherlands, inform your host exchange coordinator and your faculty exchange coordinator. If you have an Erasmus + scholarship, send an email to erasmusgrant@tudelft.nl informing them of your decision.

By accepting your offer of admission at the host institution (including ‘Orange’ destinations) you confirm the following:
  - You have read and understood the information provided above.
  - You agree to bear any financial, health and academic risks associated with your exchange.
  - You will keep your faculty exchange coordinator informed of any changes to your stay

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Sign and send it to your faculty exchange coordinator.