

# Student toolkit

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

N.B. the Student toolkit is the subject of changes whenever new regulations come to the force. The affected students will be informed about the changes by email.

The latest version will be available on the <https://www.eu-conexus.eu/en/marine-biotechnology/>

# Student toolkit

Get oriented at the **EU-CONEXUS** joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology [intercampus!](#)

2025/2026

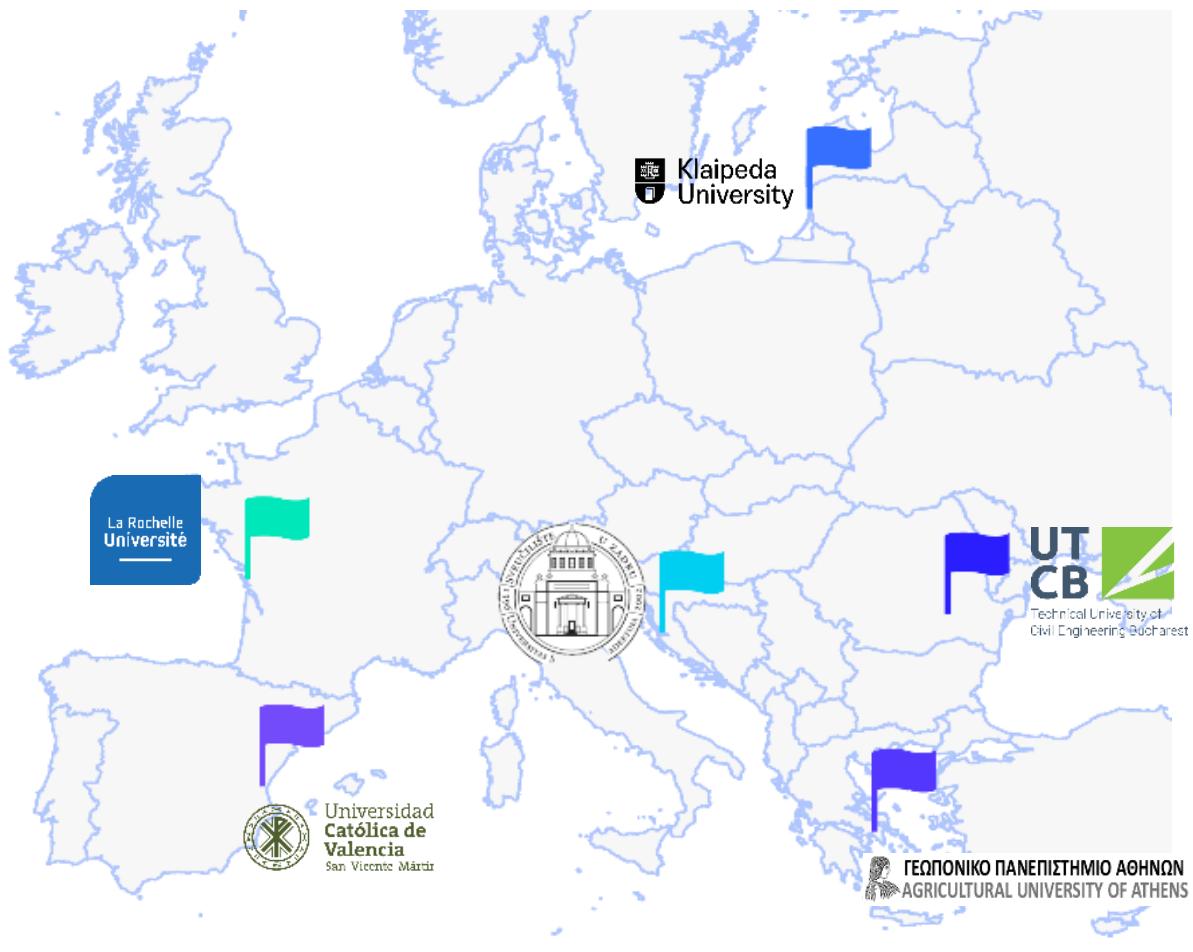


# Welcome to EU-CONEXUS intercampus!

The European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (EU-CONEXUS) is a transnational European higher education and research institution that covers the smart urban sustainable coastal development from a global point of view.

EU-CONEXUS is formed of 6 European universities, which are located in France, Greece, Romania, Lithuania, Spain and Croatia:

- La Rochelle Université (LRUniv),
- Agricultural University of Athens (AUA),
- Universitatea Tehnica de Constructii Bucuresti (*in English* Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest) (UTCB),
- Klaipédos Universitetas (*in English* Klaipeda University) (KU),
- Universidad Católica de Valencia (UCV),
- Sveučilište u Zadru (*in English* University of Zadar) (UNIZD).



Together we created the international joint Master's degree programme in Marine Biotechnology.

EU-CONEXUS universities, offering Master programme of Marine Biotechnology, are autonomous universities, acting according to their national and institutional legislation, but nevertheless they are aiming to harmonise the services and procedures to make the international programmes' students to

move within the consortium easier and smoother and enjoy the studies and student life with minimal paperwork. EU-CONEXUS Buddy programme assists each and every student to move between the universities, whether for a semester or for short project.



## **EU-CONEXUS OPENS UP OPPORTUNITIES TO INTERNATIONAL CURRICULA, CAREER AND EXPERIENCE**

## CONTENT

<b>Welcome to EU-CONEXUS intercampus!</b> .....	<b>3</b>
1.    Programme content and mobility: plan your itinerary. .....	6
2.    Contacts of the host university .....	8
<b>Mobility Toolkit</b> .....	<b>10</b>
3.    Before Arrival.....	11
3.1.    Acceptance, study agreement & fees .....	11
3.2.    Arrival to the 1 <sup>st</sup> university and mobility.....	11
3.3.    Migration / Visa procedures.....	12
3.4.    Travel.....	16
3.5.    Health insurance .....	17
Today, more than ever, it is important to have travel and health insurance. ....	17
3.6.    Accommodation .....	17
3.7.    Welcome Week & Welcome Day .....	19
3.8.    Registration at host university .....	19
3.9.    Student status and student card .....	19
3.10.    Local language classes.....	19
3.11.    Student life .....	20
3.12.    Costs of living and currency .....	20
3.13.    Bank account.....	21
3.14.    Services for students with disabilities .....	22
4.    Before leaving.....	22
4.1.    Heading to new destination .....	22
5.    EU-CONEXUS Student Board and Buddy programme .....	23
<b>Academic Toolkit</b> .....	<b>24</b>
6.    Academic Calendar.....	25
7.    Studies mobility .....	26
8.    Choosing the Track in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> semester.....	27
9.    Email and access to e-services .....	28
10.    Classes, assignments, and exams .....	28
10.1.    Information about the courses .....	28
10.2.    Assessment.....	28
10.3.    Grading system.....	30
11.    Career and academic support .....	30
12.    Individual study plan and additional courses.....	31
13.    Transcript of records .....	31
14.    Master thesis .....	32
15.    Graduation and Master's degree .....	33

## 1. Programme content and mobility: plan your itinerary.

Title of the programme:	Joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology (JMPMB)
Official length of the programme:	120 ECTS, 2-year studies
Mode of study:	Full-time studies
Qualification degree:	Master's Degree in Marine Biotechnology (or equivalent according to the national qualification of participating universities/countries)
Field of study (ISCED):	05 Natural sciences, mathematics, and statistics
Tracks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Innovative Bioproducts for Future</li> <li>- Blue Biomass</li> <li>- Marine Biorefinery</li> <li>- Aquaculture Biotechnology</li> </ul>
Language of studies:	English
Type of diploma	Combination of Joint diploma and double degree
Access to:	third cycle (doctoral) studies and/or labour market

The 120 ECTS joint Master programme consists of

- **Core courses** (54 ECTS) are taught throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> academic year in the areas of Marine Omics, Marine Biodiversity Prospecting, Blue Biotechnology Business & R&D Management and Biochemistry of Marine Natural Products,
- **Internship** (6 ECTS) is carried out at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the 1st academic year. The professional practice prepares students in a very practical way for future employment,
- **Optional courses** (taught virtually) of the chosen **track** (specialisation) (16 ECTS),
- Each track is completed with a course called **Academic Research Integration** (14 ECTS),
- **Master Thesis** (30 ECTS).

The student enrolled in the Programme has a mandatory mobility among the universities of the Consortium with a full academic acknowledgement of the credits acquired. During the two years of the Programme, the Student must study in at least two universities of the Consortium, even though we highly recommend choosing a new host university every semester. Students will spend at least two study periods (30 ECTS or equivalent) in two countries which are different from the country of residence of the student at enrolment.

The joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology is designed to ensure that students (1) get essential training in key subjects related to marine biotechnology, (2) have the opportunity to thematically specialise, (3) can tailor their study programme to their aspirations via individual professional practice (internship), individual research (academic research integration) and thesis work. JMPMB includes a wide range of mobility opportunities but also ensures integration in a group and a network in the best possible circumstances. By using multiple teaching approaches, it offers an open learning environment to a multicultural group of students.

### Syllabi of joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Semester 1</b> Mobility 1	<b>Core courses</b>	Genomics, Proteomics and Metabolomics for Marine Biodiversity Prospecting	6 ECTS	<b>UCV</b> -Spain-	
			Marine Microbiome and Metagenomics	6 ECTS		
			Culture Collections and Biobanks	8 ECTS		
			Marine Biodiversity for Marine Natural Products	4 ECTS		
			Blue Biotechnology Business and R&D Management I	6 ECTS		
	<b>Semester 2</b> Mobility 2		Blue Biotechnology Business and R&D Management II	6 ECTS	<b>LRUniv</b> -France-	
			Marine Natural Products: Classes, Biological Activity and Biosynthesis	6 ECTS		
			Chemical Libraries	6 ECTS		
			Screening of Bioactivity	6 ECTS		
	Mobility 3	Internship		6 ECTS	<b>France or any other country</b>	
60 ECTS						
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Semester 3</b> Mobility 4	<b>Track 1</b> <b>Innovative Bioproducts for Future</b>	Academic Research Integration	14 ECTS	<b>AUA</b>	
			Advanced Characterisation Methods for Marine Natural Products Identification	4 ECTS		
			Biological Profiling of Marine Natural Products	4 ECTS		
			Optimisation of Marine Natural Products	4 ECTS		
			Marine Natural Products for Health and Wellness and Food	4 ECTS		
	<b>Track 2</b> <b>Blue Biomass</b>		Academic Research Integration	14 ECTS	<b>AUA</b>	
			Bioreactor Design and Management	4 ECTS		
			Microorganism Biomass and Metabolite Production	4 ECTS		
			Microalgal Biotechnology	4 ECTS		
			Seaweed Production	4 ECTS		
	<b>Track 3</b> <b>Marine Biorefinery</b>		Academic Research Integration	14 ECTS	<b>AUA</b>	
			Design of Biorefinery Processes	4 ECTS		
			Marine Biomass Functional Ingredients Extraction	4 ECTS		
			Functionalisation of Marine-derived Biomaterials	4 ECTS		
			Marine Whole-cell Factories	4 ECTS		
	<b>Track 4</b> <b>Aquaculture Biotechnology</b>		Academic Research Integration	14 ECTS	<b>AUA</b>	
			Aquaculture Systems and Seafood Processing	4 ECTS		
			Fish Nutrigenomics	4 ECTS		
			Health and Welfare in Aquaculture	4 ECTS		
			Advanced Breeding Programmes	4 ECTS		
	<b>Semester 4</b> Mobility 5	Master Thesis		30 ECTS	<b>AUA</b>	
60 ECTS						

Access JMPMB ECTS Course Catalogue for full information on [Annex-7.-SER.-ECTS-Course-Catalogue.pdf](https://eu-conexus.eu/Annex-7.-SER.-ECTS-Course-Catalogue.pdf)

## 2. Contacts of the host university

Joint Master programme of Marine Biotechnology is implemented by six universities, and all of them have an appointed contact person for the programme's students led by Programme Coordinating University (UCV) and the Master programme director and officer.

**EU-CONEXUS Master Officer (EMO)** is the main contact person for the applicants and students throughout the study programme. Feel free to contact him/her for whatever general questions.

EMO will consult and communicate with you, will guide you through the application process and will assist to start the studies at the first university of the JMPMB.

Contacts:	To contact for the questions related to:
<a href="mailto:admission.mb@eu-conexus.eu">admission.mb@eu-conexus.eu</a>	Application process Application documents Admission results Assistance before the arrival
<a href="mailto:mm.diaz@ucv.es">mm.diaz@ucv.es</a>	General questions during studies (if it is host university related, contact university's representative) Administrative formalities To stop, change the studies/tracks Suggestions and complaints Students & Alumni networks



Before writing an email, please check our website [Joint Master Programme in Marine Biotechnology - EU-CONEXUS](#) and search in this toolkit for the procedures, documents, deadlines, academic calendar, exams, tips and tricks.

The **Academic Coordinator** is the main person to respond to your academic questions:

Contacts:	To contact for the questions related to:
<a href="mailto:academic.coordinator@eu-conexus.eu">academic.coordinator@eu-conexus.eu</a>	Academic issues Programme orientation Choosing the track/ARI project To stop, change the studies/track Appeals, complaints, suggestions Scholarships

EU-CONEXUS joint programme universities created a network of support for the students while you are studying or visiting particular (host) university.

University	International tutor	Academic tutor
	<b>To contact for the questions related to:</b> Migration procedures Arrival and departure Integration Events for international students Administrative formalities Buddy programme (and personal mentor)	<b>To contact for the questions at the university related to:</b> Academic regulations Tutoring Timetables, professors, internships Suggestions, complaints about the study part
<b>UCV</b>	Melania Díaz González Email: <a href="mailto:mm.diaz@ucv.es">mm.diaz@ucv.es</a> Office address SU-21020	Jerónimo Chirivella Email: <a href="mailto:jeronimo.chirivella@ucv.es">jeronimo.chirivella@ucv.es</a> Office address: SU-22120
<b>LRUniv</b>	Patricia Leveque Email: <a href="mailto:patricia.leveque@univ-lr.fr">patricia.leveque@univ-lr.fr</a> Office address	Stéphanie Bordenave-Juchereau Email: <a href="mailto:sbordena@univ-lr.fr">sbordena@univ-lr.fr</a> Office address
<b>AUA</b>		Emmanouil Malandrakis Email: <a href="mailto:emalandrak@aua.gr">emalandrak@aua.gr</a> Office address
<b>UTCB</b>	Anca Margineanu Email: <a href="mailto:anca.margineanu@utcb.ro">anca.margineanu@utcb.ro</a> Office address	Florin Baltaretu Email: <a href="mailto:florin.baltaretu@utcb.ro">florin.baltaretu@utcb.ro</a> Office address
<b>KU</b>	Rasa Grigoliene Email: <a href="mailto:rasa.grigoliene@ku.lt">rasa.grigoliene@ku.lt</a> Office address	Evelina Griniene Email <a href="mailto:evelina.griniene@ku.lt">evelina.griniene@ku.lt</a> Office address
<b>UNIZD</b>	Paola Bajlo Kalmeta Email: <a href="mailto:pkalmeta@unizd.hr">pkalmeta@unizd.hr</a> Office address	Tomislav Šarić Email: <a href="mailto:tosaric@unizd.hr">tosaric@unizd.hr</a> Office address

### Stay updated!



- <https://www.eu-conexus.eu/en/for-students/studies/> (for the latest updates and information, Student toolkit, maps, etc.)
- <https://www.eu-conexus.eu/en/news-events/> (for EU-Conexus events and news)
- [Facebook](#) , [Instagram](#) , [YouTube](#) , [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

*P.S. closed FB/Whatsapp group will be created for each academic group. At host university you will be added to local communication channels for international students*

# Mobility Toolkit

Before

During

After



### 3. Before Arrival

#### 3.1. Acceptance, study agreement & fees

##### Congratulations!

You have been accepted and invited to study joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology at EU-CONEXUS.

The Student Agreement that you receive informs you about the study programme, mobility scheme, your rights and obligations, fees payment structure. Read it carefully and, if you accept our offer, send it back to the EU-CONEXUS Master Officer [mm.diaz@ucv.es](mailto:mm.diaz@ucv.es)

You will be registered as a full-time student of the joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology in all EU-CONEXUS joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology consortium universities for the full duration of the Programme (2 years).

Feel free to ask questions or documents to apply for scholarship, health insurance, visa, or any other reason at [admission.mb@eu-conexus.eu](mailto:admission.mb@eu-conexus.eu).

#### 3.2. Arrival to the 1<sup>st</sup> university and mobility

Welcome to Universidad Católica de Valencia (UCV) where your journey begins!

UCV is found in Valencia, the third largest city of Spain on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. The university has several campuses (check [www.ucv.es](http://www.ucv.es)) but you will be studying in the heart of the city, just next to the Torres de Quart – one of the defensive towers that were surround the old city in the medieval times. Studying you will not only learn about the city via multiple events, excursions, but also will have an opportunity to learn Spanish language, to cook paella, to swim in the sea, ride the bike or to explore Albufeira.



The **first semester starts on the 08<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 at UCV**, but the registration of students will start on **1-5<sup>th</sup> of September**, so we recommend arriving earlier, to get an apartment or student room (see Accommodation). **Your buddy** will help you around, and we will see you on the Welcome Week!

Before packing, make sure, you got everything you need for the start of studies:



- ✓ Passport and ID
- ✓ Travel and health insurance
- ✓ Acceptance letter and student agreement
- ✓ Original documents of your previous education (legalized/apostilled)
- ✓ The notary verified translations of your documents
- ✓ Original certificate of English proficiency
- ✓ The addresses and contacts

- ✓ Phone with uploaded maps and some family photos
- ✓ Clothes, shoes and swimming suit – it is still warm (hot) in September
- ✓ Maybe something personal
- ✓ Laptop
- ✓ and you can get the rest in Valencia – from clothes to exotic spices



During the next semester you will continue your studies at La Rochelle Université in France, and later on at the university of your choice:

	<b>Host university</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> semester</b>	UCV, Spain
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> semester</b>	LRUniv, France. Internship (8 weeks) at the end of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester may be carried at any company in any country.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> semester</b>	Any partner universities according to the chosen track by the student in order to carry out his/her ARI; the elective courses will be taught online
<b>4<sup>th</sup> semester</b>	Any partner universities, associated partners and other higher education and/or research institutions according to the chosen Master's thesis topic

Before going to each university and country, you will get all necessary updates and useful suggestions

Before going to La Rochelle University, France, don't forget to ask your resident permit and then, with this permit, a French Social Security Number. You can apply for the French social security number in: <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/#/> (website available in English)

**During the two years of the Programme, you must spend at least two study periods (30 ECTS or equivalent) in two countries which are different from your country of residence at enrolment.**

**Therefore, residents of Spain and France are obliged to choose a third different destination for their 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> semester (other than Spain/France).**

### Isn't it exciting!

We leave enough time in the Academic Calendar for you to move, get settled and prepare for the new semester. International and academic tutors at every university will be just an email away to assist you with personal questions.

### 3.3. Migration / Visa procedures

Depending on your citizenship, you may be required to complete certain immigration procedures (for example, apply for a visa) in order to start your studies in Spain, and then to continue in the rest of the countries of the JMPMB. Making sure you fulfil all the requirements and complete all the immigration procedures on time **is your responsibility**, but the Master programme officer and international tutors (see Chapter 2) will assist you throughout the process and will help you to make it as smooth and easy as possible.

## 1<sup>st</sup> semester: Spain

In order to start the studies at UCV, Spain, you need to fulfil the following procedures.



### If you are EU/EEA citizen\*

All EU/EEA citizens are allowed to enter Spain and start studies without any immigration procedures. Once in Spain, if the stay is to be longer than 90 days, it is obligatory to register in the Central Registry of Foreigners (obtention of NIE number).

[Consult Immigration offices in Valencia](#)

*Documents (among others)\*\*:*

- Confirmation of being enrolled in the JMPMB (which will be given to you by UCV)
- Health insurance to cover medical treatment during the study period in Spain and/or a valid European Health Insurance Card
- Proof of resources to cover living costs
- Bank account
- Spanish social security number (after obtaining the NIE number)



### If you are a non- EU/EEA citizen

Non-EU/EEA citizens need a student visa to enter Spain and start studies. You should apply for a Student Visa at the Spanish Embassy or Consulate in your country of residence (or in the country with jurisdiction to provide visas to your country of residence):

[Consult embassies and consulates and country-based requirements](#)

**When to apply:** maximum 90 and minimum 45 days before your departure date.

**Visa fee:** it depends on the country of your residence (consult the embassy).

*Documents (among others)\*\*:*

- Valid passport/travel document (it should be valid for the whole period of studies + 3 months)
- Acceptance letter to study JMPMB (which will be given to you by UCV)
- The study programme content and description (which will be given to you by UCV)
- Health insurance to cover medical treatment, personal liability and repatriation costs during the study period (provided by the programme)
- Medical certificate (translated into Spanish)
- Proof of resources to cover living costs, or scholarship statement, or an undertaking to accept financial liability from a guarantor who must provide proof of adequate, reliable and regular income, as well as a copy of their ID document.
- Proof of accommodation for the period the studies.
- Diplomas of previous studies may be requested.
- Proof of paid tuition fee may be requested.
- TIE card (Once in Valencia) <https://icp.administracionelectronica.gob.es/icpplus/index.html>
- Spanish bank account (once you arrive to UCV)
- Spanish social insurance number (Once in Valencia)

\* If you are a citizen or a permanent resident of Spain, these procedures do not apply.

*\*\* This is a general list, and it may not include all the documents required by the corresponding institution as they are subject to change.*

### Note!



The immigration/visa procedures are subject to change. We will update you on the current procedures prior to the beginning of your stay in each EU-CONEXUS university within the joint Master programme.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> semester: France

In order to continue your studies on the second semester in La Rochelle, France, you need to fulfil the following procedures.



### If you are an EU/EEA citizen\*

All EU/EEA citizens are allowed to enter France and start studies without any immigration procedures. It is obligatory to come with the European Health Insurance Card and a NIE number (see more about insurance in section 3.4. of this Chapter)



### If you a non-EU/EEA citizen

If you are a non-EU/EEA citizen, you will need a Spanish resident permit (TIE Card) or a French student visa to enter France and start studies. Within the first 3 months of your stay, you must validate your visa through an online process on the following website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

You have two ways to obtain French visa, in your transition from Spain (1st semester of your studies) to France (2nd semester of your studies): applying for a French visa from Spain or entering France with Spanish visa and applying for a new visa in France.

#### Applying for a French visa from Spain.

You can apply for a French visa at French Embassy in Madrid, Spain (note that you must be legally in Spain at the moment of application). Link to [French embassy in Spain](#)

For general information and for preparing, submitting and tracking your application, log on to France visas, the [official website](#) for visa application to France.

*When to apply:* maximum 90 and minimum 45 days before your departure date.

*Visa fee:* 99 EUR (subject to change)

*Documents (among others)\*\*:*

- Valid passport/travel document (it should be valid for the whole period of studies +3 months)
- Student status and future mobility confirmation (which will be given to you by LRUniv)
- The study programme content and description (which will be given to you by LRUniv)

- Health insurance to cover medical treatment and repatriation costs during the study period in France.
- Proof of resources to cover living costs deposited in French bank, or scholarship statement, or an undertaking to accept financial liability from a guarantor who must provide proof of adequate, reliable and regular income, as well as a copy of their ID document.
- Proof of accommodation for the first 3 months or during the studies
- Diplomas of previous studies may be requested.
- Paid tuition fee may be requested.

Once in France, within the first 3 months, you must validate your visa through an online process on the following website: <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

**Entering France with Spanish visa and applying for a new visa in France.**

If your visa to Spain is still valid and it allows you to travel in Schengen area, you can enter France with your Spanish visa and apply for a new student visa in France once you're already there. International office of LRUniv or your Master officer will help you with these procedures.

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*\* If you are a citizen or a permanent resident of France, these procedures do not apply*

*\*\* This is a general list, and it may not include all the documents required by the corresponding institution as they are subject to change.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semesters: Greece, Romania, Lithuania, Croatia, France or Spain**

During the second and third semester you will be guided to prepare for the immigration procedures, for the third and fourth semester of your studies in the universities of your choice.



**If you are the EU/EEA citizen\***

All EU/EEA citizens are allowed to enter Croatia, Greece, Lithuania, France, Romania or Spain and study without any immigration procedures. You may be obliged, however, to register in local Immigration Offices upon your arrival, if your stay in the country is going to be longer than 90 days. Your host university will inform you about these procedures upon your arrival.



**If you are a non-EU/EEA citizen**

Non-EU/EEA citizens will, typically, need a student visa to enter and study in Croatia, Greece, Lithuania, Romania or Spain if you don't have a valid resident permit.

*Where to apply:* at the Embassy of the given country

*General guidelines:* The required documentation may differ for each country, but it is similar to the one submitted during your first visa applications to Spain and France – i.e., student status, proof of resources, health insurance, etc.

For more details, you may consult the embassies:

[Greek embassy in France](#)

[Romanian embassy in France](#)

[Lithuanian embassy in France](#)

[Croatian embassy in France](#)

[Spanish embassy in France](#)

[List of Greek embassies in other countries](#)

[List of Romanian embassies in other countries](#)

[List of Lithuanian embassies in other countries](#)

[List of Croatian embassies in other countries](#)

[List of Spanish embassies in other countries](#)

Once in the country, you may be obliged to register in local Immigration Offices. Your host university will inform you about these procedures upon your arrival.

If you will stay in France for the third semester of your studies, you will have to prolong your stay in France at the local Immigration Offices. International office of LRUniv will help you with these procedures.

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## Once Again!



The immigration/visa procedures are subject to change. We will update you on the current procedures prior to the beginning of your stay in each EU-CONEXUS university within the joint Master programme.

### 3.4. Travel

Traveling between your study destinations **will be your own responsibility**, but the administrative staff and the Buddies will be there to help you with the arrangements. Most of our institutions are located in cities on coastlines, not necessarily close to the capital cities, therefore, reaching your destination may require couple of transfers rather than a direct journey.

As the European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability, we are not indifferent to the environmental impact of travelling, and we encourage you to use sustainable means of travels, such as train. This should be possible especially between countries located in a proximity, such as the travel from Valencia in Spain to La Rochelle in France. Does travelling by trains take more time? Yes, but you will have a chance to see the beautiful landscapes of our countries along the way or even stay overnight and visit some more European cities along the way, such as Barcelona or Bordeaux. It may be a great adventure to have in the break between two semesters.

### 3.5. Health insurance

Today, more than ever, it is important to have travel and health insurance.

A compulsory and comprehensive insurance for health during the entire period of studies will be paid for each student from the budget of the Consortium of Universities and will have no additional cost for the students. The insurance meets all the requirements for Erasmus Mundus students and cover sickness, accidents, pregnancy and childbirth, invalidity, cost related to death, as well as third-part liability and theft and loss of documents, in all Europe. If you need additional information about the insurance, Master Officer will help you to get it.

For non-EU/EEA citizens, it may be required to show a previous insurance document during visa application.

For EU/EEA citizens, it is also recommended to get the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from your country of residence for the periods of mobility in the other European countries. You can see more information about EHIC [here](#).

### 3.6. Accommodation

Some of the universities within the JMPMB offer accommodation in their own university dormitories, while other will provide you recommendations on private accommodation. Admission to accommodation in dormitories is not automatic – in most cases, you will need to make an application. Each host university will inform you about the option, and relevant procedures, prior to your arrival.



#### UCV, Spain

UCV does not have university dormitories and accommodation office as such, but we do advise you some safe Accommodation Agencies with which the UCV is partner of and that offer special discounts for UCV students:

- Residencia universitaria femenina UCV Sagrado Corazón. For more information and admissions please contact - [residsacor@resagradochorazon.es](mailto:residsacor@resagradochorazon.es)
- Moontels – please contact [repcion@moontels.com](mailto:repcion@moontels.com) or at the telephone number +34 638734647
- HousingAnywhere.com – more information at [vip@housinganywhere.com](mailto:vip@housinganywhere.com)
- Uniplaces - More specific questions, please contact [partners@uniplaces.com](mailto:partners@uniplaces.com)
- Uniresidences, Student Residences made for students - <https://www.uniresidences.com/>
- Livensa Living Marina Real - [vmarina@livesaliving.com](mailto:vmarina@livesaliving.com)
- Live 4 Life - <https://www.live4life.es/>
- Aluni.net - <https://www.aluni.net>

More information at [UCV ORIENTATION GUIDE 2022-23 2nd A5.FH10](#)



#### LRUniv, France

Department of International Relations of La Rochelle University helps international students to find accommodation. The University residences are managed by the CROUS, which are regional centres for Student Affairs that aim to improve students' living and study conditions on a daily basis. The CROUS also offers housing in private homes via Lokaviz ([www.lokaviz.fr](http://www.lokaviz.fr)), and L'ARPAE has a large number of apartments.

### AUA, Greece

Agricultural University of Athens does not have students' hall of residence, but the European Programmes' Office provides incoming students with a list of accommodation options (private owned flats/rooms furnished or not, sometimes shared) upon request. ESN-AUA buddies help students in order to solve the problem of accommodation whenever is possible.



### UTCB, Romania

UTCB students have the possibility to live in one of the 6 residence buildings (dormitories) placed in Tei campus. Depending on the country of origin and the type of financing (with scholarship or self-financed) the price of a place in the dormitory varies and also, depending on the type of the room.



### KU, Lithuania

There are two student dormitories at Klaipeda University. Dormitory at Statybinnku ave. 43 is located in the southern part of the city. The building has not been renovated and it contains double and triple rooms. A block of a double and triple room shares a washbasin and a toilet. There are also shared showers and kitchens. Second dormitory at Universiteto ave. 12 is located in the campus of Klaipėda University. The building is new with double rooms. A block shares a shower and a toilet. Each floor offers a common kitchen-dining room.

Dormitory fees are 165 €/month (per person) living in a double room; 220 €/month (per person) living alone in a double room; 198 €/month (per person) living in a single room (if it will be possible). Prices applied if student is residing more than 30 days. 180 € safety deposit is mandatory. 30€ linen fee is applied.

If student is residing less than 30 days – 9 €/day (per person) living in a double room; 11 €/day (per person) living alone in a double room; 11 €/day (per person) living in a single room (if it will be possible). Safety deposit is required. 4 € linen fee is applied.

Note that prices are specified based on [appendix no. 8](#)

**\*Note that prices may vary**



### UNIZD, Croatia

International students in Zadar are usually accommodated in the residence hall or in private apartments.

The university residence hall has 94 rooms, 18 of which are triple, and 76 double rooms, which can in total accommodate 206 students. There are three kitchenettes, two TV rooms, a large hall, a classroom, a computer cabinet, a laundry room and a recreational hall. If you would like to live in the Residence Hall during your studies in Zadar, you have to fill in the application A much more reliable way of finding satisfactory accommodation is a private room or an apartment. The university can provide list of agencies that can help in the search of private accommodation and an access to social media groups managed by local ESN where you can find roommates and rent offers.



### Before arrival webinar

Before arrival we will have a webinar where you will have opportunity to ask the questions, to meet your future classmates and feel more confident to start the studies! Upon arrival

## 3.7. Welcome Week & Welcome Day

Your studies will start with some integration activities which are called **Welcome Week**.

**5-10<sup>th</sup> September** you are invited to come to the university for the first time. During the Welcome Week you will

- ✓ Learn about both EU-CONEXUS and the Programme.
- ✓ Meet the Academic Coordinator, EU-CONEXUS Master Officer, international tutor, classmates...
- ✓ Get the tour around UCV.
- ✓ Meet the teachers and get the classes schedule.
- ✓ Get an access to the UCV email, connections to the intranet, EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus.
- ✓ Make the Student card.
- ✓ Discover Valencia and surroundings.
- ✓ and much more!

Once you will be moving from one university to another, each host university will organise a similar **Welcome Day** (the first day of the semester) to explain:

- ✓ About the host university.
- ✓ Meet the lecturers and get the classes schedule.
- ✓ Meet academic and international tutor of the host university.
- ✓ Learn about the city and the country.
- ✓ And.... we leave something out to surprise you when you come!

## 3.8. Registration at host university

When you come to the university for the first time (sorry, but this should be repeated), bring your passport/ID and education documents to complete the registration procedures. The academic and international tutors will prepare everything for you.

Check the second part of this toolkit to learn about the **academic affairs**.

## 3.9. Student status and student card

During the whole period of your studies, you will be registered as a full-time student of the Joint Master Programme in Marine Biotechnology in all EU-CONEXUS programme consortium universities. As such, you will receive the student card of the UCV, and you will be also entitled to obtain a student card of each university where you will (physically) stay during the Programme.

The student card will provide you the discounts for public transport, cinema, some shops, events, and of course, you will have access to the libraries, buildings, self-service, labs, and more.

## 3.10. Local language classes

The language of communication, instruction, and exams in the JMPMB is only English and you are not required to speak or learn any other language. However, if only you wish to, you may take the opportunity to study the local languages of EU-CONEXUS countries while you stay there.

During your stay at each of the EU-CONEXUS universities, you are entitled to enrol for a language course of its national language of up to 6 ECTS for free. If you want to take more classes or enrol for a course of any language other than the national language of the given country, it will be possible upon an additional payment, at a rate of the host university.

If you are interested in the language courses, you should simply inform your host university before the start of the semester. You will be obliged to pass the exam of the selected language course at the end of the semester. The language courses will be included in your Diploma Supplement.

### 3.11. Student life

**This experience is not only about studying, but also living a life!**

At each host university of the consortium, you will be able to access all available services and facilities (e.g., **sports activities, library, co-studying spaces, counselling, psychological support**, etc.) and you are invited to participate in the local student life. Each university has student organisations and associations, such as Erasmus Student Network or local Student Boards, that organise events, activities, and initiatives for international and local students. You are free to join all the offered activities or, even suggest your own ideas and/or become an active member of the student official structures.

### 3.12. Costs of living and currency

Each of the Programme country and city has different average costs of living. You can consult the tables below to see average costs of certain products and services. Some of the universities offer low-cost accommodation in the on-campus dormitories (see 3.6 above) or discounted meals in university canteens. The student card will also give you discounts in many services, especially public transport.

The currency in Spain, France, Greece, Lithuania and Croatia is euro, whereas Romania has its own national currency: Romanian leu (code: RON). The average prices presented in the table below are their equivalents in euro and may vary.

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester:**

		<b>Valencia, Spain</b>	<b>La Rochelle, France</b>
<b>Accommodation – average monthly rent for a room</b>		500 € plus bills	500 €
<b>FOOD</b>	Lunch in a student canteen	---	4,3€
	Lunch outside campus	8-15€	15-20€
	Average cost of food and groceries per month	300-350€	200-250€
<b>Public transport</b>		Monthly student card: 28€	Monthly student ticket: 23€
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	A coffee in a café	1,5 – 2€	2-3€
	A beer in a pub	3-5€	3-5€
	Cinema ticket:	8-10€	5-7€
	Other	A glass of wine or sangría: 3-5€ Oceanographic museum: 30€ for students Most of other museums: 5-8€	A croissant: 1€ Maritime museum: free for students Aquarium: 17,5€

		An organised hiking / sightseeing trip: 20-25€	
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**Other locations (for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semester):**

		Athens, Greece	Bucharest, Romania	Klaipeda, Lithuania	Zadar, Croatia
	<b>Accommodation –average monthly rent for a room</b>	Around 250€	250 - 350€ euro plus bills	Around 300 - 500€ plus bills	130-150 €
FOOD	Lunch in a student canteen	9€ for 3 meals per day	5-10€	5€	13-20€ per week
	Lunch outside campus	10€	10-15€	-8-12€	7-11€
	Average cost of food and groceries per month	150€	100-200€	150-250€	200 €
	<b>Public transport</b>	Student monthly ticket 25 €	Monthly ticket around 15 €	Student monthly ticket 6 €	Student monthly ticket is for free
ENTERTAINMENT	A coffee in a café	4€	2€	3€	1 – 1,5€
	A beer in a pub	6€	2-5€	4-5€	2€
	Cinema ticket:	8€	6 €	5,5 €	5-10 €
	Other	Acropolis and some other sights: free for students  A cocktail in a club: 10€	Escape room: 20€  Karaoke: 10€  Botanical garden: 1,2€	Pizza: 5-7 €  Ice skating: 6€  A cocktail in a club: 8-10€  Free museums on the last Sunday of the month	Nightclub: 3-12 €  Hot chocolate: 1,6€  Bike rental for one day: 15€  Ferry to a nearby island: 2€

*\*Prices are for reference only and may vary*

### 3.13. Bank account

To open a bank account in Spain (that is, the country where you will stay for the first semester of the Programme) these are the documents that may be required:

- National ID card (EU citizens) or Passport and visa (non-EU citizens)
- NIE document (document of being registered in the Central Registry of Foreigners of Spain – see [3.3](#) above)
- The letter of acceptance and enrolment to JMPMB
- Proof of income

As a suggestion, Banco Santander has experience in dealing with mobility students. Banco Santander. Address: Gran Vía Fernando El Católico, 25 46008, Valencia and the team will join as during welcome week to facilitate the procedure.

You can keep your Spanish bank account open for the whole 2 years of studies; it is very convenient because Erasmus Mundus scholarship will be paid by UCV for the whole study period. If you want or need to, you can also open bank accounts in the other countries of your stay within the JMPMB – the local university will help you with this.

### 3.14. Services for students with disabilities

EU-CONEXUS and the JMPMB is open to all students from all countries, and we aim to assist every of you in the best possible way. The EU-CONEXUS partners aim at developing a disability-inclusive higher education environment in order to ensure that no one are not excluded from higher education and that their potential is realised.

If you have any kind of disability and have challenges to move or to follow the class, we will help you. All our universities have a department or a specialist to assist the students with disabilities. If you notify us in advance, we can guide you providing a buddy, advising the university for your mobility within the Programme which is the best fit to your specific needs. The learning and exam framework is easy to adapt for blended (physical+virtual) learning.

And if you need [academic tutor](mailto:students.MB@eu-conexus.eu) or more time with the teacher, it's just an email away [students.MB@eu-conexus.eu](mailto:students.MB@eu-conexus.eu).

## 4. Before leaving.

### 4.1. Heading to new destination

Well, semester is going to an end. All exams have been passed, you know how to say hello in local language, and unfortunately, it's time to say goodbye or see you later.

Before you leave, please visit the Academic tutor at the host university and make sure you know everything about your new destination.

**It's time to read this toolkit once again!**



Check for the latest version of this toolkit and make sure you have all documents with you, you have visa, if needed, health insurance, booked the accommodation. New university is waiting for you!

International tutor will be assisting you if you need any new documents to prove your status, to pay the fees or to receive the scholarship, or...

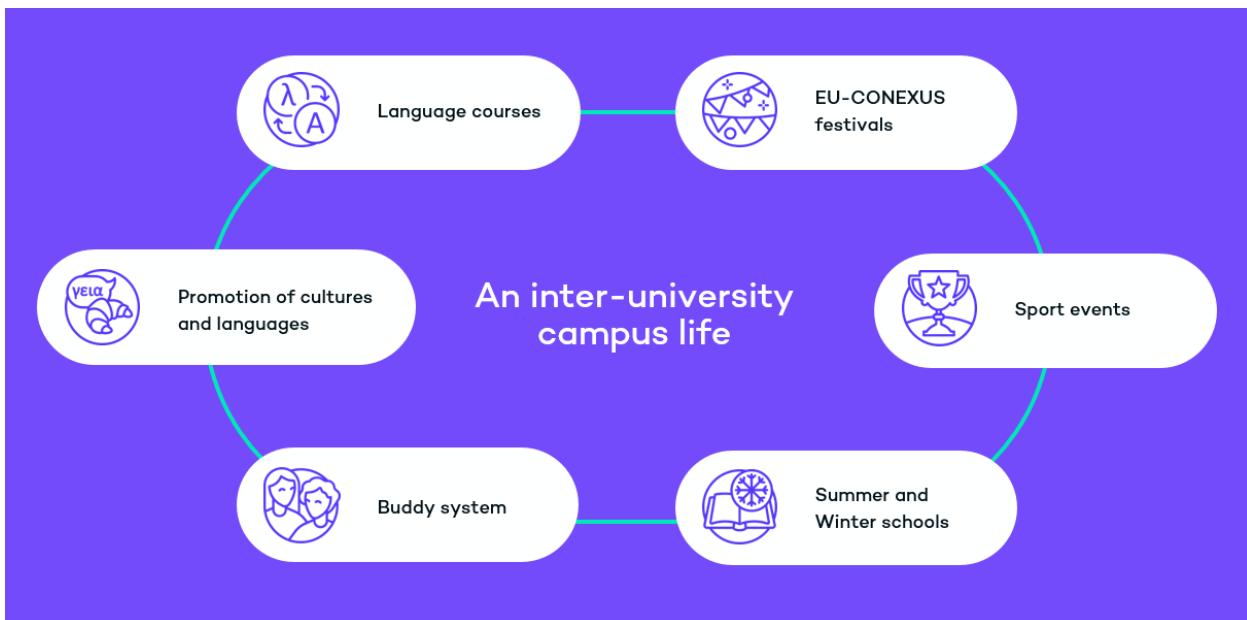
We are sure that we all meet once again at the graduation ceremony!

And if this is **your last semester** and the last university...

**it's time to celebrate your Master's degree in Marine Biotechnology!**

## 5. EU-CONEXUS Student Board and Buddy programme

EU-CONEXUS Student Board, with collaboration of local students and student organisations at each university, is coordinating Buddy programme for international students of the JMPMB. Buddy programme is meant to offer you a mentoring service during your stay at each of the universities – i.e., provide help and support before your arrival and during your first days of studies, as well as social activities and events throughout your stay.



Thanks to the Buddy programme you will get in touch with other students even before your arrival, so that you will be able to ask any questions about the city, accommodation, transportation, university procedures etc. Once you arrive, you will meet other international students personally during our International welcome dinner, and they will make sure you feel welcomed and integrated with local student community. Your Master Officer will keep you updated on how to apply to the Buddy programme prior to your arrival at each university.

And we hope that later on you will become a buddy yourself!

# Academic Toolkit

## from Welcome Week to Graduation ceremony



## 6. Academic Calendar

Even though you will study in different countries, the JMPMB academic calendar is unified in order to enable smooth your transfer from one university and country to other.

The academic calendar for the next semester is confirmed [Joint Master Programme in Marine Biotechnology - EU-CONEXUS](#)

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR. INTAKE 2025/2026.

<b>Autumn semester (2025/2026)</b>	
Welcome week (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	1 Sept – 5 Sept
Welcome day (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	1 Sept – 5 Sept
Lectures period (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	<b>8 Sept – 5 Dec</b>
Lectures period (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	<b>8 Sept – 5 Dec</b>
Exams period (Exams sessions, examination reviews, and grade results) (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	09 Dec – 23 Dec
<b>Winter holidays</b>	<b>24 Dec – 6 Jan</b>
Complementary exams period (resit of exams, examination reviews, and grade results) (1 <sup>st</sup> year student) <i>*Will be held at LRUniv.</i>	5 Jan – 9 Jan
Complementary exams period (resit of exams, examination reviews, and grade results) (2 <sup>nd</sup> year student) <i>*Depending on the University Calendar and Master Thesis destination</i>	5 Jan – 9 Jan
<b>Spring semester (2025/2026)</b>	
Welcome day (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	12 Jan
Lectures period (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	<b>13 Jan – 05 Apr</b>
Master thesis period (Thesis plan/training/trials/lab work/Sampling/Analysis of samples/writing, revisions by supervisor, and submission) (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	<b>12 Jan – 28 Jun</b>
Exams period (Exams sessions, examination reviews, and grade results) (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	06 Apr – 12 Apr
Internship (1 <sup>st</sup> year students) and report submission to Moodle platform (1 <sup>st</sup> resit)	<b>13 Apr – 14 Jun</b>
Complementary exams period (resit of exams, examination reviews, Internship report submission to Moodle platform (2 <sup>nd</sup> resit), and grade results) (1 <sup>st</sup> year students)	22 Jun – 28 Jun
Master thesis defence (1 <sup>st</sup> resit) (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	06 Jul – 10 Jul
Graduation ceremony (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	10 Jul <i>*To be confirmed</i>
Master thesis resit (2 <sup>nd</sup> year students)	7 – 13 Sep
Master thesis defence (2 <sup>nd</sup> resit)	14 – 18 Sep
<b>Summer holidays (1<sup>st</sup> year students)</b>	<b>29 Jun – 31 Aug</b>

**\*Public holidays depend on the country where Student is studying physically.**

**\*\*This Academic calendar is pending of approval by the Academic Council and may change.**

## 7. Studies mobility

In order to complete the JMPMB, there is a mandatory mobility among the universities of the Consortium with a full academic acknowledgement of the credits acquired. During the two years of the Programme, you must spend at least two study periods (30 ECTS or equivalent) in two countries which are different from your country of residence at enrolment.

Therefore, residents of Spain and France are obliged to choose a third different destination for their 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> semester (other than Spain/France).

Therefore, the 1<sup>st</sup> semester is conducted at UCV, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> at LRUniv. The internship at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester may be conducted in France or any country of students' choice. The 3<sup>rd</sup> (Tracks) and 4<sup>th</sup> (Master thesis) semesters are offered by all Partners and are chosen by the students. Specialization track preference is manifested during the admission process and it is binding within the student's agreement. A student who wants to change her/his preference of track, must write a formal letter, in advance, addressed to the Programme Board with comments and justifications about the change. The members of Programme Board will evaluate the letter and will decide to accept or decline the change. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester you will be physically in the university where you will perform the Academic Research Integration course of the selected Track, while other courses will be taught virtually. Finally, you may select the university/ company for the Master thesis (4<sup>th</sup> semester) based on the offered Master projects by the six universities, or even associated partners in Ireland, Germany, and Cyprus, or even other universities or based on your own research.

The subject(s) of your master thesis must be validated by the track coordinator.

1 semester	2 semester	3 semester	4 semester
UCV	LRUniv	<p>Internship in France or other country</p> <p>Track 1      AUA      LRUniv      UCV</p> <p>Track 2      AUA      KU      UCV</p> <p>Track 3      AUA      LRUniv      UCV      UTCB      UNIZD</p> <p>Track 4      AUA      KU      UCV      UNIZD</p>	<p>AUA      KU      LRUniv      UCV</p> <p>UNIZD      UTCB      other</p>

As we said earlier, the movement from one country to another is not included into the fees but we will do everything to help you to find scholarships and, of course, help with the advice.

## 8. Choosing the Track in the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester

The JMPMB has 4 tracks (specialisation) that you can choose and deepen your knowledge:

- Innovative Bioproducts for Future
- Blue Biomass
- Marine Biorefinery
- Aquaculture Biotechnology

The students who choose the specialisation of **Innovative Bioproducts for Future** will focus on the validation of new marine bioproducts, following up all the procedures until the commercialisation of new therapeutic drugs, cosmetic ingredients and food additives. The students will be able to assist companies in the health, cosmetics and agri-food sectors to reach new markets and segments.

The students who choose the specialisation of **Blue Biomass** will focus on the production techniques of new sources of renewable of aquatic biomass. The students will be able to identify the industrial applications of the biomass of the marine organisms.

The students who choose the specialisation of **Marine Biorefinery** will focus on new approaches and developments for the use of marine biogenic feedstocks. The students will be able to maximise the usage of biomass for the manufacturing of new functional products from marine resources.

The students who choose the specialisation of **Aquaculture Biotechnology** will focus on the various uses of Biotechnology to the aquaculture sector. The students will be able to manage advanced breeding programmes, estimate significant diseases of aquatic organisms and assess the causes of the disease, modify the metabolism of molecules in living organisms and support modern research and analytical methods for practical aquaculture development and seafood processing.

In November of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, we will organise the information seminar where we will present the **projects** to be carried out in the ‘**Academic Research Integration**’ course in the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.

You will be able to choose the projects by filling in the application form on EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus until the end of the Complementary exam session of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. If there is a competition for the same project, the priority will be given to the student with higher ranking. The ranking depends on:

- the grade point average (GPA) of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester (50%),
- motivation letter (50%).

The track can be changed only if there are quotas left. A student who wants to change her/his track, must write a formal letter, in advance, addressed to the Programme Board with comments and justifications about the change. The members of Programme Board will evaluate the letter and will decide to accept or decline the change.

The final assignment of the project will be confirmed in February 2025.

Therefore, at the end of February you will already know where you will spend the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.

**Academic Research Integration** (ARI; 14 ECTS) is a fascinating course and one of the highlights of the programme. During the ARI you with some other classmates will be working together (in groups of 5-7) on a shared and transversal research project. The proposed multidisciplinary research projects, designed by professors of different specialisations, will give you the opportunity to apply general academic, research and/or design skills in practice. At the same time, the transversality will be encouraged through the collaboration between students from different specialisations and in different locations, adding up each student’s work and thus running a truly multidisciplinary joint research project. You will be working with your Academic Supervisor, who will help you to meet the project’s milestones. This practical, professional and soft skills you will gain will assist you in carrying on other projects in companies or doing your Master thesis and PhD research.

## 9. Email and access to e-services

Once you register to the university (UCV), you will get university's email id.

After activating it you will have the access to the EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus with its Moodle, e-library, platforms for mentorship, projects, internship search.

### EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus



EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus with its Moodle, e-library, platforms for mentorship, projects, internship search is your learning environment. [www.eu-conexus.eu/smart-campus/](http://www.eu-conexus.eu/smart-campus/)

It is important that you check your email not to miss the latest updates on the classes, events, assignments, open calls for internships, projects, feedback, etc.

Also, the email sent from your university's email id is considered as official opinion, application, request, etc. The JMPMB policy denies the communication with those who use other email servers.

## 10. Classes, assignments, and exams

During the first year your classes will be organised in the classrooms, laboratories, and other necessary infrastructures. **The attendance to each class will be registered and it is mandatory.** Many visiting teachers, experts from industry will be giving the classes and sharing their insights and 'real life' experiences.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester, except the Academic Research Integration, the classes will be online. The reason for this is that we have foreseen teachers from different universities, companies, countries to provide you the best knowledge.

EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus with its Moodle, e-library, platforms for mentorship, projects, internship search is your learning environment.

### 10.1. Information about the courses

The JMPMB ECTS Course catalogue gives you the description of each course, the components of assignments throughout the course, the weight of each assignment and the composition of the final grade.

Also, you will find all information in the Moodle of the course.

During the semester you will have various activities: from theoretical classes to practices in the laboratories; making portfolios, visiting companies, having guest lecturers, working on your own and in group.

The course differs in the intensity and workload. ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) are used to describe it, when 1 ECTS is equal to 25 hours of studies: classes, practice, laboratory works, individual studying.

### 10.2. Assessment

The assignments (and grades) are used to evaluate how you achieve the intended learning outcomes of the course.

The final assessment of each course consists of the assignments during the semester (tests, reports, lab test, modelling, oral presentation, etc.) and final examination, if any, except for internship and Master thesis.

Usually, the teacher or teachers who will be delivering the course will be the ones who will do the assessment.

The university who coordinates the course is responsible for organising the assessment and the exams. If the course is offered virtually (3<sup>rd</sup> semester), the physical exam will take at the university where you are doing Academic Integration Research course with the tasks provided virtually.

The dates for each assignment during the course will be presented by the teacher(S) in the beginning of the semester and on the course Moodle.

The dates of exam session and of the complementary exam session (you have one more chance! if you fail) is indicated in the academic calendar of each academic year that is available on the JMPMB website.

The exam schedule of each course will be announced one month prior to the beginning of the exam session. We will make sure the exams do not overlap and leave you sufficient time to prepare for the exams.

Please visit our website and read the [Students' assessment regulations here](#).

You have right to know the assessment methods and criteria that will be used by the teacher and are entitled to an objective assessment on your achievements in all summative assessments performed on the subject. They are usually presented during the first session of each course.

If you are not satisfied with your grades, you have right to appeal against the assessment result(s). You should file your appeal to the Academic Coordinator [academic.coordinator@eu-conexus.eu](mailto:academic.coordinator@eu-conexus.eu) including a statement detailing the reasons for the appeal. In three working days at the latest, the Programme Board is informed and communicates with the examiner, who either accepts the appeal and changes the grade or rejects it. In either case, you may accept the grade or request for a further assessment. Upon your request, Programme Board assigns the evaluation to two other examiners, and the final grade will result as the average of the two marks.

#### Note!



We have a zero-tolerance policy on cheating and plagiarism.

To progress from Year 1 to Year 2 you must achieve a minimum ECTS grade of 'E' (i.e., a sufficient) in all courses of Year 1 (and completed 60 ECTS). **You must pass all the exam and do all task mentioned by all teachers. If you fail, your Erasmus Mundus scholarship will be suspended.**

**You can defend Master thesis only when all other courses in the programme and individual study plan have been passed.**

### 10.3. Grading system

The results of assessments and examinations are given as a local grade (of the host university). The grades will be automatically transferred into the grading systems of all universities, and the joint diploma supplement that you will receive after the graduation will be reflected in the Spanish grading system.

ECTS description	Exceptional	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sufficient	Fail
ECTS Grade	A	B	C	D	E	F
<b>Requirements</b>	outstanding performance without errors	above the average standard but with minor errors	generally sound work with some errors	fair but with significant shortcomings	performance meets the minimum criteria	Fail – considerable further work is required
<b>Percentage of successful students normally achieving the grade</b>	10%	25%	30%	25%	10%	--
<b>LRUniv (France)</b>	20-18	17.9-16	15.9-13	12.9-11.0	10.9-10	<10
<b>AUA (Greece)</b>	10-8.5	10-8.5	8.4-6.5	6.4-5	6.4-5	<5
<b>UTCB (Romania)</b>	10	9	8-7.0	6	5	<5
<b>KU (Lithuania)</b>	10	9	8-7.0	6	5	<5
<b>UCV (Spain)</b>	10	9.9-9	8.9-7	6.9-6	5.9-5	<5
<b>UNIZD (Croatia)</b>	5	4	3	2	2	<2

To receive the Master's degree, you must have defended the Master thesis with a minimum ECTS grade of 'E' (i.e., a sufficient).

### 11. Career and academic support

An internship (8 weeks; 6 ECTS) at the end of the 2nd semester is an obligatory part of the Programme's curricula. Two internship supervisors (one from Consortium of Universities, one from laboratory or company) will be assigned to the student. The internship may be carried out in a laboratory of LRUniv or at any company in any country.

EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus platforms and services throughout the studies will help you to prepare yourself to make your own CV and be competitive in the labour market:

- **EU-CONEXUS University-Industry platform** to facilitate the search for internships and to receive counselling on CV writing, job and internship search and other topics of interest will also be used for project development and Academic Research Integration course.
- **EU-CONEXUS Mentoring platform** will provide you mentoring in the following areas of interest: academic, research, career, entrepreneurship guidance.

Before the start of the internship (2<sup>nd</sup> semester) LRUniv. will organise orientation seminar how better benefit from the internship.

You will be able to use the Career centre services of all universities once you are there.

The high inclusion of the stakeholders into the teaching and learning process of the courses and the national language courses offered by the host universities will facilitate better integration in the labour market.

If you feel like the course covers the topics that you haven't studied before, or maybe the topic is too difficult and you need more time to get into it, **feel free to talk about it** with the teacher or academic tutor. On EU-CONEXUS Mentoring platform you will be able to choose **a tutor** for specific subject. We emphasise the personal attention to everyone!

Or maybe you decide to take the [EU-CONEXUS Minor in Blue Economy and Growth courses](#) (sector of Marine Biotechnology) to fill in slight gaps.

It's up to you, just do not delay: the earlier you start collaborating with tutors, the sooner you will catch up!

## 12. Individual study plan and additional courses

You will follow the study plan of the Programme as confirmed in the 'JMPMB ECTS Course Catalogue' and an individualised part via the chosen track in the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.

But we want a **flexibility** and so you can gain the most during the studies!

You are allowed to take additional **local language courses** up to 6 ECTS at the host university each time you change the host university. The additional 6 ECTS language course is complementary and do not have to pay any fees for it.

If you want to take any other additional courses, it is allowed but total study plan must not exceed 42 ECTS. Any other but national language course is paid at the rate of the host university.

The additional course must be chosen before the semester and communicated and approved by the academic tutor at the host university. Once the study plan is confirmed, you can start the classes and, of course, you are obliged to pass the exam of the selected course.

Additional courses to the Programme plan will be included in the Diploma Supplement.

## 13. Transcript of records

The JMPMB curriculum is based on the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). You are registered at all universities throughout the studies as a student of the joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology and the credits obtained at the Partners are **automatically recognised** by all members of the Consortium of Universities.

Don't worry, you do not have to do anything.

If at any point for any reason you want to get the Transcript of Records (an official certificate stating what courses you have taken and what grades you have received up to date), just drop an email to [mm.diaz@ucv.es](mailto:mm.diaz@ucv.es)

## 14. Master thesis

**After having successfully passed all prior exams you finally will start your Master thesis.**

Master thesis is an integrated part of the joint Master programme in Marine Biotechnology with the workload of 30 ECTS. Master thesis is carried out in one of Partners', Associated Partner universities or other higher education and/or research institution ('host university') according to the chosen Master thesis topic or in a company. The subject must be validated with your track tutor.

Before starting the Master thesis work, you must have completed all previous courses and gained at least 90 ECTS.

During the thesis work, you will be focusing on a specific subject for a certain amount of time under the supervision of a thesis supervisor and, if relevant, a co-supervisor. During thesis work, you will apply the techniques and knowledge you gained during the courses in the three previous semesters. The final product of Master thesis is a written document ('Master thesis', 'thesis') stating the main scientific results. The Master thesis results are presented and defended publically ('Master thesis defence').

Research topics for Master thesis may be offered by the teaching and research staff of the Consortium of Universities, Associated Partners, or you can propose an accepted topic by other higher education and research institutions.

Some Master Thesis projects could be proposed by the Alliance, but you should look for your own topic and supervisor, especially if the work is foreseen to be carried out at another higher education and/or research institution, which does not belong to the Consortium of Universities or Associated Partners.

You will be able to choose the Master thesis topic by filling in the application form on the EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus with (Moodle) until beginning of December (3<sup>rd</sup> semester). If there is a competition for the same project, the priority will be given to the student with a higher ranking (the ranking depends on the grade point average (GPA) of the previous semesters (50%), motivation letter (50%)). Motivation letter will be assessed by selected mentor so it will reflect the point of view of the scientists that will mentor the student.

The final confirmation of Master thesis topics and the host university is announced on the EU-CONEXUS Smart Campus in December.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> semester you will be working on the Master thesis which may be of 3 types: experimental, project or bibliographic.

By the end of June, you will have to present the thesis manuscript and in July to present the thesis to the Jury.

The final grade for the Master thesis consists of

- 1) Assessment of the Master thesis manuscript – for 70 % (20% supervisor, 50% Jury)
- 2) Public defence (oral presentation) - 30%.

If for any chance you do not manage to present and/or defend your Master thesis on time, you will have the second chance in September after jury decision.

More detailed requirements are in the [Master thesis guidelines here](#).

## 15. Graduation and Master's degree

Congratulations! We are inviting you to the official graduation ceremony which will be organised in July!

You will be awarded a combination of Joint diploma and double degree in Marine Biotechnology by the Consortium of Universities.

Joint Master's degree in Marine Biotechnology refers to the following degrees issued by the universities of Consortium:

Fundación Universidad Católica de Valencia San Vicente Mártir	Máster Universitario en Biotecnología Marina
La Rochelle Université	Master en Biotechnologie parcours Marine Biotechnologie*
Agricultural University of Athens Γεωπονικό Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών	Master in Marine Biotechnology Μεταπτυχιακό Πρόγραμμα Σπουδών Θαλάσσιας Βιοτεχνολογίας
Klaipėdos Universitetas	Technologijų mokslų magistro laipsnis, studijų kryptis - Biotechnologija
Sveučilište u Zadru	Magistar morske biotehnologije

\* *additionally LRUniv will issue national Master diploma*

Universitatea Tehnica de Constructii Bucuresti is participating in the implementation of the JMPMB but will not issue the joint diploma.

You will have to apply for issuing the diploma and diploma supplement at UCV. The joint diploma and diploma supplement will be issued and registered by the Universidad Católica de Valencia within six months after the request is submitted and can be collected at UCV or the Spanish embassy or consulate where you decide to reside after the graduation.

The Universidad Católica de Valencia will issue a provisional diploma and transcript of records. The letter shall be eligible to apply for further studies or to enter labour market until the final diploma and diploma supplement are issued.



Labas!

Bonjour!

Zdravo!

¡Hola!

Our community

Chaírete!

[buddy@eu-conexus.eu](mailto:buddy@eu-conexus.eu)

Hello!

Bună ziua!!



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