



CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ Programme **Key Action 1 – International Mobility (KA171)**

FACT SHEET **UNIVERSITETI KATOLIK “ZOJA E KËSHILLIT TË MIRË” (UKZKM)** **ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026**

FULL NAME OF THE HEI	UNIVERSITETI KATOLIK “ZOJA E KËSHILLIT TË MIRË” (UKZKM) CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
ADDRESS	Rruga Dritan Hoxha, Tirana, Albania
PIC	971436474
ORGANISATION ID	E10164180
ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION	AL TIRANA09
WEBSITE	www.unizkm.al
HEAD OF INSTITUTION	Prof. Leonardo Palombi, Rector
ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY	<p>The Catholic University “Our Lady of Good Counsel” (UKZKM) is a private, non-profit Higher Education Institution founded in Tirana, Albania, in 2004. Accredited by the Albanian Ministry of Education and the UK Quality Assurance Agency it was officially recognized as a Catholic university in 2011. Guided by its founder principles, Foundation “Our Lady of Good Counsel”, present in Albania from 1993, which contributes to Albania’s social, economic, and cultural development through higher education and healthcare services (Hospital, Dentistry, Polyclinic and Sports and rehabilitation Centre), UKZKM aims to offer EU-level undergraduate and postgraduate education, supporting Albania’s integration into the European Higher Education Area. Partnered with several Italian public universities, UKZKM offers joint and dual degrees recognized across the EU, fostering a unique academic environment where Albanian and international faculty and students collaborate.</p> <p>UKZKM comprises four faculties: Medicine, Pharmacy, Economic, Political and Social Sciences, and Applied Sciences. Additional centers include the Observatory of Health Systems in the Balkans, European Centre of Peace Science, Integration and Cooperation (CESPIC), Research Centre in Human Sciences (CRISU), and International Centre for Nursing Research Montianum (CIRIM).</p> <p>In partnerships with Albanian and foreign institutions and memberships, UKZKM is also engaged in health cooperation, research, cooperation and development projects in different sectors.</p> <p>In the academic year 2024 – 2025, there are 3100+ students enrolled at all study cycles (1st, 2nd, 3d and 27% international ones), 3000+ alumni and about 470 Italian and Albanian academic and research staff.</p>



CONTACTS

INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY	Laura Yzeiraj Educational and Research projects Office 📍 Rruga Dritan Hoxha, Tirana, Albania ✉ l.yzeiraj@unizkm.al/erasmus@unizkm.al ☎ +355 4 22 73 290
DELEGATE OF THE RECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	Prof. Raul Caruso ✉ r.caruso@unizkm.al
DELEGATE OF THE RECTOR FOR RELATIONS WITH UNIVERSITIES AND RANKING	Dr. Angela Andreoli ✉ a.andreoli@prof.unizkm.al
ERASMUS+/KA171 ACADEMIC COORDINATORS:	
FACULTY OF MEDICINE	Medicine study program: Prof. Arvin Dibra ✉ a.dibra@unizkm.al
	Dentistry study program: Phd. Prunela Polici ✉ p.polici@unizkm.al
	Nursing and Physiotherapy study programs: Prof. Gennaro Rocco ✉ g.rocco@unizkm.al
FACULTY OF ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	Prof. Giovanni Lagioia ✉ g.lagioia@unizkm.al
FACULTY OF PHARMACY	Assoc. Prof. Silvi Bozo ✉ s.bozo@unizkm.al
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES	Architecture study program: Arch. PhD. Junik Balisha ✉ j.balisha@unizkm.al



ACADEMIC INFORMATION

COURSE CATALOGUE FOR BACHELOR, MASTER AND PHD STUDENTS

<https://www.unizkm.al/study/faculties/>

STUDENT MOBILITY FOR STUDIES/TRAINEESHIP

The language of instruction is Italian and English.
The recommended level is at least level B1/B2*.

STAFF MOBILITY FOR TEACHING/TRAINING

The language of instruction is both Italian and English (for study program in Medicine). A minimum recommended proficiency level of B1/B2 is required. *

Staff can teach in Italian and/or English. The minimum required level (for non-native speakers) is B2*, but C1 is recommended, unless otherwise specified in the inter-institutional agreement. Staff for training can communicate in English.

* According to CEFR - [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

It is recommended that the sending institution provides support to its nominated candidates and officially declares their language proficiency level before the study, teaching, or training mobility. Alternatively, students/staff can submit an official certificate.

RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE SKILLS

LANGUAGE COURSES

Upon request, the University Language Centre offers students the opportunity to develop their knowledge and specific skills in Italian, Albanian, English, and German. It organizes intensive, general, and sector-specific scientific terminology courses throughout the year at affordable fees.



ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year officially begins in the second week or mid-October. Lectures are conducted over two semesters:
 First Semester: October – January
 Second Semester: March – June
 Examinations typically take place during:
 Winter: February/March
 Summer: June/July
 Autumn: September/October
 Academic activities are suspended in August and for approximately two weeks during the Christmas period. However, the teaching schedule may vary depending on the study program. Students are strongly encouraged to contact their academic coordinator or the administrative office (Secretariat) for details.

- January 1 – New Year’s Day
- January 2 – New Year’s Holiday
- March 14 – Summer Day
- March 22 – Nevruz Day
- March 20 – Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)
- April 5 – Catholic Easter
- April 12 – Orthodox Easter
- May 1 – International Workers’ Day
- May 27 – Eid al-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)
- September 5 – Saint Teresa Sanctification Day
- November 28 – Flag and Independence Day
- November 29 – Liberation Day
- December 8 – National Youth Day
- December 25 – Christmas Day

CREDIT AND GRADING SYSTEMS

The organisation and evaluation system of the Courses is based on ECTS credit system in order to allow students mobility across the European Community and validation of the exams taken abroad. 1 CFU (University Educational Credit) used at UKZKM according to the Italian system, equals 1 ECTS credit. Each credit consists of 25 hours of activity that includes frontal lessons, laboratory practice, seminars and individual study.
 ECTS credits: 1 full academic year has 60 credits and 1 semester has 30 credit.
 For Undergraduate and Master level, examinations assessment is expressed in grades calculated on a scale of 0 - 30 with the possibility of awarding ‘cum laude’. Pass grade and lowest mark for examinations is 18 and maximum grade is 30 (cum laude).

As far as the final dissertation is concerned, a 110-point grading scale is used where 66 is the minimum passing grade, and cum Laude is added to the maximum grade to praise outstanding results.
 For some activities like language courses and/or at choice courses or seminars, students may not be given a grade but merely a “Idoneo”/“Pass”.

UKZKM Grades	ECTS Grades	Predicate
30 – 30 lode	A	EXCELLENT
28-29	B	VERY GOOD
25-26-27	C	GOOD
21-22-23-24	D	SATISFACTORY
18-19-20	E	SUFFICIENT
Under 18	F	FAILED



MINIMUM/MAXIMUM OF ECTS	A minimum of 24 ECTS and a maximum of 30 ECTS per semester must be included in the Learning Agreement for studies.				
NOMINATION/APPLICATION	<p>Partner institutions are responsible for selecting students and staff and must submit official nominations by the agreed deadline stated in the Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) via email to: erasmus@unizkm.al.</p> <p>Once nominations are received, UKZKM will communicate its admission decision within 5 weeks. Students will then receive detailed instructions on how and when to register for courses at UKZKM.</p> <p>For staff mobility, the teaching/training mobility plan and schedule must be agreed upon at least two months in advance. Nomination deadline for students:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="762 1115 1469 1420"><tr><td>First Semester</td></tr><tr><td>31st of May (for mobility that takes place from October to February)</td></tr><tr><td>Second Semester</td></tr><tr><td>30th of November (for mobility that takes place from March to July)</td></tr></table>	First Semester	31st of May (for mobility that takes place from October to February)	Second Semester	30th of November (for mobility that takes place from March to July)
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TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS/ ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE	A Transcript of Records for students or equivalent certificate will be issued by UKZKM no later than 5 weeks after the assessment period has finished. The certificate of attendance for students and staff will be issued at the end of the studies/traineeship/teaching/training period.				



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VISA

Students/staff from the EU do not need to apply for a visa. At any case, it is recommended to read carefully all relevant information concerning the Visa regime, procedures and documents for foreign citizens at the following link <https://punetejashtme.gov.al/en/regjimi-i-vizave-per-te-huajt/> of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs. Before traveling to Albania, foreigners should contact the diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Albania abroad to check for update of rules.

For further information and assistance, please contact

✉ erasmus@unizkm.al

INSURANCE

Travel insurance is recommended. Health and accident insurance policy will be required for stay permit purposes. Travel, health and accident insurance are provided by many Insurance Companies in Tirana.

For further information and assistance, please contact

✉ erasmus@unizkm.al

STAY PERMIT

Foreign citizens planning to stay in Albania more than 90 days in 6 months (180 days), must apply for a stay permit no later than 30 days following legal entry into the territory of the Republic of Albania. The application for residence permit is lodged in person at the Regional Directory of Border and Migration.

For further information and assistance, please contact erasmus@unizkm.al.

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ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation UKZKM does not provide dormitories for students. However, students can find accommodation through real estate agencies in Tirana or opt to share a flat with current students. For further information and assistance, please contact

✉ erasmus@unizkm.al



LIVING COSTS

Estimated monthly expenses for students:

Housing	200-300 euros (shared flat)
Food	300 euros
Transport (Bus)	20 Euros
Other expenses	100 Euros

The estimate refers to the average cost of living of a student in the city of Tirana.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Acceptance and/or further arrangements for students must be agreed in advance on a case-to-case basis depending on special needs.

Please contact the Educational and Research projects Office ✉ erasmus@unizkm.al