



What you should know about:

CEEPUS II Joint Degrees

What you should know about: CEEPUS II and Joint Degrees

What you will find in this folder:

This folder is designed to provide you with a short overview of the new requirements.
It will deal with:

- the legal basis
- definitions
- the new questions
- curriculum information
- tips and tricks

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Introduction:

When the prolongation and renewal of the Central European Exchange Program for University Studies was first discussed at experts' level in 2002, the European trends in the developing European Area of Higher Education were taken into full account and CEEPUS II was designed along the lines of the Bologna process with a special focus on ECTS and joint degree programs thereby supporting and facilitating the implementation of these two Bologna aims apart from further promoting staff and student mobility.

The Bologna Follow up Ministerial Conference in Berlin in September 2003 was certainly a milestone for the region. All South Eastern European countries not yet participating officially in the Process joined the Bologna Process at the Berlin Conference and thereby committed themselves to reforms in higher education as laid down in the Bologna-, Prague- and Berlin Declarations.

Since 1995, when it first became effective, the number of CEEPUS member states has more than doubled. By now CEEPUS has developed from a well established regional exchange program into an important instrument to implement the objectives of the Bologna process.

1. Legal basis

1.1 What the CEEPUS II Agreement says:

CEEPUS II: Annex I

The Contracting Parties shall develop and promote a Central European University Network made up of various individual networks. This network is designed to stimulate academic mobility, in particular student mobility within Central Europe, and to promote Central European university cooperation and the development of joint programmes ideally leading to double or joint degrees...

CEEPUS II shall give priority to networks developing their cooperation into joint programmes or developing new joint programmes. The Joint Committee of Ministers will monitor the progress achieved within the Bologna Process in this respect and adapt the CEEPUS II priorities accordingly.

1.2 What the Joint Committee of Ministers says:

(10th Meeting, Warsaw March 2004)

- *Consensus that Bologna Process should be used as framework;*
- ***CEEPUS should be flexible to enable universities to test different ways;***
- *Study abroad periods should not be defined in terms of time but ECTS work load;*
- *Use CEEPUS experience for Erasmus Mundus;*
- *Use Socrates thematic networks experience for CEEPUS;*
- ***Joint Degrees should be priority.***

2. What is what - definitions

The following **definitions** are intended as **practical definitions** for CEEPUS work. In order to ease practical implementation, CEEPUS definitions might deviate slightly from definitions by other bodies.

In accordance with the Guidelines passed by the Joint Committee of Ministers these definitions leave as much room for different forms of implementation as possible.

2.1 The common basis: "Joint Program":

A curriculum jointly developed and provided by at least two CEEPUS universities from two different countries.

2.2 Different options of cooperation:

2.2.3 Thèse en cotutelle: joint thesis supervision (doctoral thesis)

at least two supervisors: one at the home university and one from the host university

2.2.4 Award of Degrees:

2.2.4.1 Double Degree, "Multiple Degree"

*A university qualification issued **jointly** by at least two or more eligible universities on the basis of a joint study program*

BUT

one or more national diplomas are issued officially as the only attestation of the joint qualification.

2.2.4.2 Joint Degree

*A university qualification issued **jointly** by at least two or more eligible universities on the basis of a joint study program AND*

the joint degree is issued as

JOINT DIPLOMA

a) in addition to one or more national diplomas

or

*b) a **JOINT DIPLOMA** issued by the universities providing the joint program, **WITHOUT** any additional national diploma.*

* * *

N.B: in case only one diploma is issued, the issuing university is referred to as "**primary institution**".

3. Important to know

3.1 Combination offers:

3.1.1

You may combine "classical" network activities with any of the new requirements.
E.g. if your network consists of 5 universities, 2 may work on a Double Degree while the others go on as usual.

3.1.2

You may enter an application consisting of only two universities from two different CEEPUS countries, provided you work on one of the "Joint Program Options" (including Thèse en cotutelle).

3.2 Work in Progress:

Don't worry if

- legislation in your country has not been adapted yet to allow for Joint Degrees!
- if your "Joint Program" has not been accredited yet!
- if you are only on the way towards any of the "Joint Program Options"!

You may participate nevertheless!

3.3 Teacher Mobility:

In order to help you preparing your joint program there is a **special modification** of the workload rule for teachers:

In the **framework of a Joint Program**, the workload for teacher mobility is only 4 teaching hours a week (instead of 6).

Please note: we will ask you in the teacher report/network report whether the extra time could be used to further your Joint Program.

4. Optional Documents

Inter-university Agreements are optional for this application round, but please upload them/provide the link if they already exist.
Don't hesitate to use Draft – Interuniversity Agreements as well.

Please understand that these documents should be in English.

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The new questions

1. For which type of "Joint Program" are you applying?

- thèse en cotutelle
- Double Degree
- Multiple Degree
- Joint Degree

1.1 Are you

- developing a new "Joint Program" Curriculum?
or
- are you using CEEPUS to implement an existing "Joint Program" curriculum?

2. Which of your partners are you planning to do this with?

3. Award of degrees

- By whom and how will the degree be awarded?
- Who is the "primary institution"?

4. Inter-university Agreements

- Are there agreements between universities (signed by the rector)?
- Are there draft agreements?

5. Type of Studies

5.1 For which type of studies are you planning to do this/doing this?

- BA
- MA
- PhD
- thèse en cotutelle (thesis supervision)

5.2 Duration

What is the planned duration of these studies? (i.e. semesters, trimesters)

5.3 ECTS

What is the required amount of ECTS credits to obtain the degree?

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The new questions, ctd

6. Language of Instruction

What will be the Language of Instruction for "Joint Degree" Studies? (multiple choice)

- English
- German
- French
- if other please indicate and argue why

7. Admission Criteria

- What will be the admission criteria for students for the proposed "Joint Program"?

8. Minimum requirements

8.1 What are the **minimum requirements in this "Joint Program"** for **teaching staff** – (teaching hrs at the partner institution)?

N.B. In case there is teacher mobility

8.2 What are the **minimum requirements in this "Joint Program"** for **students** – credits obtained at partner institution/s?

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9. Implementation

9.1. What is your **planned schedule of implementation?**

9.2 Milestones

9.2.1 Which objectives towards your "Joint Program" do you want to meet in the academic year you are applying for?

(e.g finalizing the curriculum, preparing teaching material, laying down minimum requirements, etc.)

9.2.2 How are you going to monitor your progress?

(e.g. checking which milestones you are going to achieve)

10. Difficulties: Where are you facing difficulties?

e.g. with legislation, accreditation, organizational matters, etc.

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Curriculum

This is another new section in the CEEPUS II network application.

1. Existing Curricula: Which of the universities in this network have existing curricula (in English, German or French) with ECTS/compatible?

Please choose:

- **Document Upload**
- or
- **enter link**

2. Joint Curriculum: For the "Joint Program" curriculum you want to implement/develop through CEEPUS II, please fill in the form below:

Please mark the applicable:

- BA
- MA
- PhD

Please enter the required information (In English):

General Title of Instruction Subject	Type of Instruction	hrs per Semester	Type of examination	ECTS Credits	offered by which university
				TOTAL	

3. Thèse en cotutelle (thesis supervision) – optional but recommended

Please upload

- **the signed Inter-university Agreement**
- or
- **a Draft version**

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Tips and Tricks

- Make sure to fill in the data group "Joint Program" in the application form, as some "global Points" are calculated using this information
- Remember that it is ok if only two partners in the network start with work towards a Joint Program/Degree. Several combinations between 2 or more partners are also permitted.
- Remember both that "ready" Joint Degrees and "work in progress" are allowed.
- Make sure you upload any existing inter-university agreement concerning your Joint Degree plans. Also drafts are welcome. During the scoring process these agreements are valuable additional information in judging your application.
- Although for the time being the CEEPUS II Agreement allows networks working towards/implementing a Joint Degree consisting of only 2 partners from 2 different countries, last year's experience has shown that such combinations are generally scored less high than bigger networks.

We wish you a lot of success!