

Title of BIP: Intercomprehension for Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP)

General information

Objectives and Description:

The BIP program offered by WUT aims to initiate and familiarize with the intercomprehension of Romance languages by discovering and using the main strategies of this learning method. The aim is to develop intercomprehension skills, both written and oral, to stimulate metacognitive strategies and intercultural dialogue. At the end of the course, students will learn the basic principles of intercomprehension, as well as the fundamental ones. They will also be able to apply these principles and strategies in real communication situations in their field of study.

Methods and outcomes:

Intercomprehension means that, each speaking his own language, you have the ability to understand the other, who speaks a similar language. The development of multilingualism through the practice of intercomprehension, a method that enjoys a good university experience in several Western countries, allows to facilitate exchanges and communication between the actors of the academic network (students, teachers, administrative staff). Based on the idea of having partial competences that allow learning several languages thanks to their common origin (Latin, in the case of languages spoken in UNITA alliance universities), the strategies they use for intercomprehension respond to current realities, while establishing equality between languages.

Field of Education: Languages (023)

Target audience / Participants profile:

Bachelor and Master students and PhD candidates of all disciplines interested in a plurilingual and multicultural dimensions.

No of ECTS issued: 6 ECTS

Language of instruction and requirements:

Romanian and all the other Romance languages (each participant will use their own language to communicate, but the knowledge of Romance languages other than one's own is not required).

Dates for physical activity: March 24–28, 2025

Location of physical activity: West University of Timisoara (WUT)

Dates for virtual component: March 4, March 11, and March 18, 2025

Virtual Component Description:

In the virtual activities will be carried out autonomously by the students and are based on the plurilingual online course Elements of intercomprehension. A meeting will be first organized to explain the syllabus of the course, its goals and requirements.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara, Romania (Valy Ceia, valy.ceia@e-uvt.ro).

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. Instituto Politécnico da Guarda, Portugal (Florbela Lages Antunes Rodrigues, florbela.rodrigues@ipg.pt)

P2. Università di Torino, Italia (Elisa Corino, elisa.corino@unito.it);

P2. Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour, France (Géraldine Lesparre, lesparre.g@univ-pau.fr).

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

6 hours of online courses: 6 hours on March 4, 11, and 18)

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day: March 24

Opening of the course & Welcoming session

Introduction to intercomprehension / first contact between participants

Theoretical milestones & Applied activity

Feedback activity

2nd day: March 25

IC warm up

Written IC activities

IC strategies written

Feedback activity

3rd day: March 26

IC warm up

IC and LSP reading

Feedback activity

4th day: March 27

IC warm up

Oral IC strategies

Feedback activity

5th day: March 28

IC warm up

Oral IC production

General presentations: Practical milestones

Final overview & Final feedback

Application procedure

All candidates – students, masters, PhD candidates – are accepted, in order of registration, until the available places are filled, provided they are fluent in a Romance language, which may be their mother tongue.

For each university in the UNITA Alliance, 2-5 places are available, up to a total of 20 places for BIP.