

Debrecen Reformed Theological University

Information
for **Erasmus+**
students



Dear Erasmus+ students,
Thank you for your interest in our institution, the Debrecen Reformed Theological University (DRThU).
In order to facilitate the planning of your stay as well as your studies, we have compiled the most important information for you in this booklet.
Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our university soon.

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Welcome to Debrecen





ABOUT OUR UNIVERSITY

The Debrecen Reformed Theological University is a member institution of the Debrecen Reformed College, which was established in 1538. With its rich tradition and a high level of education and research, the state-accredited, church-run university serves the training purposes of church and secular professionals. At present our institution has approximately 700 students and 50 full-time lecturers.

Our building, which is almost 200 years old, was completely renewed in 2015: the new multimedia lecture halls, the university library of several thousand volumes, a computer network, a psychology laboratory, musical instruments, cosy resting-places and an inner yard with a green area all look forward to having foreign students.



PROGRAMMES

- Reformed Theology (Master's Degree Programme, 10 semesters)
- Reformed Theology – Minister Training (Master's Degree Programme, 12 semesters)
- School-teacher Training – and its Specializations (Bachelor's Degree Programme, 8 semesters)
- Teacher of Religious Education (Master's Degree Programme, 10 semesters)
- Pastoral Consultant – Organization-developer (Master's Degree Programme, 4 semesters)
- Christian Education (Bachelor's Degree Programme, 6 semesters)
- Teacher of Reformed Faith and Ethics (Postgraduate Training Programme, 4 semesters)
- Reformed Cantor (Bachelor's Degree Programme, 6 semesters)
- Doctoral School (PhD. Programme, 8 semesters)

For more detailed information on the programmes please visit our homepage.



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The International Office is located in the central building of the university (Room 108). Our institutional Erasmus+ coordinator, Mrs. Eva Edina Szegezcki, is willing to help you to prepare your visit and to assist you during your stay here. For smooth preparation, please get in touch with her in due time.

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ACADEMIC YEAR

In Hungary, the academic year consists of two semesters. The winter semester starts at the beginning of September and finishes at the end of January. Lectures and classes end in the middle of December and examinations take place directly afterwards. The spring semester runs from the beginning of February to the end of June. The courses of the spring semester end in mid-May and following that the examination period of one and a half months begins. It is advisable to save some of its time to discover Hungary.

Please note that our English programmes run only in the spring semester. For incoming Erasmus+ students the application deadline is November 30th of the given academic year.

For further information concerning dates of the academic year please visit our homepage.



ACCOMMODATION

Our university provides housing at three locations as follows: at the theological boarding school, at the Maróthi Dormitory and at the Kossuth Dormitory. The capacity is abundant so all applicants can be accommodated. Nevertheless, it is possible to search for rented apartments in the city, but this option is considerably more expensive than the aforementioned housing options.

ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION

There is no entrance exam for Erasmus+ students. To be accepted here you need to be nominated successfully by your home university and then register yourself electronically on our homepage (please visit our English website). The deadline for registration is November 30th prior to the semester to be applied for. Upon arrival, students are advised to register at the International Office, where they are assisted with the enrolment and with the signing up for courses procedure. The completion of each course is conditional upon an exam or an assignment. In the absence thereof no credit certificate may be issued. Upon request a certificate on course participation can be issued by the institution even if credits are not awarded.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Students from the European Union and from the European Economic Area should bring their European health insurance card to prove that they have valid insurance during their stay in Hungary. Please consult your insurance company regarding health insurance services available in Hungary prior to your departure. If it is deemed to be necessary, please arrange for extra insurance.



COST OF LIVING

Erasmus+ students are not expected to pay any fees related to their studies (tuition fee, examination fee, library fee). The university dormitories provide single, double or triple rooms at more favourable prices than rented apartments (approx. 60 EUR per month). Hungary is a moderately expensive country; the cost of living for a student in Debrecen (incl. accommodation, local transport, meals and entertainment) is approximately 90,000 HUF (approx. 300 EUR) per month.



HOW TO GET TO DEBRECEN

Since Debrecen has an international airport, the city is accessible by airplane from several European cities. From the west a motorway leads to the city. By train it is easy to get here via Budapest as there are InterCity trains from and to the capital every hour. From the railway station trams run to the city centre. From the airport the city centre can be reached within 15-20 minutes by bus or by taxi.



THE STUDENT MENTOR PROGRAMME

The student union of the university provides for mentor students who give assistance to Erasmus+ students in getting acquainted with Debrecen and the university and also in arranging matters of various kind.



STUDENT LIFE

The student union offers rich programmes regarding various leisure activities. There are funny quiz programmes, shared trips, creative craft afternoons, university balls, musical evenings, film clubs, shared cooking events, concerts throughout the year. Everybody can find meaningful and fun programmes according to their tastes and interests.



UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

The youth congregation and its minister at our university welcome students who wish to live their faith and their community with each other through religious occasions, shared service and quality entertainment. The university chapel welcomes everyone for daily devotions and individual occasions for solitude every day. On Monday evenings we can gather for worship. The university minister is available for individual conversation for all students.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

Our university can accept Erasmus+ students in the spring semester when we can offer courses in English. The Erasmus+ students may sign up for courses focusing on the history, culture and the present of Hungary and Eastern Europe (General education module, 20 credits), and choose professional modules related to certain programmes (Theological module: 27 credits, Education module: 20 credits), which can be freely combined.



General education module

(20 credits, recommended for all students):

- 20th Century Social and Cultural History of Hungary (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- The History of the Debrecen Reformed College and its Place in the History of the Hungarian Culture (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Intercultural Communication (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Central European Identity (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Hungarian as a Foreign Language (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)

Theological module

(27 credits, especially for theologians and teachers of religion):

- History and Culture of the Biblical World (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Reformed Theology in Central and Eastern Europe (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- "Lake or River?" - Challenges for the Mission of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe in the Past and Present (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- The History of Philosophy (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Christian Theology (Foundations of Our Christian Faith) (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Christian Denominations with a Special Regard to Hungary (2 hours per week, 3 ECTS credits)
- Research seminar (various topics, for topics in the given semester please visit our homepage) (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)

Education module

(20 credits, especially for teachers (general and those of religion):

- Information and Communication Technology 1 (3 hours per week, 5 ECTS credits)
- Literary Theory (1 hour per week, 3 ECTS credits)
- Pedagogy 1: Theory of Education (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Group Training 1 (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Teaching Solfeggio based on the Kodály Method (2 hours per week, 4 ECTS credits)

For a detailed description of the courses please visit our homepage.



THE CITY OF DEBRECEN

Debrecen, the city with the second highest population in Hungary, lies in the eastern part of the country. The city, with its 210 thousand inhabitants, is mostly known for the spicy “Debrecen sausages”, the Debrecen Flower Festival, the two large annual fairs and its two universities. Our university (DRThU) is the oldest continuously operating educational institution of the country since its foundation in 1538. The state-run University of Debrecen with its 30 thousand students, including more than 3,500 foreign students makes Debrecen a real university city.



Debrecen has been, though for a short period of time, the capital of the country twice and played a key role in the war of independence and revolution of 1848/49, which represents a major milestone in the Hungarian national identity. The spa of Debrecen and the nearby town of Hajdúszoboszló are known far and wide, and visitors to our city can admire the Great Church, which is the symbol of Debrecen, the magnificent main square and the Great Forest. Furthermore, the city theatre, the concert halls, the numerous exhibition halls and museums provide unforgettable cultural experiences. The city is the headquarter of three denominations, but the traditionally austere inhabitants of Debrecen are happy to share with the visitors and students the charming pedestrian zones, countless bars, restaurants and youthful ruin pubs, festivals of gastronomy and music, for example wine festival, goose days, mangalica (wooly pig) festival, Debrecen Jazz days, Bartók Béla International Choir Competition, international military band festival. It is easy to get around in this human-scale city by tram or by bike.

Community faith knowledge



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