

## Erasmus Policy Statement

The College of Business Administration (further – the CBA) is a College founded by a legal person, accredited by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia on 5 May 2005, registration No. 3347802338.

College ensure the acquisition of the 1<sup>st</sup> level of professional higher education in three study courses in seven study programs. With high work-performance requirements for administration, lecturers and students, we develop over 140 different competencies to prepare students to be the strong players in the industry who can independently organize their work, make decisions, develop and implement company's strategy. CBA studies are available in extramural and distance learning forms, which means that the students has the opportunity to study from anywhere.

The CBA's international strategy is to establish long-term cooperation with higher education institutions of similar profile, to facilitate guest lecturers, student and staff exchange visits, and to work in joint collaborative projects in the field of applied research.

The *mission* of the College is with high work-performance requirements for administration, lecturers and students, to develop different competencies to prepare students to be strong players in the industry who can independently organize their work, make decisions, develop and implement company's strategy. In order to implement the strategy successfully in line with the process of building and reforming the European higher education system (according to the aims of the Bologna process), *one of the strategic development priorities* is to *promote international cooperation: to establish long-term cooperation with higher education institutions of similar profile, to facilitate guest lecturers and student exchange visits and to work in joint collaborative projects in the field of applied research.*

College has a long-term experience in attracting international partners. Currently cooperation partners are formed on the basis of international experience, as well as new partners are attracted with the help of college staff participating in international congresses and seminars. The CBA selects its partners based on mutual interest and quality. As a distance learning college, CBA seeks partnerships with distance learning leading institutions globally, but also pays attention to cultural diversity, institutional values, academic offer and provided services. Partners are selected according to the adequate programs and fields of study that correspond with CBA fields of interest. Besides that, the college enables students and staff to come up with ideas about possible future partner institutions.

CBA plans to participate in new international projects, and to broaden the range of partners. The aim of CBA is to establish Erasmus co-operation with higher education institutions in all countries, which participate in the Erasmus programme. It is committed to enhance cross-border co-operation in the neighbouring countries, but also in the wider region of South-Eastern Europe.

Objectives for international cooperation are to improve the quality of studies and to develop research, to provide college students' learning outcomes in accordance with the changing international labour market demands, to introduce the best practice and experience of foreign higher education institutions in the CBA, thus promoting international recognition of the CBA. The main objectives of international cooperation strategy: to enhance the mobility of incoming and outgoing students, staff, and academic staff (main target group), to implement and participate in international projects.

The CBA offers short cycle programmes. Taking into account the principles of renewed EU Agenda for higher education as well as the goals towards a European Education Area the target groups for mobility are students, as well as the academic and administrative staff. All target groups of mobility activities are equally important (study, traineeships and teaching and training).

CBA's strategy for the organization and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training has been designed to:

- establish and maintain cooperation among participating institutions;
- facilitate the exchange of knowledge between project partners;
- improve the quality and to increase the volume of student and teaching staff mobility;
- enhance the quality and increase the volume of multilateral cooperation between higher education institutions;
- increase the degree of transparency and compatibility between higher education qualification;
- improve the quality and to increase the volume of cooperation between higher education institution and enterprises;
- facilitate the development of innovative practices in education and training and their transfer, including from one participating country to others;
- support the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practice for lifelong learning.

Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs  
By participating in the Programme, the College plans to increase the number of staff participating in international mobilities, thereby contributing to the improvement of student learning outcomes. The CBA plans to implement study programme modules to facilitate development of earlier professional educational outcomes and intends to provide informative motivational measures by providing information on educational opportunities.

#### Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

College's development strategy aims at promoting cooperation with employers in improving the study programmes. By promoting staff exchanges, the College plans to improve the quality of the study programmes to the current labour market demands, therefore contributing to the employability of graduates. By cooperating with employers, the College plans to improve study programmes, to support the design of diverse learning modes demanded by the labour market. By developing incentives, the CBA encourages the staff's willingness to participate in the exchange programme that would ensure the design of new study courses.

#### Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border collaboration

The College highly evaluates the added value through engagement in international cooperation within the Programme. The College does and will welcome the mobility opportunities for individuals to improve their professional, social and cultural skills that will contribute to expansion of employment opportunities. CBA plans to promote the spread of information to foreign students and staff, thus contributing to the College's international visibility.

#### Improving governance and funding

The College intends to attract a variety of funding sources for its activities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Latvia. Colleges priority will be re-invest in the academic and strategic vision of the CBA.