



Abadir
Accademia di Design
e Comunicazione Visiva



Fact Sheet

CONTACT INFORMATION



Our school - Photo Credits Kim Ohrling

ABADIR
Accademia di Design e Comunicazione Visiva

Via Giacomo Leopardi 8
95030 Sant'Agata Li Battiati
Catania, Italy

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www.abadir.net

Erasmus Code
I CATANIA08

OID
E10163792

PIC NUMBER
944179765

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
Ufficio Relazioni Internazionali, 2nd floor

Erasmus+ Coordinator
Lucia Giuliano

International Officer
Federica Salvato
internazionale@abadir.net

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
10.00 – 12.00
15.00 – 17.00

EXCHANGE PERIODS

FALL SEMESTER
October – February

SPRING SEMESTER
February – July

ITALIAN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

All Saints' Day	Nov. 1
Immaculate Conception	Dec. 8
Winter Holidays Break	Dec. 24 - Jan. 6

Easter Break	Thu. - Mon. (dates vary yearly)
Liberation Day	Apr. 25
International Workers' Day	May 1
Republic Day	Jun. 2

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Information required for nomination

The International Office of the home university who wants to nominate an exchange student for a semester at our institution has to inform Accademia Abadir sending an email to internazionale@abadir.net with the following information:

- Sending Institution name and Erasmus Code
- Student full name
- Date of birth
- Gender
- Valid e-mail address
- Duration of exchange (Fall / Spring Semester)
- Design field at sending institution

The nomination deadlines are **May 31st** to apply for the Fall Semester and **October 31st** to apply for the Spring Semester.

Application procedure

The incoming student has to contact our International Office before **June 15th** to apply for the Fall Semester and before **November 15th** to apply for the Spring Semester sending an e-mail to internazionale@abadir.net with the following information:

- Application form
- Portfolio
- Curriculum Vitae
- Motivation letter
- Learning Agreement proposal
- ID
- EU Health Insurance Card
(or private health insurance)

The International Office of Accademia Abadir will provide a Certificate of Arrival on the date of the Erasmus Welcome Day.

Upon successful completion of the required exams, the student will receive the End of Mobility Certificate and the Transcript of Records.

THREE-YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN

- GRAPHIC DESIGN AND DIGITAL MEDIA
- PRODUCT DESIGN AND VISUAL COMMUNICATION

Language of instruction

The **official language** of our courses is Italian. Abadir Academy doesn't ask for an official language certification but we highly recommend the incoming students to attend an Italian Intensive Course before coming to our country. The best way to be prepared to attend our courses would be to achieve B1 level of the CILS Certificate or more. When necessary the incoming students can switch the language to English with teachers or colleagues.

Study method

Our three-year Bachelor's degree course is made up of courses which are both theoretical and practical. Over their three years at Abadir, students partake in lessons that range from teacher-centered lectures to student-centered workshops and field trips to relevant companies in order to help them to acquire the necessary theoretical and practical skills.

A typical course consists of a series of lectures and one or more assignments. An assignment can be a written exercise or research, a project or another kind of practical exercise (for example: technical drawings, models on scale, illustrations, etc). Please note that for some courses it is required to buy books or other materials necessary to accomplish the practical exercises/projects. It's responsibility of the teacher to provide a list of what the students will need.

Exchange students are expected to complete between 16 and 25 ECTS per semester. We would like to focus the attention on the duration of our courses, which are mostly annual. This means that incoming students will need to divide the credits of the subject per 2 in case of courses having 6 ECTS or more.

If the incoming students are interested in achieving more credits, it is possible for them to take part to extra activities as workshops or lectures organized by Abadir.

Attendance

Classes are scheduled from Monday to Friday in the following 4-hour time slots:

- 09.00 - 13.00
- 14.00 - 18.00

Attendance is mandatory. However, considering that Erasmus incoming students may attend courses from different school years and that some classes might overlap, a reasonable amount of absences can be tolerated.

Exams

There are three examination sessions per academic year: the winter session in February, the summer session in June or July and the fall session at the end of September. The theoretical exams consists in a verbal explanation of the contents learned and personal researches; the practical exams consists in explaining with a critical approach the personal (or group) projects developed during the course together with the results of other practical exercises.

Grading scheme

The Italian grading system is based on a maximum of 30 points with 18 as the lowest passing grade. 30 Cum Laude may also be awarded.

Please note that some courses could give only on a pass/fail basis without any further grading. In this case the mark 'pass' appears on the transcript. Every passed course and examination taken is recorded on the student's personal transcript. Failed courses do not appear on the transcript of records. Below is a comparison table with other grade scales.

EU GRADING DEFINITION ITALIAN GRADING SCALE

A	29/30
B	27/28
C	25/26
D	23/24
E	18/22
F	Failed

If you want to know more about the grading distribution, you can visit [Erasmus+ page](#) on our website where you will find a paragraph named *Grade Distribution System* completed with more detailed information.

Credit System

Abadir Academy has adopted the ECTS credit system. The law DD.M. 23 November N.158/2009 – art. 6, c.3, of the DPR 8 July 2005, n. 212, defines the method through which credits are assigned and it establishes that the study commitment must be measured in hours according the following scheme:

- Theoretical classes: 1 ECTS from 6 to 9 hours
- Technical-practical activities: 1 ECTS from 10 to 15 hours
- Laboratory activities: 1 ECTS from 20 to 30 hours

The Three-Year Course in Design and Visual Communication (DAPL 06) has 180 ECTS, allocated homogeneously during the three academic years (60 ECTS per year).

Actually, the specific method through which credits are allocated by our institution is the following:

- Theoretical classes: 7,5 hours = 1 ECTS
- Technical-practical lessons: 12,5 hours = 1 ECTS
- Laboratory activities: 25 hours = 1 ECTS

SUPPORT GIVEN UPON ARRIVAL

Welcome Day

Welcome days are scheduled at the beginning of each semester to introduce the incoming students to the Abadir community.

The participation of the incoming students at the welcome days is **mandatory** in order to receive all the basic information necessary and the Certificate of Arrival.

LIVING IN SICILY



Baroque in Catania, photo credits Antonio Maria Privitera

Studying in Sicily

Sicily is the largest Italian island, located in the center of the Mediterranean. Throughout its history, diverse populations have occupied and conquered the island, thus bringing about a hybrid of cultures and traditions. Studying in Sicily therefore means working in contact with such a rich complex history which is a unique amount of inputs for our activities as designers.

Sicily offers a myriad of cultural aspects from which to take inspiration; designers can feed off of the island's history, resources, traditions, religious festivals, food, nature, literature and theater. At the same time, Sicily is a place with a strong need for design, as designers can help enhance the island's identity and put it in a contemporary light.

Accommodation

Abadir Academy is located in Sant'Agata Li Battiati, a little town 10 km far from Catania downtown, and it is hosted in an ancient sicilian mansion built between the late XVIII century and the beginnings of XX century. Our address is Via Giacomo Leopardi, 8 - 95030 Sant'Agata Li Battiati, Catania.

The academy is provided by a little guesthouse located 200 meters far from the main building: single rooms, double rooms and a fully equipped kitchen are available.

To book a room for the First Semester (Fall/Winter) the deadline for the incoming students is **Sep. 14th** while for the Second Semester (Spring/Summer) the deadline is **January 15th**. To request information about our guesthouse, please contact foresteria@abadir.net

We suggest to the incoming students to live as close as possible to the school during the semester they're going to attend in our academy. In case they prefer to live downtown Catania they can look for other solutions; in this case they will reach the school by public transport. Catania is one of the biggest city in Sicily and it is located in the east coast of the island. It's a lively town on the slopes of Etna volcano and it is mainly renowned for the baroque style of its buildings and the vivid nightlife.

How to get to the Academy

By bus

From the airport, there's a bus service called Alibus which stops at the Central Rail Station, where other bus services are available. The ticket can be bought on the bus and costs € 4,00. More information on the [official website of the company](#).

The company who manage the means of transport in the urban area of Catania is called [Amt](#) (Azienda Municipale Trasporti).

The first solution to reach Abadir from the city centre is to take the **BRT line bus** that needs 20 minutes to go from Catania centre (Piazza Stesicoro) to the stop Due Obelischi. Once there, there's a free shuttle connecting the stop Due Obelischi to Piazza Chiesa Madre at Sant'Agata Li Battiati, very close to the school. To check timetable and costs of BRT LINE visit the [official website of Amt](#); to discover the specifics of the free shuttle visit the [website of Sant'Agata Li Battiati district](#).

Another way, maybe the best, to get to our school is to take a direct bus from the **AST LINE** (Azienda Siciliana Trasporti) from the rail station to Sant'Agata Li Battiati centre, without any change. The specific line to take is the one called **Pedara Trecastagni**. To learn more about this line, visit the [official website of AST](#).

Cost of living

Before applying to our school, please take in consideration the costs of temporarily relocating to Catania. Monthly expenses – including food, accommodation, local transportation and social life – may range between € 350,00 and € 600,00.

Rent a double room	from € 175,00 to € 220,00
Rent a single room	from € 200,00 to € 375,00
Food, leisure and other expenses	from € 100,00 to € 250,00
Public Transport	from € 20,00 to € 60,00

Italian Tax Code Card

The Italian Tax Code is a card similar to the Social Security Number of other Countries. It's a mandatory document needed to fill a contract, to open a bank account or to activate a new telephone number. Once the incoming student has completed the registration procedures at Abadir Academy International Office, he has to go to the Income Revenue Authority to ask for a free Italian Fiscal Code Card.

The tax code is issued immediately and free of charge. It is necessary to complete the [AA4/8 form](#). EU/EEA citizens must bring a valid passport or another form of ID; non EU/EEA citizens must bring the passport with a valid visa (if requested) and a copy of it (clearly showing personal data and visa) and/or the residence permit.

Alternatively, it is possible to apply for the tax code to the Italian consular authorities in the country of residence. For further information, please visit the [Agenzia delle Entrate website](#).

Mandatory Insurance

Health Insurance

EU citizens can benefit from healthcare only if they are in possession of the European Health Insurance Card. Non-EU students must obtain private health insurance. If health insurance is purchased in the country of origin before departure, it must be brought to the Embassy of Italy along with the documents needed to obtain a visa and must be stamped to certify validity. Without this stamp from the Embassy, once in Italy, the purchase of new insurance may be necessary as foreign insurance that is not validated by the Embassy can not be accepted as a means of obtaining a residence permit.

Accident Insurance

Abadir Academy provides liability insurance to all traveling students and is limited to educational /training activities.

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