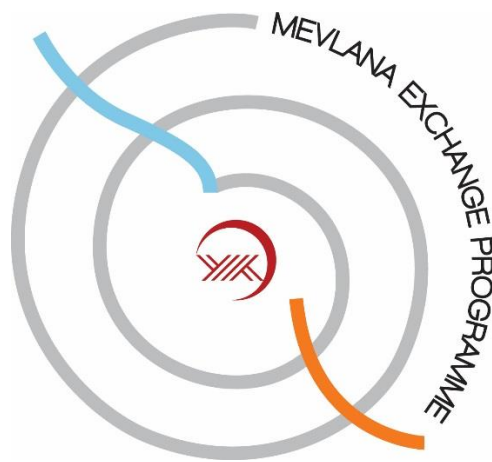


# Mevlana

## Exchange Programme



## **What is Mevlana Exchange Programme?**

Mevlana Exchange Programme is a programme which aims the exchange of students and academic staff between the Turkish higher education institutions and higher education institutions of other countries. With the regulation of the Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK) published in August 23, 2011 (num: 28034), students and academic staff exchange between Turkish higher education institutions and higher education institutions of other countries has been possible.

The programme includes all higher education institutions throughout the world without discriminating between the geographical borders.

Students may study abroad for one (minimum) or two (maximum) terms and academic staff may lecture abroad from two weeks (minimum) to three months (maximum). Accordingly, students and academic staff from any country may benefit from this programme being hosted by Turkish higher education institutions in order to study or lecture.

## **Who is Mevlana/Rumi?**

The original name of Mevlana, from whom the name of the programme is inspired, is Muhammed Celaledin. Mevlana was born in 1207 in Belh of Horasan distinct that is now in the border of Afghanistan. The name "Mevlana" was used by Sultan Veled, Şems-i Tebrizi and his lovers, and virtually is a universal symbol which identifies with him. Also, he is known as Rumi by the Western people.

Mevlana lived in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, but as a sufi who got beyond the ages with his works, did not make any discrimination between people and his verse underlines this, "*Come, come whoever you are*". As well as his mercy, voluntary and unlimited humanity, he had endless tolerance and he impressed not only the world of Islam but also the whole humanity. He is a worldwide intellectual with his point of view to the people and life. UNESCO, due to the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mevlana's birth, declared the year 2007 as Mevlana and Tolerance year.

Throughout his education, he visited the educational institutions of various cities in different countries not only as a student but also a scholar. Mevlana attributed great importance to "change" in his philosophy throughout his life.

He is also the author of the important works like Masnavi, Divan-i Kebir, Fihi Mafih, Mektubat and Mecalis-i Seba.

## **The Objectives of Mevlana Exchange Programme**

- To make Turkey an attraction centre for both international students and academic staff,
- To increase the academic capacity of Turkish higher education institutions,
- To contribute to the globalization process of higher education,
- To share the historical and cultural heritage of Turkey in a global scale,
- To raise awareness of respect and tolerance for any differences by promoting intercultural interaction.

## **Who Benefits from Mevlana Exchange Programme?**

The students registered in formal education programmes in Associate Degree, B.A, M.A and PhD level at higher education institutions may benefit from Mevlana Exchange Programme.

Additionally, all academic staff who work at a national or foreign higher education institution, on the condition that the higher education institutions signed a bilateral Mevlana Exchange Protocol, may benefit from Mevlana Exchange Programme. In the scope of mobility, academic activities of academic staff cannot be less than total six hours weekly.

In hourly calculation of the activities performed by academic staff, courses are considered. If course hours do not complete six hours, academic activities such as seminars, panels or conferences are evaluated in this context. Academic staff mobility plans which do not contain lectures shall not be considered within Mevlana Exchange Programme and accepted for the Exchange.

## **The Benefits of Mevlana Exchange Programme to Students and Academic Staff**

Mevlana students who have the opportunity to study abroad will be able to express themselves on the international level and will have both analytic and comparative point of view. The students who will study abroad within the scope of this programme will have the chance to recognize cultures of their host countries in addition to the academic experience they will gain. These students, who make new friends and improve their foreign language proficiency, will have a great advantage on the way of achieving their career goals thanks to their international experience in their academic lives.

Academic staff, who will benefit from Mevlana Exchange Programme, will have the opportunity to do research with new academic perspectives in addition to lecturing abroad. Also, they may continue their cooperation by the mutual interaction via various conferences, projects and seminars after returning to their home institutions.

### **Application Requirements for Students**

- They must be registered at one of the following degrees; associate degree, bachelor degree, master degree or doctoral degree of higher education programmes,
- Grade point average (GPA) of associate degree and undergraduate students must be at least 2,5 (two and a half) on a four point scale,
- Grade point average (GPA) of graduate students (MA, PhD) must be at least 3.00 (three) on a four point scale,
- The students studying in their first year at associate or bachelor degree and the students of preparation classes and scientific preparation programmes of graduate degrees cannot participate in this programme at their first semester.

### **PROJECT-BASED INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

This programme aims at promoting and strengthening the cooperation between higher education institutions in line with the purpose of raising quality in the internationalization process of the higher education system.

Projects conducted in the fields that are decided in accordance with the Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK) Executive Board Resolutions take place through the exchange of students and academic staff. These projects are supported by the Turkish Council of Higher Education.

**“Mevlana Exchange Programme Protocol”** must be signed between our university and the foreign university to be able to benefit from both the Exchange Programme and the Project-based International Exchange Programme.

As Hacettepe University, we have protocols with the universities in the following countries; USA, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Bosna-Herzegovina, Mongolia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Palestine, Algeria, Morocco. Besides, there are ongoing meetings for new protocols.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RELATED TO PROCESS OF PROGRAMME**

➤ **How should an academic staff or a student having the requirements apply for Mevlana Exchange Programme?**

Applications for Mevlana Exchange Programme are received once a year generally in February or March. Application calendar is announced on the website of the coordinatorship. After completing all the required documents, it is possible to apply for the programme by delivering these documents by hand to the office of coordinatorship between the specified dates.

➤ **How many times and how long is it possible to benefit from the programme?**

Students may benefit from the programme minimum for 1 (one) semester and maximum for 2 (two) semesters. Even though the calculation of semesters may change depending on the universities, total duration of exchange cannot exceed one academic year. An academic staff may benefit from the programme once in one academic year minimum for 2 (two) weeks maximum for 3 (three) months.

➤ **Is it possible to apply for the programme in the second semester of the academic year?**

Applications for Mevlana Exchange Programme are received only once a year in the first semester of the academic year. As the applications for both semesters are received together, it is not possible to apply for the programme in the second semester.

➤ **Does participating in this programme prevent benefitting from other exchange programmes?**

Students may benefit from other exchange programmes before and after participating in Mevlana Exchange Programme.

➤ **Do students continue to receive their scholarships and is there any scholarship payment within the context of Mevlana Exchange Programme?**

Mevlana Exchange Programme students continue to receive their other scholarships and loans in their home countries. Also, students are given the opportunity to have non-refundable grant during their education abroad. Scholarship amount to be paid to the students differs according to the life standards of the country of the host institution. Within the context of Mevlana Exchange Programme, the programme students are paid up to three times of the amount that is monthly paid to bachelor degree students according to the Law no.5102 on Granting Scholarship and Loan to the Higher Education

Students and in the ratios determined by the Turkish Council of Higher Education Executive Board.

➤ **How does the process proceed relating to the scholarship given by the Turkish Council of Higher Education?**

Also, incoming students from foreign universities to Turkish higher education institutions are given the opportunity to have non-refundable grant in the ratios determined by the Turkish Council of Higher Education Executive Board within the scope of Mevlana Exchange Programme. 80% of the total scholarship payment is made as prepayment when students arrive in their host country. The rest of the payment is made according to the success of the students in the classes taken.

➤ **Are academic staff paid during the programme?**

Incoming and outgoing academic staff are paid in accordance with the Travel Expense Law number 6245 within the scope of Mevlana Exchange Programme.

➤ **Do students pay any tuition fee to their host university when they participate in Mevlana Exchange Programme?**

Students continue to pay their obligatory payments to their home university if they have any. However, students do not pay any tuition fee to their host university within the context of Mevlana Exchange Programme.

➤ **Do the students participating in the programme repeat the courses taken in the host university?**

If the course(s) written in the Learning Agreement are clearly stated that they are equivalent to each other, and the students succeed all these courses during their academic period abroad, there will not be any repeat of the courses taken there.

➤ **How is it possible to apply for Project-based International Exchange Programme?**

Project proposal is collaboratively prepared by both Hacettepe University academic staff and the academic staff of foreign project partner university. Hacettepe University academic staff apply for the project via their own passwords on YÖKSİS (the Turkish Council of Higher Education Information System). Applications are received between the specified dates (generally in February or March). Students that are going to participate in the project are decided by the academic staff.

➤ **What should be done if there is not any protocol signed with the university that you would like to exchange or conduct a project?**

If there is not any protocol signed with the university that you would like to exchange or conduct a project within the scope of Mevlana Exchange Programme, it is possible to request to be signed a protocol by e-mail or by coming personally to the office. Our coordinatorship will take the necessary steps for the Mevlana protocol if the foreign university approves as well.

**For Detailed Information About Mevlana Exchange Programme,**

Please contact to the Mevlana Exchange Programme office of Hacettepe University or the Turkish Council of Higher Education.

**The Turkish Council of Higher Education**

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