

Educational vision



Introduction

In the quest for solutions to regional and global challenges, Erasmus University Rotterdam's students and academic staff are able to create new scientific approaches and establish their relevance to society.

In the spirit of cosmopolitan Desiderius Erasmus after whom our university is named, this quest extends across national borders and the boundaries of disciplines. Erasmus stood for values such as freedom and tolerance. Inspired by his legacy, Erasmus University's educational vision is based on the following core values:

- Expertise, open-mindedness and having a critical stance
- Entrepreneurship, effectiveness and innovation
- Self-reliance, commitment and inclusion

These core values are closely linked to the international, multicultural and entrepreneurial metropolis that is Rotterdam.

Educational vision

Erasmus University Rotterdam educates students to become world citizens and team players who take an active role in the development and application of academic knowledge and skills in our globalised societies.

Below, we describe what this vision means for students, academic staff, and the learning environment:

Students

Expertise, open-mindedness and having a critical stance

Students are educated to become academic professionals who play an active role in the development and application of knowledge. They are educated to become experts in their chosen discipline or in a multidisciplinary field of work. Throughout their study, students develop a broad perspective on social, political and ethical dilemmas. Their personal opinions and norms and values are introduced and critically discussed.

Entrepreneurship, effectiveness and innovation

While studying and discussing these dilemmas, students learn how to collaborate as professional team players. By linking to insights from other scientific disciplines and society, students can conceive innovative and effective solutions. Students learn to take responsibility for their own learning process and discover that the development of knowledge and skills is an ongoing process.

Self-reliance, commitment and inclusion

The diversity of the student population contributes to the development of individuality, creativity, decisiveness and an entrepreneurial spirit. Erasmus University encourages all students to participate in the academic debate through utilising their own talents, strengths and background. Students develop the skills required to be able to appreciate other approaches to a problem.

Academic staff

Expertise, open-mindedness and having a critical stance

Academic staff play an essential role when it comes to realising this educational vision. Lecturers excel in providing education that is rooted in scientific research. They guide and coach the further development of attributes and skills based on their thorough subject-specific knowledge. Lecturers encourage in students the development of an academic and critical attitude by giving and receiving feedback.

Entrepreneurship, effectiveness and innovation

Erasmus University fosters and facilitates a community where academic staff share with each other their knowledge of educational innovation and developments. Within this community, members of staff challenge each other to provide innovative, excellent and effective education. They have honed their didactic skills and are well prepared for their teaching duties. Lecturers take personal responsibility for the development of their own teaching skills.

Self-reliance, commitment and inclusion

Our lecturers demonstrate their accountability for the quality of education as well as their commitment to how their students perform. Lecturers work together within the academic community. Taking each other seriously and conducting constructive dialogues is essential in this regard. Wherever possible, lecturers involve students in their own research. Academic staff operate within international and diverse, multidisciplinary research

Didactics and the learning environment

Expertise, open-mindedness and having a critical stance

Our lecturers educate students by being good role models and through leading by example. Erasmus University offers students and staff an exacting and challenging learning environment where active academic learning is the guiding principle. The student's learning process is central here and the learning formats are designed to activate, motivate and encourage.

Entrepreneurship, effectiveness and innovation

Education is rooted in science: It is based on a foundation of educational theories and methods. In addition, innovation in education is strongly encouraged. Education and the learning environment are designed in close accordance with insights obtained from scientific research. Likewise, education and the learning environment are themselves subjects of research.

Self-reliance, commitment and inclusion

The campus functions as an inspiring meeting place where knowledge – both within and between various disciplines – is developed and exchanged. Personal contact on campus is enriched with interactive online education. The wider (international) community is engaged online and involved in the academic debate. Discussions on how to improve the quality of the learning environment and education take place between students, lecturers and support staff. The activities of the support staff are based on the values of the educational vision. The Erasmus University community is responsible for upholding the educational vision.