

# EU partner universities & Avans University of Applied Sciences | School of Health International Skype Project

*“It allows us to see there are different ways for the same thing  
and your way is not the only way”*

From the book “The opposable mind” (Roger Martin)



# Partners

1. Avans University of Applied Sciences, School of Health – Avans; The Netherlands
2. Lahti University of Applied Sciences – LUAS; Finland
3. Escola Superior de Saúde do Alcoitão – ESSA; Portugal
4. VIA college – VIA; Denmark
5. Escuela Universitaria de Enfermería de Vitoria-Gasteiz – EUEV; Spain
6. Dpto. Enfermería Universidad de Valladolid, Facultad de Enfermería de Soria – UdV; Spain
7. Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Health Professions – ZHAW; Switzerland

# Study Programmes

		Programmes			
Institute	Country	Physiotherapy	Nursing	Health Technology	Health Promotion
Avans	NL	X	X	X	
LUAS	FI	X	X	X	
ESSA	PT	X			
VIA	DK	X			
EUEV	ES		X		
UdV	ES		X		
ZHAW	CH		X		X


Browser address bar: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yR0IWICH3rY>

Browser tabs: German Coast guard trainee...

Browser menu: File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Browser toolbar: Home, Back, Forward, Page, Safety, Tools, Search, Print, Refresh

Video title: German Coast guard trainee



Video player controls: Play, Volume, 0:24 / 0:52, Settings, Full Screen, 100%

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yR0IWICH3rY>

# Goal and objectives

- Language proficiency (EN) through interview
- Enhancing intercultural communication skills
- Awareness of (intercultural) differences with regard to studying healthcare & wellbeing
- Gaining insight into healthcare & social system in international perspective

# The Project

- Student will be paired internationally (ideally 1:1, but also 2:1)
  - Matching peers from similar study fields (or as desired)
1. Preparation: own education system, own health and social system
  2. In ten weeks two Skype meetings
  3. Evaluation Form
  4. Optional: reflective Diaries, reflecting on learning & experience
1. Getting acquainted: get to know one another and conduct an interview on one another, make a clear appointment for the next contact moment.
  2. Discuss the mutual healthcare and (or) wellbeing systems. Evaluate together what you have learned from one another and from this project.

# Activity plan, Skype meetings

When	Activity	Activity details
<b>Dec</b>	Nomination of students to Avans	International Coordinators email list with interested student to Avans Names, Email, Study Program, desired program for matching
<b>Jan</b>	Pairs will be announced	Avans prepares the matching tables Students get each other's contact details
<b>Feb</b>	Preparation	Students prepare on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Own education program/system</li> <li>• Own health and social system</li> </ul>
<b>Feb/Mar</b>	First Skype Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get acquainted, explore mutual interest</li> <li>• Study field, Study motivation</li> <li>• Set date for 2<sup>nd</sup> Skype Meeting</li> <li>• Define topics of interest for 2<sup>nd</sup> Skype Meeting</li> <li>• Take notes of what you talked about</li> </ul>
<b>Mar</b>	Share experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With your peers at home</li> <li>• With your international coordinator</li> </ul>
<b>Mar/Apr</b>	Second Skype Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss mutual healthcare and/or social systems</li> <li>• Discuss professional position within system</li> <li>• Take notes of what you talked about</li> </ul>
<b>Apr</b>	Share experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With your peers at home</li> <li>• With your international coordinator</li> <li>• Fill in evaluation form</li> </ul>
<b>After</b>	Reflective diary (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using your notes taken in your journal, write a final reflection report.</li> </ul>

# Sample questions 1st Interview

**Think about additional questions !!!**

- Personal information (name, age, living details, personal living circumstances).
- Hobbies, free time.
- Study choice and motivation; what appeals to you in the profession? In working with patients?
- How much time do you spend studying per week, on average? Does studying take more or less time than you expected?
- How many years does your study in your country normally take?
- How is your university ranking in your country? How is your programme positioned within your university?
- What does the programme look like? How is the curriculum structured?
- What teaching methodology is used? How do the teachers teach?
- What do you have to do as a student? What is expected from you?
- In which kind of professional setting would you like to do your internships?



# Sample questions 2nd Interview

**Think about additional questions !!!**

- How is the healthcare and wellbeing system structured in your country?
- How are medical professionals related to each other?
- In what way is interdisciplinary collaboration structured and realised?
- What is your position as future professional within that system?
- How are you valued as a professional in your country?
- What international and intercultural aspects do you encounter in your profession and work field?
- What have you already encountered in your first clinical placements?  
Or in relation to your peers?
- What competences do you need to deal with these aspects?
- How are you prepared for this during your study programme? What is expected from you in your university and your programme?
- How well aware are you of the international options within your programme? What options do you have to obtain international and intercultural experiences?

# Reflective report (learning diary)

Chapter	Contents
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction of your international peer;</li><li>• Personal expectations with this assignment</li></ul>
First contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A summary of the answers you were given, any similarities or differences in your perspectives; which answers surprised you?</li><li>• A short description of any specific challenges you faced and lessons you learned from contact activity one;</li></ul>
Second contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A summary of what you experienced, highlight the differences.</li><li>• Conclude this chapter with a short description of any specific challenges you faced and lessons learned from contact activity two</li></ul>
Overall Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe at least three lessons learned from an interview with international peers;</li><li>• Describe at least three challenges you faced?</li><li>• Would you recommend that this activity be retained for future physiotherapy students, why or why not, or with what specific alterations?</li><li>• Also include a completed evaluation form (Annex 3)</li></ul>
Annexes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collected preparatory material</li><li>• Overview email correspondence</li><li>• Screenshots skype meetings</li><li>• Verbatim of the Skype correspondence</li></ul>

# Standard Evaluation Form

Item	Positives	Suggestions for improvement
What is your overall view on this assignment		
Match making / getting in touch		
Preparations for each of the meetings		
The first Skype meeting – getting to know one another		
The second Skype meeting – discussing mutual healthcare and/or wellbeing systems		
Feedback and debriefing after each of the meetings		
Writing your report		
Time and study load for this project		
What have you learned from this assignment (link to competencies defined by your institution):		
General comments:		

# Key elements

- Confirm your meetings and agreements
- Peers interview each other
- Do not (!) send interview questions / answers by e-mail; oral language proficiency is one of the key objectives
- E-mail can be used as support to clarify things that remain unclear during the (Skype) conversations
- Take the debriefing serious and keep a log, makes writing your final report a lot easier!
- Be concise concerning your portfolio (according to your institutional requirements) and evaluation