

Project number	2009-1-IE2-ERA10-00058
Country/National Agency of the project coordinator	Ireland [IE2]
Title	Translating God(s) : Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies
Year when first awarded an IP grant (funding available for maximum 3 years)	2009
Subject area code	221 - Religion 224 - History, philosophy and related subjects 312 - Sociology and cultural studies
Description	<p>This 10 ECTS course module offers postgraduate students from 20 European universities a European Theology & Religious Studies course in the evolving new academic discipline of Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies. Faced with Europe's increasing crosscultural and interreligious identity, students will explore the ecumenical, crosscultural and interreligious challenge in Europe for theology and religion. The programme studies areas of ecumenical and crosscultural religious concerns and interreligious conflicts in different areas of Europe; it introduces students, in a most comprehensive way, to the European field of intercultural and interreligious/comparative theology, and it researches the impact of the studied areas and the new academic field for the academic discourses on God in Europe today. In order to emphasize and display certain features of the programme, it takes place at three different locations over the three years and makes use of distinct resources and thematic capacities at each host institution. In the first IP in Dublin (June 13-27, 2010), hosted at the coordinating institution and given the particular expertise of the Irish School of Ecumenics, the focus is on Ecumenism as Source for Intercultural Theology vis-a-vis the divergent cultures of faith and culture as well as conceptual religious boundaries between Eastern and Western Europe. The impact of ecumenical dialogue on the European concept of God will be studied. The second IP in Istanbul (May 8-22, 2011), hosted by an Islamic theological faculty, gives emphasis to the European interreligious histories in general and allows students to study the challenges between Islam and Christianity in Southeast Europe in particular. The impact of interreligious encounters and tensions on the European discourse on God will be studied. The third IP in Sofia and Constanta (Sept. 9-23, 2012), involving the Bulgarian and Romanian orthodox theological faculties in the organisation, draws on elements from the former two IPs and gives emphasis to the phenomena of Fluid Religions and Orthodoxy, allowing for a comparative study of these phenomena across religious traditions of Eastern and Western Europe alike. In summary, the IP aims at presenting a programme which takes its point of departure from the multifaceted and conflicting plurality of Europe's religious identity. It uses problem-oriented and communication based pedagogical means to challenge students to a process of critical reflection on naming and thinking God in today's intercultural and interreligious Europe. The gathering of recognized teachers and advanced students from so many European institutions in an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural classroom on the mentioned theme, represents a novelty in theology and religion on the European level. The IP presents the unique possibility to study these lines of the programme with 60 fellow students and 20 teachers from across Europe at each edition of the IP. The IP uses ICT-based teaching technology and video-streaming of the course, thereby allowing access for students of a number of non-European universities who are in partnerships with participating European partner institutions. As for products, the IP creates a course book titled "Thinking the Divine in Interreligious Encounter". This book will contain material produced by teachers for the programme and for use in future courses on the topic at the partner institutions. Further, a CD-Rom will be produced containing all the research papers of the participating students. Finally, besides the stated goals, the strategic intention of the IP is also, to create a network and collaborative ties among involved partner institutions for a new Erasmus-Mundus programme and application on "Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies", involving third country institutions too.</p>
Coordinator	University of Dublin, Trinity College 05 2009/2010 IP

Contact person	Address: Post code - City: Country: Phone: Email: Web site:	
Partners	-	
LLP Grant	50.000,00 €	
Planned number of students	60	
Working language	EN-English	
Activity duration - Location	Activity duration (in days): 12 working da Location: Dublin Activity duration (in days): Sept. 9-23, 20 Location: Sofia Activity duration (in days): N/A Location: N/A	Activity duration (in days): May 8-22, 201 Location: Istanbul Activity duration (in days): Sept. 9-23, 20 Location: Constanta