1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of the university: Université Montpellier 2
Future name of the university from 01/01/2015: Université de Montpellier
Location: Montpellier (France)
Specific website for Erasmus Mundus Action 2 and/or EMINENCE students: http://www.univ-montp2.fr/international-menu-principal/espace-etudiants-doctorants/venir-etudier-a-lum2

2. INFORMATION ABOUT UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL OFFER FOR EMINENCE APPLICANTS

Université Montpellier 2:
Université Montpellier 2 is one of the oldest European universities. The university is located in the South of France, nearby the Mediterranean Sea. UM2 is very involved on the international stage with 1 out of 6 student enrolled coming from a foreign country. In the international ranking system ARWU, the University of Montpellier 2 belongs to the top 10 French universities.

The UM2 is specialised in sciences and technologies. Our fields of training cover wide thematic areas such as Agronomy, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Informatics, Engineering, Education, Management. Our courses at Bachelor and Master levels are taught in French, and a B2 level is necessary to be accepted, and must be certified.

Students doing PhD / Post-doc researches or Staff can choose to do it either in French or English, depending on the tutor found here and their working language. The Research and Education fields are organised in five interdisciplinary areas: Environment-Life-Food Sciences-Earth, Biology-Health Sciences, Chemistry, Mathematics-Informatics-Physic-Structural and Systems Sciences; Management Sciences.

UM2 promote collaboration with its partner and give the PhD students the opportunity to obtain a co-supervision of thesis, permitting him/her to obtain a double PhD diploma if agreed with the home university. The UM2 hosts 45 laboratories working together with the great national research organisations. These laboratories are gathered within 6 doctoral schools.

Merging with Université Montpellier 1:
On the 1st of January 2015, the Université Montpellier 2 will merge with the Université Montpellier 1. The new name will be “Université de Montpellier”.

The Université Montpellier 1 is the oldest School of Medicine in Europe, and has always been active in the international academic community. With 1 out of 5 student enrolled coming from a foreign country, the UM1 has a real tradition of hosting international students.

The Université Montpellier 1 (UM1) is a pluridisciplinary university with 8 faculties: Law, Economy, Administration, Medicine, Pharmaceutical Sciences & Biology, Odontometry, Sports and two institutes: ISEM in Management and IPAG preparation to administrative career.
At Bachelor and Master levels, the teaching language is French, with a minimum level of B2. This must be certified by a certificate. As for PhD / Post-doc researches and staff mobility, it can either be done in French or English, depending on the supervisor hosting the grantee and his/her working language.

This merging will give more opportunities for international students willing to study in Montpellier, as the academic offer is now wider as last years.

3. PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

**Academic Calendar:**
The academic year begins usually on the 1st of September and ends on the 14th of July.

For example, this year, holidays at the Faculty of Science were:

- **Autumn:** Monday 27th of October to Monday 3rd of November
- **Christmas:** Monday 22nd of December to Monday 5th of January
- **Winter:** Monday 16th of February to Monday 23rd of February
- **Spring:** Monday 13th of April to Monday 20th of April

**Housing:**

**Bachelor and Master students:**
The International Student office at the CROUS offers accommodation in university residencies. The rent is around 350€ for a studio. All Bachelor and Master students coming in the framework of an Erasmus Mundus programme will receive an offer for a studio in one of the university residencies.

**PhD, Post-doc and Staff grantees:**
You will have to look by yourself for housing as the scholarship is too high to have access to student residencies. Private student residencies are a good option. Here is a list where current Erasmus Mundus grantees are living.


These private student residencies have additional administrative fees but you won’t be asked for a French guarantor. The French guarantor is a French regulation that will be asked almost all the time when you want to rent a flat. This person will be the responsible in case you don’t pay your rent. Sometimes the flat’s owners don’t ask for one if they have the proof that your income covers at least three times the rent.

You have also the option to rent a flat here in Montpellier, using websites:

- [http://www.seloger.fr](http://www.seloger.fr)
- [http://www.pap.fr](http://www.pap.fr)
- [http://leboncoin.fr](http://leboncoin.fr) (singe and shared-flat: well-known in France, and one of the most used)
- [http://www.appartager.fr](http://www.appartager.fr) (shared-flat)
- [http://www.colocation.fr](http://www.colocation.fr) (shared-flat)

Be aware that using a real estate agencies in Montpellier mean paying large commissions when signing the lease (between 7 and 10% of the rent, or even 1 month rental).
For all grantees (except staff, as their stay is too short), you may benefit the State Housing help. It’s called CAF, and it will help you paying around half of your rent (depending on each case). You can only apply once you are in Montpellier with a housing contract.

You will receive instructions about housing later on after your selection at the University, and you will be helped in this process.

**Academic and daily life hints:**

A team of former Erasmus Mundus grantees will welcome you at your arrival at the airport and will bring you to your housing. They will guide you at the beginning with all the procedures to follow at the University here.

French classes are organised for all grantees, as well as cultural excursions once a month in order to help to a better discovery of and integration to France.

The city of Montpellier offers a practical public transportation network, with 4 tramway-lines, multiple bus lines and a bike rental service. [http://www.tam-voyages.com/](http://www.tam-voyages.com/)

With its **4 university restaurants** and its cafeterias located near classrooms, CROUS of Montpellier offers varied and healthy food for only 3€ a meal.

- **Boutonnet**: Tramway line 1 – Station « Boutonnet »
- **Richter**: Tramway line 1 – Station « Port Marianne »
- **Triolet**: Tramway line 1 – Station « Universités »
- **Vert-Bois**: Tramway line 1 – Station « Louis Blanc »

**Living expenses:**

Even with the minimum scholarship (1000€), the students won’t have any difficulties living in Montpellier (housing representing around a third of the scholarship).

**Rent:**
- (private studio): 500€ (PhD, Post-doc and Staff option)
- (shared-flat): 400€ (PhD, Post-doc and Staff option)
- (student residency): 350€ (Bachelor and Master option)

**Food:** 240€

**Public transportation:** 196€/year (under 26y. old) or 10 trips = 10€

**Supplies:** 50€

**Culture:** 50€

**Leisure:** 60€

**TOTAL:**
- Studio: 930€
- Shared-flat: 830€
- Student residency: 780€

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4. **CONTACT DETAILS FOR CANDIDATES**

EMINENCE Team at UM2: eminence@univ-montp2.fr