

2021 JEMARO Webinar questions and other FAQ

Background eligibility

- More explanation about the backgrounds was given during the webinar, the idea is to make sure you have interdisciplinary skills, especially in all these 3 areas: Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Automatic Control. If your major did not cover these areas, make sure you highlight extracurricular experiences/achievements in these fields in your CV/motivation letter (passion for robotics, projects, papers, MOOCs, work experience in robotics, etc.)

The more your background is related to robotics/mechatronics, the best you will score in the criterion "relevance of previous degree".

Evaluation of the applications received

1. How are you accessing the institution quality?
 - Using Webometrics international rankings.
2. Would the experience listed on the CV be taken into consideration in the selection process?
 - Yes it is, this is why you are required to submit a CV in your application. Make sure you mention significant internships/research projects/personal achievements on your CV.
3. Is any industry experience weighed as part of, or considered a plus for the application?
 - Yes, it can add value to your application, as a bonus especially if your Bachelor of Science is not on mechatronics/robotics. A student with a bachelor degree will however not lose grades in the selection ranking if they do not have professional experience.
4. Is having a publication in robotics a plus point?
 - It can add value to your application, you can mention it in your CV.
5. Do we have any interview that will be conducted as a part of selection?
 - There is no interview, after submitting all the documents required on the platform, there is nothing you have to do but wait for the results of the selection.
6. How are shortlists built? :
 - The idea is to evaluate fairly the applications received based on the following criteria:
 - i. Academic performance (taking into account your GPA + the quality of your home education)
 - ii. The Relevance of your bachelor's degree to robotics
 - iii. Motivation
 - iv. English proficiency
 - v. CV
 - vi. Reference letters
 - All the applicants receive a score for each of these criterion, and are then ranked by category (partner country students or programme country students). The students with the

highest ranking are awarded Erasmus Mundus Scholarships, those right under Consortium Scholarships and those under are offered a seat in the program as self-funded.

Research topic

1. Can a research topic be new or based on what the selected supervisor is working on?
 - Both, it is up to you.
2. How to rank order of preference for Research Topic? I'm mainly interested in Space Robots and Soft Robotics. As both of them are from different research topics 1. Control, Mechatronics 2. Robotics, Human Interface.
 - You have to make a choice at the time of the application, just like any other student. In case you get selected and regret your decision, you may ask your supervisors and local coordinator if a change of research topic is possible, but we try to avoid that.

Recommendation letter

1. I have several Prof. and Tutors that would write a recommendation letter for me. How do i select which prof. to ask? Is it more important how well they know me, how well their institute is reputed, or how much technical work i did at their Institute.
 - Choose a professor who can best speak of the skills you have to perform well in the programme. If you have a professor in the field of robotics for instance, it is relevant to ask them a recommendation letter.
2. Can my superior at my work place make a recommendation letter for me.
 - Only one letter from a work supervisor can be accepted, especially if you are no longer a student. Please note that at least one letter from a professor/academics referent is preferred.

Motivation letter

1. Can you tell me more about letter of motivation/ Are we to follow the format for the motivation letter?
 - Please use the mandatory template available on JEMARO Website for your motivation letter: <https://jemaro.ec-nantes.fr/english-version/admission/how-to-apply>

Proof of residence

1. Is an enrolment confirmation by Politecnico di Milano enough as proof of residence? Or should I contact my municipality?
 - A letter from your municipality / from your employer will be accepted. You may be studying at Polimi but not living in Milan, especially due to the pandemic, therefore a confirmation of enrollment letter from your university cannot be accepted.
2. My passport has my residence address. Do we need to submit proof of residence again?

- You need a different document than a passport as a proof of residence. Ex: A person living in France could have an Indian passport, their passport can therefore not be used as a proof of residence. The passport can only be accepted as proof of residence if it was issued less than 12 months ago as we assume the address appearing on it is your current one.
3. For how much time is the validity of a proof of residence?
 - Maximum 12 months old at the time of the application, indicated on the website ☺
 4. What would qualify as proof of residence?
 - <https://jemaro.ec-nantes.fr/english-version/admission/how-to-apply>
 5. Have the translation in English of the proof of residence to be official? I doubt that my municipality will offer the translation.
 - You can get certified translations to professional translators/notaries.

English Proficiency

1. Do we need to send the official IELTS score report via British Council ? If yes, do we need to send the electronic copy or paper copy?
 - You only need to submit the scan of your score sheet, no need to mail the results to our office.
2. I have taken all my under graduation and high school course by English as medium of instruction so is that necessary to take TOFEL or IELTS test?
 - A MOI letter or certificate from your institution is enough if English was your medium of instruction.

After JEMARO

1. What is scope for establishing a start-up after masters in JEMARO?
 - Our first intake was in September 2020, we do not have any alumni yet, however, JEMARO is designed and regulated so that students can either start a PhD or work in companies (or as entrepreneurs) after graduation if they want to.
2. I am interested in Japanese degree. If I get enrolled with JEMARO, after graduation, will I be awarded a Master of Science from Japan?
 - Yes, you would receive a Master of Science from Keio University <https://jemaro.ec-nantes.fr/english-version/degrees>
3. How much are the chances to continue in industry after the master?
 - 50-50, some students may choose to pursue in research, others in industries, it is up to you, the programme prepares you for both.
4. Regarding work permits post the completion of the course. What are job and research prospects like after the completion of the course?
 - You may obtain the required work permit at the country you wish. In France for instance you have a 1year job-search visa for students who graduated from a master degree that

enable you to stay one year in France to look for a job after your graduation. It is also possible to stay and work in Japan after your graduation.

Scholarships and other fundings

1. How many Erasmus Scholarship each year?
 - It depends on the years and on the withdrawals that occur. 8 EMSH and 7 Consortium scholarships (CS) were awarded for our first intake, 8 EMSH and 10 CS for intake 2.
2. Is the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship enough to cover living expenses in Europe and in Japan?
 - The EMS monthly allowance is €1000, the rent will be under €500 in Europe and of about €550 in Japan. Monthly budget (rent, food, hobbies, transportation) for a modest living in Europe: €500-€600, for a more comfortable living with extra curricular activities and outings: €700.
3. What are the consortium scholarships?
 - The consortium scholarships are awarded to the best students who did not receive an Erasmus Mundus Scholarship. The consortium scholarships are tuition fee waivers, more information on: <https://jemaro.ec-nantes.fr/english-version/admission/fees-scholarships>
4. Is it possible to apply for a local scholarship while enrolled in JEMARO?
 - Yes it is, depending on the host institution. The students are responsible for enquiring directly to their host institution. It is not recommended to rest on this type of uncertain fundings when choosing to enrol in JEMARO.
5. What budget should I expect to participate in JEMARO?
 - We encourage our applicants to establish a budget prior to enrolling and consider the investment joining JEMARO represents. You must therefore take into account the tuition fees (€18 000 for partner country students and €9 000 for programme country students), the travelling cost from your country to your M1 destination and then to Japan (varies depending on your country of origin) and your daily living expenses once in Europe (€650 approximately) and in Japan (€750-800).

Miscellaneous

1. What is the class size for each intake?
 - About 24 students per intake.
2. What is the acceptance rate for the program ?
 - About 5%
3. To be considered in the application process I need to have a graduation document before September 2022?
 - To be eligible, you must graduate before July 2022 for non-EU students and before September 2022 for EU students.

4. Can you confirm the student visa application process? Do we apply for student visas after acceptance into the program with the universities we will be enrolled in?
 - The selected students will have to apply for the visa of the country they will study at for M1. Before that they will receive an acceptance letter from their hosting university and guidance on their visa application.
5. Any cgpa cutoff?
 - There is no eliminatory GPA per say, as a student with average results from a top institution has more chances of being selected than the best student of an institution of poor recognition/quality. To evaluate the academic performance of an applicant, we take into account both their transcripts/academic results and the quality of their home institution (based on Webometrics international rankings)
6. How does or will Covid-19 impact the students' mobilities?
 - The current M2 students cannot enter Japan yet, as student visas are not being issued and the borders are closed. We are in close touch with Keio University for any update regarding the entry in Japan. Current M1 students have access to face to face or hybrid courses in France, Italy and Poland. All the M1 students obtained their visas before the course start date.
7. How hectic do you find the curriculum, do we have time to do other things?
 - Testomony from a student who did his M1 at UniGe (2020-2021): The first year is rather occupied, with not enough time to get a part-time job. There are quite a lot of classes in Italy, attendance is mandatory and assignments are to be completed on time. The curriculum is lighter in M2 in Japan with less mandatory courses, so it is up to the students to build their schedule according to their preferences. You can choose to select fewer courses to focus more on your research and thesis for instance.
 - Testimony from a student who is currently doing his M1 at ECN (2021-2022): At Centrale Nantes, the course schedule is different every week, so there is time to adapt and have extra curricular activities.
 - The way lessons are conducted may vary from one course or from institution to another. For instance, some courses in Italy were theoretical lectures leading to written, theory-based exams, while in Japan, the assessment is continuous, with assignments due at almost every course and no final exam.
8. Is an internship in Japan possible during the 2nd year?
 - The research you will conduct in one of Keio laboratories to work on your master thesis will be similar in itself to an internship. It is unlikely that you have the time to take on a second internship in parallel while in Japan.