

Exploring new cultures, forging lifelong friendships, and gaining unforgettable experiences. Here's what our students discovered during their Erasmus+ journey!

# erasmus+ stories



International  
Programs  
Office

issue 1



# **bilge, arch, senior**

**studies, university of patras, greece, 2024**



Erasmus+ was truly one of the best experiences of my life. I made many friends from different cultures and created unforgettable memories in places I had always wanted to visit and photograph. Not only did I gain new perspectives from students in my field of study, but I was also proud to see that my school's educational standards are highly regarded on an international level. This experience greatly enhanced my social, cultural, and linguistic skills. It significantly shifted my career plans and increased my awareness of various social issues.

For this reason, I believe everyone should take advantage of this opportunity during their university years if they can. Lastly, I want to thank IPO for all their support throughout the process.

# elif, ell, alumni

traineeships, ascari people, germany, 2024



My name is Elif Gülce Demircan, and I'm excited to share my Erasmus+ experience in Munich, Germany, with you. I believe the Erasmus+ has greatly contributed to my development of soft skills, including adaptability, empathy, communication, and resilience. It has also helped me understand how an intercultural workplace functions while allowing me to connect with people from diverse backgrounds.

I made many friends from countries like Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Russia, and Italy. Living alone in another country boosted my confidence and provided me with a fantastic opportunity to practice and improve my German language skills. Additionally, I travelled to several countries, including Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, and the Czech Republic, which is one of the most attractive aspects of this program for students.



In conclusion, I highly recommend that students participate in exchange programs like Erasmus+. They offer invaluable and unforgettable experiences.



# mihrac, ele, alumni

studies, babeş-bolyai university, **romania**, 2022

traineeships, english education group, **the netherlands**, 2024



Hi! I'm Mihrac, but you can call me Mira (Dutch pronunciation) or Mimi (nickname). I earned my bachelor's degree in English Language Teaching at TED University and hold a TESOL qualification from Arizona State University.

Previously, I participated in Erasmus+ Study and had an amazing experience studying in Romania. Inspired by that, I decided to take on another opportunity with Erasmus+ Traineeship and was selected. After graduating in January 2024, I moved to the Netherlands and began my traineeship at EEG as an English Language Teacher.

During this time, I enhanced my soft and hard skills, learned Dutch, and experienced a new work culture. After my traineeship, I continued as an employee, and I'm currently working as an English Teacher and Marker, Turkey Ambassador, and in Research & Development.

I have a global perspective and love working internationally. My goals know no boundaries, and my dreams exceed all limits. I followed my own path and embraced a new life. My journey has brought me here, and I'm thrilled to be a part of the English Education Group!

# mehru, ece, senior

studies, babeş-bolyai university, **romania**, 2024



Going for an exchange program wasn't in my plans, but I'm glad I took the chance when I got it. Romania is an underrated country for travel, and UBB has made a significant impact on Transylvania's educational history.

In a city as diverse as Cluj, being introduced to so many vibrant cultures when you're young is an experience unlike any other. While I generally focus only on academics, I took the time in my exchange to participate in ESN events and trips with my newfound friends. It's been an unforgettable semester, truly.



# neslihan, ads, master's

studies, university of potsdam, germany, 2023-2024



Greetings from Potsdam, the city of palaces!

I am Neslihan, a Master's student in Applied Data Science at TED University. I participated in the Erasmus+ Programme for two semesters during the 2023-2024 Academic Year, spending nearly 11 months abroad.

It was my first time living independently in a foreign country and my first opportunity to engage in international academic studies. During my Erasmus exchange, I completed my master's thesis with the support of two advisors—one from TEDU and the other from the University of Potsdam. Collaborating with professors from two different countries significantly enriched my thesis, which I completed successfully. It was a truly valuable experience.



Beyond academics, I had the chance to observe and immerse myself in the social and everyday practices of life there. This experience improved my problem-solving skills, made me more solution-oriented, and taught me to stay calm in challenging situations. I made many new friends and became part of an international community. Navigating life in a foreign country and making it enjoyable is something I will never forget.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone at TEDU and the University of Potsdam for making this opportunity possible.

# efe, econ, junior

studies, university of göttingen, germany, 2024



My Erasmus+ experience was truly unforgettable. I met amazing people, explored beautiful places, and grew academically and personally. This journey has broadened my horizons and created memories I will cherish forever.

I strongly advise the students who desire to travel abroad and get to know various cultures to participate in the Erasmus+ Programme.

And lastly, my deepest thanks to our teachers and our Erasmus+ Office for their advice and support throughout my mobility.



# selim, cmpe, junior

traineeships, institute of computational neurosci., **germany**, 2024



A big thank you to the Erasmus+ Programme for this incredible opportunity, which allowed me to work on brain-inspired AI and neural network analysis at the Institute of Computational Neuroscience in Hamburg while meeting amazing people from different cultures and travelling to many countries.

This experience enriched me academically and socially, creating memories and connections that will last a lifetime!



# elif, pe, senior

traineeships, ibms, **germany**, 2022

studies, university of maribor, **slovenia**, 2023



Hello, I'm Elif Baynazı, a student in the Department of Primary Education! I'd love to share with you my Erasmus+ journeys. I have participated in the Erasmus+ program twice during my academic life. My first Erasmus+ experience was a Traineeship Mobility in 2022, which took place in Germany. Knowing that I would be doing an internship for the first time, and doing it abroad, was incredibly exciting and amazing for me. That experience will always hold a special place in my heart.



After returning to Turkey, I realized I wanted another Erasmus+ adventure, but this time through the Study Mobility program. Eagerly waiting for the application period, I applied and was accepted to study at the University of Maribor in Slovenia for the Fall semester of 2023. Those five months in Slovenia allowed me to experience how teacher training programs are conducted abroad, improve my language skills, and make friends from all over Europe. Now, I have friends I can visit across the continent!

In addition to all of this, the Erasmus+ Programme has also given me the chance to travel to 11 different countries. These unforgettable experiences have significantly enriched both my academic journey and personal growth.

# defne, ele, junior

studies, babeş-bolyai university, **romania**, 2023



At the start of my Erasmus journey to Romania, I had no idea what to expect; the language, the culture, and even the streets felt very unfamiliar at first. However, I quickly realized that every single person in the dorm was in the same boat as me, which made me feel much more relaxed.

Food was an adventure! I tried some incredible dishes—and a few I'll never touch again! From the amazing tiramisu we learned how to make to the kimbap—which I failed miserably to roll—every meal was a rollercoaster of flavors and experiences. Celebrating my first Halloween in Transylvania was unforgettable. The laughter, the costumes, and the spooky stories from all over the world made it a trip to remember.

Academic life during Erasmus was much more than just studying. I had to adapt to a different academic culture, which challenged my thinking and expanded my worldview. The things I learned followed me back to my classes at TEDU, where my knowledge of certain topics helped me thrive in research-based courses.



My birthday in Romania was unlike any I've ever had. Thanks to my friends, it was filled with warmth and fun. Although my birthday cake ended up all over my face and clothes, I wouldn't change a thing. We stayed up all night talking about anything and everything. At some point, we even got creative with pots to make Turkish coffee as the number of our friends from different countries kept growing.

There were also long trips filled with adventures and well-deserved naps at the end. Right after our exams, we took a nine-hour journey, and I learned the hard way that leaving your student ID on your desk can double your travel costs—definitely not speaking from experience!

Leaving wasn't easy. Saying goodbye to my friends, the city, and the routine I had built was one of the hardest parts. Making friends from different corners of the world is a gift I will always carry with me, even if it means a lot of "see you soon." But I left knowing I had gained more than just experiences; I had grown as a person in ways I had never imagined. In the end, I left home for another one.



# mehmet, eme, senior

studies, university of ljubljana, slovenia, 2024



My Erasmus experience at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia has been one of the most unforgettable periods of my life. During this time, I had the opportunity to explore over 10 countries and more than 15 cities across Europe, discovering different cultures along the way. Each country and city provided me with new perspectives as I experienced various cultures, people, and lifestyles.

I developed myself not only culturally but also academically. I had the chance to observe Europe's education system closely and expanded my knowledge by taking courses in my field and other areas.

Moreover, through my observations in different schools, I gained a deep understanding of various educational systems. This unique experience offered me the opportunity to grow academically while learning about new cultures. I am truly happy to have been a part of this journey and to have participated in the Erasmus+ Programme!

# naz, gpc, alumni

studies, babeş-bolyai university, **romania**, 2022

traineeships, extramus, **italy**, 2023



My Erasmus journey has been the most unforgettable experience of my life. Representing myself, my country, and my university during my study mobility in Romania made me incredibly proud. I met amazing friends from diverse cultures—Portugal, Spain, Germany, France, Italy, Russia, Romania, and more—and this broadened my perspective while significantly improving my English. Adapting to new education models and course processes challenged me and boosted my self-confidence, making this a life-changing experience.



I was fortunate to embark on a second Erasmus journey, this time for a traineeship in Italy. Working in a human resources role in a multicultural office in southern Italy, I conducted recruitment tasks and online interviews and supported employee performance and well-being. The experience sharpened my career skills, allowed me to practice English and Italian and taught me the importance of respect and communication in diverse workplaces. Sharing a home with foreign roommates and engaging with warm-hearted Italians made the experience even more special.

These two Erasmus opportunities have shaped me into a more confident and capable individual. I am deeply grateful to my university, my family, my Italian friends, and my employer for making these experiences possible.



# dua, gpc, junior

studies, university of würzburg, germany, 2023



My Erasmus experience at Julius-Maximilian Universität was filled with adventure, personal growth, and memories I'll cherish forever. I got to explore the rich German culture and learned so much (including the language!) This journey has shaped me in ways I never expected. It broadened my perspective, enriched my academic knowledge, and helped me gain a deeper understanding of who I am.

I'd like to thank TED University, the Erasmus Team, and the Department of Guidance & Psychological Counseling for supporting me every step of the way. I'm so grateful for this opportunity and everything it has brought into my life!

Mit Liebe, Dua

# naz, psy, senior

studies, university of würzburg, germany, 2024



My Erasmus experience in Würzburg was unforgettable.

I made friends from diverse cultures, faced and overcame challenges studying abroad, and adapted to the demanding German grading system. These obstacles helped me grow and adapt, making each success feel even more rewarding.

Traveling across Europe enriched my perspective, and looking back, my time in Würzburg was invaluable, filled with friendships, growth, and unforgettable experiences that will stay with me forever.



# ece, psy, junior

studies, university of würzburg, germany, 2024



My Erasmus experience is something I will never forget and will cherish for a lifetime.

During my six-month stay in Würzburg, Germany, I experienced tremendous personal growth and gained invaluable knowledge. I explored new places, formed meaningful friendships, and took part in diverse international activities that greatly enriched my understanding of different cultures.

Being on my own and studying in a country where I didn't even know the language was initially daunting, but it helped me build resilience and adaptability. The memories and lessons from this journey will continue to shape me in ways I never imagined.