

# **Erasmus Student Report**

## **University of Batna, Algeria.**

I feel glad to write this short report about my first summer semester 2016/2017, which I spent in Bialystok University of technology, Poland as an Erasmus Exchange student. This whole experience, right from the initial application process until writing this final report, will always remain of great importance to me throughout my life. I will write a short summary of different stages or steps involved for making sure in gaining this wonderful experience. I will divide the process in following different phases:

### **1. Preparation:**

This phase starts from the moment when we were first time told about the Erasmus program and after the language test. I will consider this stage as the most exciting and of course the most important as well because this stage affects all the other stages. Passing this test was very hard for me because so many student in my university speak English very well .The main reason for me to participate in this program in the University of Bialystok was the courses being offered here.

Once I was accepted by my university, then the application phase came which was undoubtedly very well organized by the International Student Office who is responsible for the task. We were provided with the list of requirements very well in time and hence we had enough time to manage the required documents to complete the application package. I would like to thank every person involved in the process, the staff at my university especially the professor SALAH MADANI as well as the staff at the host university.

## **2. Accommodation:**

The accommodation part was very well managed by the host university. We were given option of staying in the dormitory. The rooms in the dormitory were shared by two people or you can chose single room. The dormitory administration was very cooperative and was always there to help. The rooms were cleaned and provided with all necessities i.e. furniture, internet, bed-sheets, blankets etc. The dormitory environment was a unique experience in itself as there were people from so many different cultures and countries living all together in one building. The kitchen was shared by the whole floor but was big enough to accommodate the entire floor. It was a place where one could always find nice people to talk to and to learn new traditional dishes from. One other advantage of the dormitory was that one was already aware of and part all the happenings and gatherings especially the ones related to Erasmus students. I will suggest, to others also, to go for the option of dormitory better than private accommodation.

## **3. Academics:**

As I mentioned that my main reason of participate in Erasmus program was the courses offerred here. There were many courses offerred which we could register for. There were more than 20 courses offerred in English especially for Erasmus students and these courses were very well structured. This curriculum for these courses was not very intensive in order to make it possible to study for both the Undergraduate and Graduate Erasmus students.

The teaching staff was competent enough and was equipped with the required skills to teach in English language. Apart from the curriculum, the environment of the class in itself was providing a platform to learn a lot. Being in class along with so many international people from different countries of the world, having discussions, presentations and listening different perceptive and ways of thinking's was an experience worth.

The assessment method varies from course to course and teacher to teacher. Normally the assessment method was a project report for the course along with presentation but some teachers used the method of final written test also as part of the assessment.

#### **4. Everyday Life and Leisure Time:**

Bialystok is the largest city in north-eastern Poland, with a population of about 300 thousand people, There is a lot to do and explore in the city. The city has a good transportation system hence making the life very easy. The city has a lot to offer for the free time and weekends. There is a museum, theatre, some old monuments, lakes, parks, cinemas, shopping malls, and lot more. There were different local and national festivals also like Easter day, Polish National Day, etc. The city also has lot of traditional restaurant. The prices are usually less than as compared to Euro zone and hence making the city more attractive for students. The Polish people are very friendly. There is always something going on around which is worth enjoying. Apart from the happenings in city, the Erasmus Student Network also organizes many trips, picnics, events and parties for the Erasmus students.

#### **5. Conclusion:**

I will conclude by stating that this was undoubtedly a unique and life changing experience for me. Every moment was full of learning and fun. I consider myself part of Erasmus and having such, an opportunity availed. I will thank you very much for providing me with this opportunity and will highly recommend Bialystok University of Technology as one of the best places to go for an exchange program.