

TRAVEL AND STUDY: HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?

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To begin with, I would like to mention that I had a chance to become a student of the biggest university in my country; I am a student of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. At the moment I am studying at the Faculty of Physics and Technology and specializing in “Standardization, Certification and Metrology”. What was the reason to choose this field of study? It is clear that at the moment there are many advantages of studying in the physics and technology field, considering that Kazakhstan is a young developing country which has already shown great progress and success in many areas. However, the main reason why I chose this area of study is that in the future I can apply my knowledge in different fields, starting from trades and even automobile production. The reasoning behind this is that the manufacture of each and every product, various service developments and even job candidate evaluation need to correspond to a certain standard.

Nowadays, high standards and the increasing level of quality are important factors in modern market economy because the world is developing at a rapid pace and customers’ expectations are becoming more and more demanding. However, going back to my University, I would like to mention that I had a great opportunity to receive a scholarship from the European Union's program Erasmus+ which is created to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. As a result I got the chance to study at Croatia’s top ranked University, the University of Split. I am really thankful to professors from the Department of Physics and Thermal Physics, for guiding me in the process of filling the application forms and for being in contact with my Home Institution regarding questions related to my abroad study process.

What can I mention as an advantage of such a great experience such as the student study mobility? First of all, of course, it is the knowledge which a student receives, learning about a completely new study system and experiencing the student life. The next reason is that the University of Split’s quality assurance system represents the totality of quality assurance in higher education with the final goal of integration of the University in the European Higher Education Area. During my study period I realised that in the future I would like to specialize and work on an international level, for instance at International Institutions of Standardization and Certification. Going to the next point I would like to mention that I am social person and I like to be actively engaged in the University’s social life. That is why studying abroad presented itself as a great opportunity for learning something new and for sharing my experience with other international students, as well as making new friends from the whole world.

What I was the most satisfied with was my Learning Agreement, which was very similar to my individual study plan at my Home Institution. I would also like to add that the professors were kindly looking after their students and were helping them with all kinds of problems. During my Erasmus+ study mobility, our professors at the Host Faculty gave us the opportunity to apply our knowledge not only theoretically, but practically. For instance, during the Quality Management lessons with Professor Domagoja Buljan Barbača we went to a four star hotel called “Dalmina” in Split, to see how they established and developed the process of working within the HACCP system, which represents the high quality service in this establishment. Our final exam was in the form of creating a Quality Proceeding document for a Science Festival, which is being held every year at the

University of Split since 2002, and where our professor is one of the organizers. Therefore, I had a chance to visit this Festival of Science which included one hundred activities in one week. During our Market Research and Entrepreneurship lessons, we were in the process of developing business plans for new start ups and were trying to improve our entrepreneur and leader skills. Additionally, I also had the opportunity to participate in language courses with native speakers and am now successfully learning Italian. During my study period at the University of Split, I also had the chance to practice my Italian with students from Italy during “Meet My Country” and other different events organized by the international student’s organization - ESN Split. These kinds of events help all students to meet each other and to communicate not only during classes, but also during their free time and are thus helping them develop new friendships.



“Travel and Study” at the same time, how is it possible? Well, during my training in a completely different part of the world, from the moment I arrived in Split I had the opportunity to meet a new country and a new culture. On one hand I am studying and on the other I had the opportunity to choose comfortable time for classes and thus was able to travel during my free time. Croatia is a country famous for its great location near the sea and its wonderful nature! The locals are also very open and sociable which can help understand the cultural customs of this country better.

Finally, I would like to add that this great Erasmus+ experience will help me make a contribution in developing standardization and certification in my country.