





Prof.Dr. Skender TOPI
Rector
University of Elbasan
“Aleksandër Xhuvani”

We are happy to share with you the stories of success of students participating in the Erasmus + Credit Mobility 2018-2019 program. This academic year has been very important in the field of international cooperation with partner universities. We have achieved 125 mobility of academic staff for teaching and training and 50 mobility of students.

In the schematic overview of the mobility flows, there is a predominance of study programs and inclusion of the Faculty of Economics and Faculty of Natural Sciences. During this academic year, the signing of new cooperation agreements took into account the involvement of all UE constituent faculties, enabling students and academic staff to be part of the mobilities. Also, for the first time during this academic year, Erasmus + mobilities have become part of the academic, teaching and technical administrative staff, giving them the opportunity to get acquainted with the best working practices in partner universities.

Also, the University of Elbasan, in partnership with European and local higher education institutions, will begin, during the academic year 2019-2020, the implementation of two Erasmus + Projects for Capacity Building in Higher Education.

The first project the EU is partnering on is the Higher education enterprise platform for fostering modernization and sustainable growth in the natural stone industry in Western Balkans (BKSTONE).

The second project where the EU is a partner is titled Virtual Albanian European Universities Exchange (VALEU-X).

Capacity Building Projects in the field of higher education are international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships.

The purpose of these projects is to support partner countries to:

- modernization, internationalization and increasing access to higher education;
- address the challenges facing higher education institutions and systems,
- increase cooperation with the EU;
- promote intercultural awareness and understanding;

During this academic year, we had a lot of stories of success as well as many difficulties. Both are great reasons to improve not only ourselves but even our everyday work with students of UE. I would like to thank every student for their cooperation and collaboration and welcomes you to participate in the following projects!

Rector of University of Elbasan "Aleksandër Xhuvani"
Prof.dr.Skender TOPI

STUDENT'S STORY



Adelina Deda

Biology– Chemistry

Biotechnology and environmental
Sciences @ John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

For me Erasmus +, is the perfect opportunity to both learn and develop yourself through new experiences in more than one country.

When I first heard about Erasmus+ program, I thought that it was one of my dreams I wanted to make true.

I saw this program like a new experience for my life, and I really wanted to be part of, because I am a person who likes to find out new things, and in that way I could improve my communication skills in the English language, also for me Erasmus + was like an opportunity to go abroad, without my parents even though I was a bit afraid, but this was the beginning of living independently far away from my country and my family.

I wanted to gain new knowledge and new experience for my future career, new skills, I wanted to broaden my horizons physically and mentally, to grow my personality. Now I am happy because I really made my dream come true.

Erasmus + program was my chance to give the best of me, to see how I could get by in a dif-

ferent place, with different people, a different language, and a different university. I was not sad at all, maybe a bit scared at first and, above all, disorientated. Soon I got rid of the chains of doubt and I came to realize that I was free to do whatever I always wanted to do. That doesn't mean going wild, squandering my scholarship and my parents' money, but being motivated to try new things. Also, I have met so many people that I am still in touch with, made some wonderful experiences, made some good friends and learnt about new languages and cultures. I can only say that it is probably one of the best decisions I have ever made.

If you want to spice up your life, one method is to become a part of Erasmus life. For this, you should apply to this program, so I would strongly recommend applying for Erasmus + program, because it will help participants at all stages of their lives to pursue stimulating opportunities for learning across Europe.

The things you will learn at this age will probably decide the way you are for the rest of your life, and a foreign exchange where you learn to accept people from a different culture, and most of all: adapt to a different environment. This is definitely one of the main reasons why you should be part of the Erasmus + Credit mobility.





Adelina Hakani

Informatics and Economy
Economy @ Istanbul Technical University

For me Erasmus +, is... the best thing that happened in my life. It gave me the opportunity to study abroad, have fun, visit new places, have international friends and be independent and for this, I will always be grateful to my home university for giving me this opportunity.

I would describe Erasmus + as the best experience in my life. I was able to introduce myself to people from all around the world and make good friends, to visit places which was my dream to be there, and to study in such a great international university as ITU.

There are many particular things that I would define from ITU, But the one who impressed me the most was readiness and the hospitality of all university staff to help and to welcome us.

I would apply many times for Erasmus + credit mobility if it was possible. Visiting a new country, get in touch with its culture and knowing new people who introduce you to their traditions, and to study in a different environment far away from your friends and family not only can be the best experience but helps you to understand more about yourself and grow up.

In the first moment I hesitated to participate in Erasmus+ too, and to be honest the beginning was a little bit difficult, I wanted to turn back home the second day, (but I didn't).

I slowly started getting used to the life there and managed to have a great time. Now I wish I could go back there...

I would suggest every student to take part in Erasmus+ because it is the best thing that can happen to a student, you can study, have fun, travel and be independent at the same time. Sounds great right?



Aleksi Sinani

Master in Accounting and Auditing
Finance and accounting (MA) @ Hochschule Ludwigshafen

For me Erasmus + is the best experience that happened in my life. I don't have words to describe this opportunity, you have to try it to understand it. I will never forget the experience there, every moment it was special and I want to thank all my new friends I met there which made it more beautiful and of course I have to thank the University of Elbasan that gave me the possibility to go there. Once you go Erasmus you will be forever Erasmus.

Erasmus+ is a unique and beautiful experience that everyone should try. During my time there I learned a lot of new things, like how a German university works, how they give to the students a lot of possibilities. I made a lot of new friends there from all over the world and I learned a lot about their culture and such. I got the chance to travel and visit a lot of places. Also, I learnt to speak English more fluently and I learned some basic German language.

The host university was very friendly with us and took care that we did not miss a thing during our period there.

I would apply again because it is such a unique experience where you can learn a lot of new things, meet a lot of new students and learn so many things about different cultures all over the world. I was a bit hesitant at first too, but after this experience I see the things more differently and I am more open minded than before.

I highly recommend to everyone to try Erasmus, it's a rare opportunity that offers you a lot of things and I'm sure that if you try it you will not be disappointed. It is a one-time possibility in life and you don't want to miss how many great things you can achieve during your mobility.



Anxhela Dyrma

Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy @ Nicolaus Copernicus

For me Erasmus + is a programme that helped to shape my future, by gaining experience in my field of study and also by improving my communication skills.

Because of this exchange programme I had the opportunity to have lessons with professors and students from all over the world, coming from different cultures and backgrounds, which made me more open-minded and accept our differences and overcome the communication barriers between us.

Studying abroad really helped me develop in new ways I never have imagined, so in my first opportunity, I would apply again.

Erasmus + programme is an experience that can change your life, don't miss it!



Arli Gega

UE: Informatics-Economics

Informatic-Economics @ Mendel University

For me Erasmus +, is a great opportunity to live abroad, experience a foreign culture, meet new people and learn a foreign language. The programme fosters learning and understanding of the host country, and the Erasmus experience is considered both a chance for learning as well as a chance to socialise and experience a different culture.

It was an experience I will remember for the rest of my life. The chance to live in different countries and meet people from such diverse backgrounds was the most attractive part of the program. The atmosphere and the fact that I was more than welcomed there was the most particular thing that I noticed since my arrival at the host university among other things which were also new to me.

I would apply again for Erasmus+ Credit mobility. It was great experience and I would like to try it again. Do not hesitate to be part of the Erasmus + Credit. It is really good and helpful experience. By studying abroad with Erasmus+, you can improve your communication, language and inter-cultural skills and gain skills highly valued by future employers.



Donika PREÇI

Biology-chemistry

Biotechnology @ John Paul II Catholic
University of Lublin

For me Erasmus + is a great experience, a great opportunity for any student to get knowledge in certain branches.

The most particular at the host university is the teaching method and very good laboratory conditions

For me Erasmus + is a program that gave me the opportunity to visit a new country to learn about the cultures and traditions of this country, to get acquainted with friends from different countries and to study at a university with very good conditions.



Xhois Firaku

Information Technology

Information Technology @ Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

For me Erasmus +, is one of the best things and experience that I tried in my life and I'm really happy that I was part of this experience.

For me the Erasmus+ program was a very nice experience, actually better than I had expected before participating. During my exchange I was able to learn a lot about the school and student's life of that university, which differed a bit from what I was used to in Albania.

The Study program was good and the people which worked there were very welcoming and gentle with international students.

If I had the opportunity, I would have liked to stay a little bit more so I could experience and learn more about the life of students which live abroad, the culture and traditions of the locals and learn more things which can help me with my degree.

Erasmus+ is an experience that can't be missed and if you participate, it is almost certain that you will remember it for the rest of your life.



Elisa Omeri

Information Technology
Computer Engineering @ Abo Akademi,
Turku, Finland

For me Erasmus + is the best mobility for a student. It gives you the chance to experience unforgettable experiences that happen once in a lifetime. It's the mobility where you grow professionally and psychologically.

The experience with Erasmus was just fantastic. It offers you the opportunity to study in another city, to learn about their lifestyles, to practice the methods of study they use, and help you improve the proficiency of one of the most important languages in the world, English. It helps you to get to know a new society composed of people from all over the world. Also to understand that each state has its own culture, principles, and ideas. Erasmus gives you the opportunity to expand your horizon and to learn new skills.

Something I have to specify was teaching. A very polite and well-trained pedagogical staff, with highly qualified equipment giving us the opportunity to get to know the technology more closely. Also, in Finland a student could get a meal for only 2.60 cents, which is very convenient for a student.

I would love to apply again because everything was really beautiful. On one hand, it teaches you how to face with life in a completely different country, but on the other hand gives you the education at the most renowned European universities.



ErmirCani

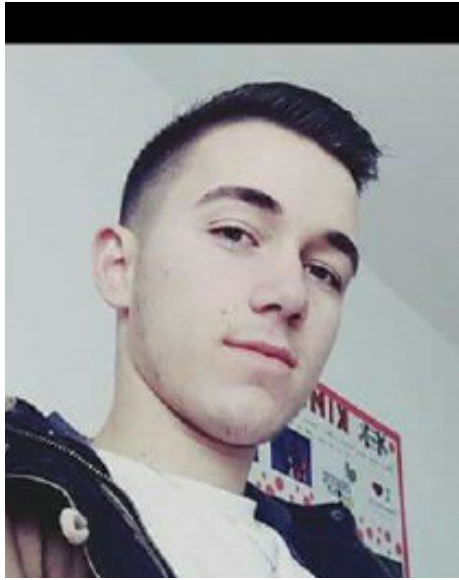
Masaryk University

For me Erasmus + is the best experience that changed me for better, feeling more an European citizen, made me independent and improved my skills.

Erasmus to me means a lot, starting from creating new connections, experiencing new things, becoming more European, traveling more, learning new culture from different students, try to be independent, focus on your goals, and one important thing is studying in one of the best economic universities in Europe makes you confident and it helped me to develop my skills. Once you are Erasmus you always will be Erasmus.

Everything was on point at Masaryk University. The teachers they were so helpful, professional and sometimes they were discussing with us (students) as friends. Their technology was very sophisticated. Regarding the social aspect, in the university took place different social events which was creating a great atmosphere. This was my second Erasmus, so from this point of view I think one Erasmus is enough. So probably I would like to apply for an internship or some work programme.

Try it in order to not regret on the future that you didn't take part in this amazing programme. But before applying just make sure that your English skills are good.



Ervis Cara

General Nursing

General Nursing @ Nicolaus Copernicus
Torun

For me Erasmus+ is the best program for students. Thanks Erasmus a lot of students all around Europe have the opportunity to meet with other students, to learn about other countries etc. For example, thanks Erasmus I have learned a lot, both professionally and personally. I have become more independent and I have grown up personally thanks to that experience. Also, I have increased my proficiency of foreign languages. Erasmus changed my life and now I feel closer to Europe.

Erasmus for me was a wonderful experience. It changed my life completely. Living abroad, studying something different or in a different way is something you will never ever forget. The pleasure of Erasmus doesn't begin when you start your exchange, it starts earlier, on the day you get notified that you were accepted into the programme.

Going abroad is a huge boost for your mind, spirit and self-confidence: be ready to get the best from your experience and I recommend it to all who want to experience more in their life.

At the host University, I was mostly impressed by the schedule, as it was organised to allow the students a break between courses. Also, something that I really appreciated, was the integration of theory and practice. Right after the lecture was finished, we headed directly to the hospital practicing things that we had just learned in theory.

It was the best way to learn because we saw everything that we had learned during that time. There we practiced even more our duties as a nurse.

I would like to apply again because I want to gain new experiences in a different country and because Erasmus never gets boring.

The advice I would give to other students who are reluctant to become part of Erasmus is to have no fear of obstacles in themselves but to apply like I did and make some good memories.

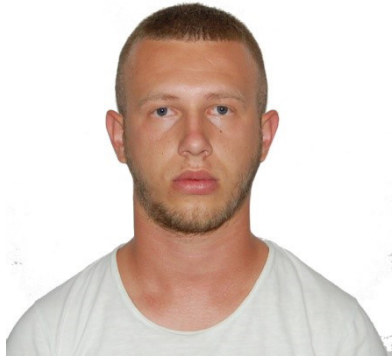


Juejla Dani

Master of Sciences in Marketing
Management @ University of Istanbul

For me Erasmus + is one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. In Sehir University of Istanbul I found many special things. First of all, the university in general was a perfect build, the study program which was American teaching method, Erasmus life, I met students from different countries and we had so much fun. Every week we organised many beautiful trips all around Turkey. I developed my presentation skills. I could say that if I would have the chance I would go again because nothing compares with this school experience.

My advice for other students is: Please don't lose this opportunity in your life which comes just one time in your life. Do not be shy to try and challenge yourself, no one is better than you. When you have nothing to lose just try.



Klajdi Shinplaku

Legal science in public sector
Economics @ Mendel University

For me Erasmus+ changes you; being part of a new society in which you'll discover new habits, learn new things and re-educate yourself is an amazing experience. Erasmus is much more than just studying abroad and discovering new people; it's about rediscovering a better version of yourself.

It was the best experience I have ever had. Every student should do a semester outside because it will change everyone. Everything was so different from my home university. The buildings, the teacher, the techniques they use for lessons etc.

I will apply again. I am very thankful that I had an amazing experience. The possibility to do so many things that in my country I can't.

Do not hesitate:

- 1) You get to travel, live and discover a new place.
- 2) You get financial support during your Erasmus



Kristjan Dhana

Master in Accounting and Audit
Finance and accounting(MA) @ Hochschule Ludwigshafen

Erasmus+ is a unique experience. I learned a lot how German university work and how they give you lot possibilities to grow in every field. I made a lot of friends from all over the world

and I got the chance to visit a lot of places. Also I developed to speak more fluently English and I learned some basic German language.

The host University was very friendly with us and took care that we did not miss a thing during our period there. They helped us to choose the right subjects to follow and also organized a lot of great events in and outside the University.

Yes of course I would apply again because it's such unique experience where you meet a lot of other students and learn so many things about different cultures all over the world

I highly recommend everyone to try Erasmus they will not be disappointed. It's a onetime possibility in life and you don't want to miss how great thing you can achieve during your mobility.

I want to thank all my new friends I meet there with who I shared a lot of happiness and of course the University of Elbasan that gave me the possibility to go there. Once you go Erasmus you will be forever erasmus



Ornela Sina

Legal science in the business sector
Law @ University of Bologna

For me, the Erasmus+ was an experience i will remember for the rest of my life. Erasmus programs for me are more about cultural exchange rather than just studies. The chance to live in different countries and meet people from such diverse backgrounds is the most attractive part of Erasmus.

What mostly impressed at the host university is the way of explaining and teaching. Also the good conditions of the classrooms and the affinity of the Italian students with the foreign

students.

I would like to apply again for a second chance to Erasmus+ because it is a good opportunity to gain experience and why not explore new culture.



Sara Zambaku

Finance Accounting

Business Administration @ University of Applied Sciences Ludwigschafen

For me Erasmus + is the best experience of my life and the best decision I ever made. It was everything I imagined and even better. It is very hard to describe because the emotions are still so fresh and so strong. It is about being yourself, showing your culture to the world, being adventurous, studying and having fun, all at the same time.

I would definitely say that my decision to apply for the Erasmus+ program has been the best decision I have ever made in my life. It has been an indescribable experience, full of emotions and plenty of new things to embrace. It is all about new cultures, new languages and the best part is you don't just get to study in a foreign university, but you learn how to live like a local and like a citizen of the world.

From my host university I really appreciated that they assigned a regular student to be a "buddy" for each incoming through the whole semester. That really helped me to adapt more in the society, be more informed about everything that was going on.

I would absolutely apply again for the Erasmus+ exchange, as I think it really is helpful to get to know yourself better, to have a better understanding of the world and I think it can be really helpful for my career in general in the future. You get to study at the best universities, and are taught so much more than you could imagine.



Eleni Zhupa

General Nursing

General Nursing @ Nicolas Copernicus

I would describe Erasmus experience as one of the best experiences of my life. During the time I was there I learned a lot from the professional and personal perspective. I was really shy, but all people around me made me feel comfortable and save. I also learned a lot of new stuff and saw things I never thought I would see in my life.

I would definitely apply again for Erasmus+. I would do that because of the importance this experience had for me.

I like to recommend Erasmus+ to all students, as the best experience for those who want to learn new knowledges, to improve a language and to learn how to deal alone in a foreign country.



OUR PROJECTS

What is ERASMUS+

The Erasmus+ Programme is a European funding programme established in 1987 offering university students a possibility of studying or doing an internship abroad in another country for a period of at least 2 months and maximum 12 months per cycle of studies. Erasmus+ now offers the possibility to go way beyond the European borders as well.

Under Erasmus+ Program, KA2 at the University of Elbasan "Aleksandër Xhuvani" are being implemented three projects.

These projects are founded by *ERASMUS+ Capacity Building* program of the European Union.



E-Viva Project

Enhancing and Validating service related competences in Versatile learning environments in Western Balkan Universities (e-VIVA) is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project, led by European University of Tirana, Albania. The consortium has 16 partners from all over geographical Europe and it is envisaged to last for 3 years.

E-VIVA projects addresses the issue of students' skills development, facilitation and validation of their skills in informal learning contexts. The project aims at evidencing the most fundamental competences for service economy and will contribute to higher transparency of these, for students, teachers, employers and any other subject interested in it. Informal learning contexts are gaining on importance and the project will identify main issues and contribute to further advancement of new ways of learning.

For further information regarding the project and activities, please click on the link : <https://evivaproject.eu>

OUR PROJECTS



T@sk Project

Towards Increased Awareness, Responsibility and Shared Quality in Social Work project and its aims are essential for the development of the Albanian Social Work system, for its modernization and its alignment to the European standards of the Social Services delivery.

T@sk project can count on the long lasting expertise of the University of Florence, the Complutense University of Madrid, the Instituto Universitário of Lisbon and the Ordine degli Assistenti Sociali of the Tuscany Region in the field of Social Work organization and evaluation.

The cooperation among the European Union partners and the Albanian Universities will create the ideal ground to reach increased competences of Albanian Higher Education staff, a growing self-empowerment of Albanian social workers and therefore the improvement of the Social Services.

Members of T@sk project agree in a subsidiary and multilevel approach based on:

- o In depth theoretical and methodological updating of the University staff of all the Albanian public Universities offering Bachelor Master Degrees in Social Work: University of Tiran, University of Elbasan, University of Shkodër.
- o Wide inclusion of the Albanian Social Workers and Albanian local institutions in the identification of the needs of the Albanian Social Services.
- o Theoretical and empirical focus on the specific areas of deprived children and disadvantaged women within the general framework of deviance prevention and mitigation of detention conditions.

For further information regarding the project and activities, please click on the link : <https://www.taskproject.eu/>

OUR PROJECTS



TEAVET project

"Developing teacher competencies for a comprehensive vet system in Albania" in cooperation with Albanian higher education institutions and Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) –partner in this project– aim to bring a good solution to the specific need of raising the competences of in-service teachers at the non-tertiary education level by asking Albanian universities to contribute to build a high quality Vocational Education and Training (VET) system for teachers by means of transforming themselves into main providers of ongoing professional development of teachers. The project aims to develop reforms to the teaching profession at the non-tertiary education level for in-service training for teachers by designing, implementing and monitoring a comprehensive lifelong learning (LLL) Teacher Training System in which Albanian universities will be the main providers by the creation of LLL Centers guaranteeing the sustainability of the project. This aim offers something new to the existing situation since it puts universities as main providers of LLL training for teachers within a structured framework of a VET system.

The key output of the project is the establishment of a LLL Teacher Training System at the Ministry level by: Designing and implementation of training courses for improving teaching and learning competences for in-service teachers aligned with the UE and MoES strategy. Establishment of LLL Centers in Albanian universities. Creation of the Albanian Network of LLL Centers for Teacher Training (NCTT). Training of teacher educators from academic staff of Albanian universities who will be the trainers of in-service teachers. Establishment of MoES registration database and accreditation system. Formal process for registering, accreditation and follow up of teacher training programs, with the recognition of MoES.

For further information regarding the project and activities, please click on the link: <https://teavet.org/>

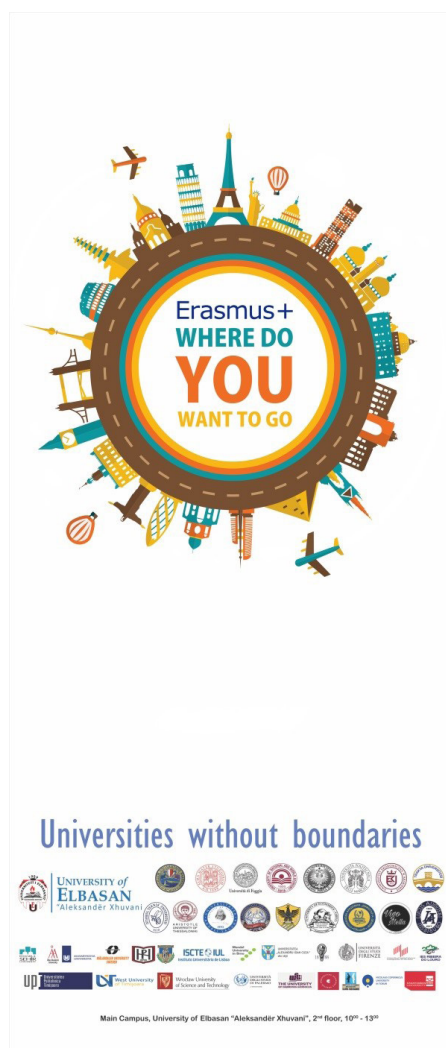


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Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

OTHER ACTIVITIES

ERASMUS + fair UE

Organized for the first time at the University of Elbasan "Aleksandër Xhuvani", brought together 22 representatives from partner universities, opened for students and staff.



CONTACTS

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For outgoing students and staff, please contact: **int.relations1@uniel.edu.al**

For incoming students, please contact: **int.relations2@uniel.edu.al**

CREDITS

This journal is a product of Coordination and International Relations Office of University of Elbasan