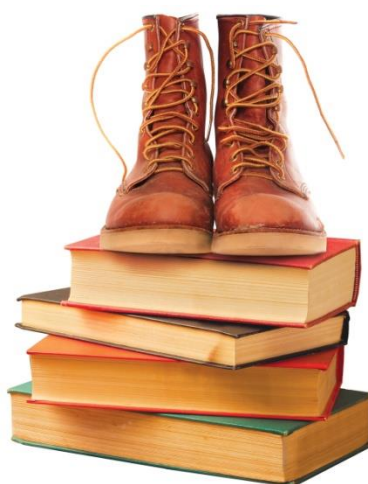




Academic year 2016-2017

A Study Guide for International Students

**Invent your future
with Erasmus+**



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Dear Incoming Students

This study guide has been prepared by the Kazimieras Simonavičius University (KSU) International Relations Office for incoming students to provide help to handle academic and daily life in Vilnius, Lithuania.

You will experience life in Lithuania as a student of Kazimieras Simonavičius University during your stay. Together with the Orientation Day and Buddy Programme, this booklet includes some clues and information about our university, life in Vilnius, Lithuanian culture, and academic life in KSU.

Furthermore, you can find more information about activities and events at the university. As this booklet cannot cover every aspect of life, please feel free to ask and consult International Relations Office, your friends, academic and administrative staff, and your buddy student about anything during your student life in Vilnius!

Welcome to Kazimieras Simonavičius University!

Sveiki atvykę į Kazimiero Simonavičiaus universitetą!

Kazimieras Simonavičius University

KSU is a dynamic university established in 2003 and based in Vilnius, Lithuania. KSU is recognised for its high standards, international environment and a lively academic community. The studies cover the major areas of Social Sciences – Business and Management, Public Administration, Law, Communication, Economics, Political Sciences and Sociology – as well as Technological Sciences in the field of Information Technologies. In addition to this, Kazimieras Simonavičius University offers two study programs in the English language. For more information please visit <http://www.ksu.lt/en/>

The university develops multidisciplinary study programmes and has Law Faculty, Business School, Creative Society and Economy Institute, Department of Internet Engineering, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center, Research and Development Center, and Competence Development Center.

The name of Kazimieras Simonavičius, the world's missile and astronautics pioneer, represents not only a historical relationship, but also the global world's perspective.

Kazimieras Simonavičius (in some sources Kazimieras Semenavičius, pol. Cezimierz Siemienowicz), undeservedly forgotten, one of the most prominent scientists of the XVII century Lithuanian Grand Duchy, whose ideas, works and solutions are related to engineering, science of warfare and the most relevant topics of today, such as creativity, entrepreneurship, innovations, communication and quality of non-standard decisions.

Study Programmes in English

Bachelor studies	Aviation Management*	3.5 years
Master studies	1) Future Foresight and Strategic Management; 2) Organizational Innovations and Management; 3) Integrated Marketing Communication; 4) European Union Law and Global Challenges (LL.M.); 5) International Commerce and Business Law (LL.M.).	1.5 years

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year starts on September the 1st of each year and ends on June 30 of the following year. Each year is divided into two semesters. Each semester consists of at least 16 full weeks of classes and two examinations sessions. Teaching starts on September 7 for the autumn semester in 2016 and on February 8 for the spring semester in 2017, which ends on May 27.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS

Cumulative assessment is applied. It consists of intermediate assignments (colloquia, practical work, individual and team assignments and their presentation, research work, etc.) and evaluation of students' performance at written or oral examination. Examinations are held in January and June. If a student fails an exam, there is a chance to re-sit.

GRADING SYSTEM IN LITHUANIA

The grading scale is based on a number scale from 10 (excellent) to 1 (very poor). Grades 4 and lower are considered a failure. A student who fails an examination is allowed to re-sit it.

Result	Lithuanian grade	Definition in English
Pass	10 (Excellent)	Excellent performance, outstanding knowledge and skills
	9 (Very good)	Strong performance, good knowledge and skills
	8 (Good)	Above the average performance, knowledge and skills
	7 (Highly satisfactory)	Average performance, knowledge and skills with unessential shortcomings
	6 (Satisfactory)	Below average performance, knowledge and skills with substantial shortcomings
	5 (Sufficient)	Knowledge and skills meet minimum criteria
Fail	1,2, 3, 4 (Insufficient)	Knowledge and skills do not meet minimum criteria/below minimum criteria

Visa and Temporary Residence Permit

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA (EEA)*	Depending on the citizenship and length of stay in Lithuania, one may be able to enter Lithuania without a visa. If you are a national of the European Economic Area (EEA), you do not need a visa to come to Lithuania to study. You will just need your EEA national passport or ID card to enter Lithuania.
NON EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA	If you are from outside the EEA then you will need to apply for visa D to study at Kazimieras Simonavičius University. The decision on the issue of visa D is usually made within 10 days after the receipt of application. Visa D allows students to travel via Schengen area countries for 3 months in each period of 6 months. After first semester at Kazimieras Simonavičius University, students will apply for a temporary residence permit.

EEA nationals should apply for a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to obtain any medical treatment necessary during the trip to an EEA country.

Before coming to Lithuania, we advise to check the information on the website of [the Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).

The countries of the EEA are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Where do I apply for visa?	Your application should be submitted to the Embassy/Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania. In countries where Lithuania does not have an Embassy, there is often another EU member state that represents Lithuania and where an application can be submitted
What documents should be presented for a visa?	When lodging the application, the applicant shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) present an application form; (b) present a travel document; (c) present a photograph in accordance with the standards set out in Regulation (EC) No 1683/95 or, where the VIS is operational pursuant to Article 48 of the VIS Regulation; (e) pay the visa fee; (f) provide supporting documents; (g) where applicable, produce proof of possession of adequate and valid travel medical insurance.

It is advisable to contact the Embassy/Consulate of the Republic of Lithuania for necessary information before attempting to get visa D. For more detailed information, please visit the webpage of [the Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).

TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMIT

After the first semester at Kazimieras Simonavičius University, degree students from outside EU/EEA countries will apply for a temporary residence permit. You have to renew your residence permit each year. It is advisable to start the renewal process in time because it takes several months before being completed.

Where do I apply for a temporary residence permit?	Your application must be submitted to the Migration Department. For more detailed information, please visit the website of this institution . The international relations office consults and helps to prepare the necessary documents for it.
What documents should be presented for a temporary residence permit?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. University letter requesting residence permit (Letter of mediation). 2. The confirmation letter that affirms you have been accepted to Kazimieras Simonavičius University. 3. Application. 4. Passport and its copy. 5. 3 photos (passport size). 6. Proofs of sufficient means of support. 7. Adequate medical insurance valid in Lithuania. 8. Proof of accommodation (this document must be submitted upon receiving notification from Migration Department about decision to issue a temporary residence permit).

NOTE. Degree students from outside the EU/EEA countries: remember to renew your residence permit each year. Start the renewal process in time; it takes several months before it is completed.

LEGALISATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTS

Legalisation of the educational documents is an important issue. We do not accept your education or study documents without Apostille or Consular Legislation. Therefore, we kindly ask you to check the information on the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, section [LEGALISATION](#).

Applicants who received their education in countries acceding to the Hague 1961 Convention (e.g. Israel, Italy, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, etc.) should have an attached "Apostille" to their educational documents. In most countries legalisation services (the "Apostille" is issued) are provided at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Education.

List of the countries acceding to the Hague 1961 Convention you can find on <http://www.apostilleinfo.com>.

Applicants who received their education in any other country (Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Kirghizstan, Moldavia, etc.) should pass a double legalisation of their educational documents. First of all, the education or study documents should be legalised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where education was received. Afterwards, the documents should be legalised by the Lithuanian diplomatic mission or consular post in the country where education was received or in the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania.



HOW TO BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AT KSU

1. Apply to the Lithuanian Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education(CQAHA) for your school transcript and diploma evaluation (it could take up to 1-1,5 month to get approval from CQAHA);
2. Submit application documents to KSU:
 - 1) A copy of secondary education or high education diploma;
 - 2) Application Form;
 - 3) Two passport size photos;
 - 4) A copy of your passport or ID card;
 - 5) A motivation letter;
 - 6) A Curriculum Vitae.
3. Have a conversation with KSU enrolment committee (on skype conference, 40-60 min., in English);
4. If accepted to University, make application fee and tuition fee payment;
5. Sign study agreement;
6. Apply for Visa (Depending on the citizenship and length of stay in Lithuania, one may be able to enter Lithuania without a Visa. Please check Visa requirements at the closest Lithuanian Embassy before arrival or on internet site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, VISAS).

NOTE

- All documents must be translated into the Lithuanian or the English language;
- Only applicants who have submitted all the required documents will be considered for acceptance to the university.
- Your documents cannot be admitted without Apostille or Consular Legalisation. (depending on your country of origin)!!! For more information please check [LEGALISATION](#).
- Application documents must be sent by post addressed to Kazimieras Simonavicius University, International Admissions, J. Basanaviciaus st. 29A, LT-03109 Vilnius, Lithuania.



Erasmus+ Programme in KSU

How can I be eligible for Erasmus+ Programme in KSU?

In order to be able to come to Kazimieras Simonavičius University as an exchange student, your university should have signed a bilateral agreement. Please check the list of [Erasmus+ partners](#).

2016/2017 Academic calendar of KSU

The academic year consists of two semesters: autumn and spring

Autumn semester September 7 – December 20	
Orientation week	September 7 – September 13
Beginning of semester	September 14 – December 20
Self study week	November 2 – November 8
Christmas holiday	December 21 – January 3
Spring semester February 08 – May 27	
Orientation week	February 8 – February 14
Beginning of semester	February 15 – May 27
Self study week	March 28 – April 3
Spring examination session	May 30 – June 23

Enrolment procedure and Application documents	<i>Application form</i> <i>E+ Learning Agreement</i> <i>Passport or ID card copy</i> <i>Transcript of records</i> <i>Letter of nomination</i>
<p>All application documents should be sent to: International Relations Office Kazimieras Simonavičius University Jono Basanaviciaus st. 29A LT-03109 Vilnius Lithuania E-mail.: international@ksu.lt</p>	

APPLICATION DEADLINES	
Autumn semester June 31	Spring semester November 31
<p>Within one month after the deadline of application, KSU sends the Letter of Acceptance. From this moment on, you will be in contact with the school you have applied for.</p>	



Which courses are available during your study period in KSU?

2016 autumn semester

No.	Course	ECTS credits
1.	English language	6 ECTS
2.	Lithuanian language	6 ECTS
3.	Bussiness research methods	6 ECTS
4.	Economics	6 ECTS
5.	Financial accounting	6 ECTS
6.	Economical statistics and forecasting	6 ECTS
7.	XX-XXI a. Culture research	6 ECTS
8.	Legal History	6 ECTS
9.	Legal Status of Foreigners	6 ECTS
10.	Bussiness and management theories	6 ECTS
11.	Logic	6 ECTS
12.	Intercultural communication	6 ECTS

2017 spring semester

No.	Course	ECTS credits
1.	English language	6 ECTS
2.	Lithuanian language	6 ECTS
3.	Bussiness research methods	6 ECTS
4.	Management accounting	6 ECTS
5.	Corporate finance management	6 ECTS
6.	Female image in Western culture	6 ECTS
7.	Roman law	6 ECTS
8.	Comparative Constitutional Law	6 ECTS
9.	Philosophy	6 ECTS
10.	Bussiness and management theories	6 ECTS
11.	Intercultural communication	6 ECTS



Buddy Programme in KSU

The main purpose of this programme is to assist international students in their integration into the Lithuanian life and to complete their study period successfully. International students can find support from the very beginning of their exchange period from one of the KSU mentor students, who will help them to find their way through, before and during their stay in Vilnius.

A buddy can give advice on everyday issues such as shopping or mobile phone and provide you with tips on how to spend the spare time. Over the course of the semester, international students can turn to buddy whenever they have a question.

We believe this initiative helps both local and international students to become culturally, academically and linguistically integrated with each other.

Please, do not forget that buddies do their work as volunteers. Therefore, students cannot demand any assistance that exceeds their competence as a helping contact person.

Orientation Day at KSU

The International Relations Office organizes Orientation Day every year to introduce new international students to Vilnius and to the Lithuanian university system. During the day, we offer a number of events and presentations covering various academic and social subjects. We strongly recommend you take part in it.

Orientation Day takes place in the week before lectures start. During this time, incoming students are shown around the university by buddy students. It is an excellent opportunity to meet other students and to start adapting to everyday life in KSU.

The programme for the Orientation Day is usually posted both on the Facebook page (a member of the International Relations Office will invite incoming students to join the private KSU page), and in the KSU official website, shortly before the start of the semester.

How to reach Kazimieras Simonavičius University?

There are good transport connections practically with all European countries. You can get to Vilnius by plane, by train, by coach or by car. Ferries are available from Germany, Sweden and Denmark to Klaipėda from where you can continue by coach to Vilnius.

Students are supposed to arrive one or two days before the beginning of studies. This will give the time to settle in and get acquainted with the city before starting classes.

Once you arrive at the airport in Vilnius, you may take a taxi to the university for about 20 euros (if you call the taxi in advance, it will cost about 4 euros), or you may take the direct bus number 3G for 1 euro. Bus number 3G leaves just in front of the arrival terminal of the airport from the bus stop ORO UOSTAS (Airport). You will have 4 stops between the Airport and the university. You have to get off on the fifth bus stop named MIKALOJAUS KOSTANTINO CIURLIONIO. From the bus stop, it is a very short and walking distance to Kazimieras Simonavičius University. The International Relations Office is located on the 4th floor at the left hand side.

More information about the public transport in Vilnius is available at: <http://www.vilniustransport.lt/en/>.

The International Relations Office is open from Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 16:00.

Life in Vilnius

Very pleasant and very beautiful, that is what comes to one's mind when talking about Vilnius. The city displays a variety of both architectural expression and willpower. This is perhaps due to the interesting history that rests in this attractive town, which not always has been the capital of Lithuania. However, for over five centuries, until the 18th century, Vilnius has been the political and cultural centre of Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The Old Town in Vilnius was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1994 because the town "has preserved an impressive complex of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and classical buildings as well as its medieval layout and natural setting".

It is unlikely that you will ever be bored in Vilnius. Despite its relatively small size, Vilnius offers an astonishing array of cultural activities, including numerous galleries and museums, like the National Gallery and the Contemporary Art Center; theatres, including a Russian Theatre; symphony and chamber orchestras; music clubs and night clubs; street fairs and art walks, cinema, and so on.

Though European cuisine predominates in Vilnius, you will find food from all over the world here in all manner of coffee-shops, restaurants, inns, pizzerias, grill-bars, kebab houses, wineries, and pubs.

Shopping centers and supermarkets abound and almost all of the products and services available in any European capital are available here. The largest shopping centers Akropolis and Ozas are located outside the city center.

Numerous recreational opportunities exist in and around Vilnius. Lithuania is particularly known for its lakes. The Green Lakes (Žalieji ežerai) are the closest to Vilnius and easily accessible.

Trakai, one-time capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, with its medieval castle and pristine lakes is within a 30-minute drive. Buses and trains can take you there for a tour of the castle, boating, swimming, and other recreational activities.

10 Cultural Highlights of Vilnius

Vilnius Cathedral

The Vilnius Cathedral is not only one of the most beautiful architectural masterpieces of classicism style in the Capital of Lithuania, it is also a significant historic heritage that looks like keeping the secret of those who were in furtherance of the Cathedral to stand in the heart of Vilnius.

Gediminas Castle

Gediminas Castle, built approximately in 1230, is one of the most famous castles of Lithuania. Its main tower is a symbol of Vilnius and Lithuania and it is an essential part of any tour around Vilnius.

Gate of Dawn

The Gate of Dawn is one of the greatest highlights in Vilnius. This miracle and religious place attracts people from all over the world.

Vilnius University

Vilnius University is not only the oldest university in Lithuania; it is also one of the oldest in Europe. The university, located in the Old Town, is famous for the education quality, for its interesting history and the marvellous appearance of the Old ensemble of Vilnius University.

St. Anne's Church

St. Anne's Church is a church which will definitely leave an impression, maybe the same as it once left to Napoleon Bonaparte himself, who wanted to take it to Paris with him in the palm of his own hand if it were ever possible.



Vilnius Town Hall

Vilnius Town Hall designed by Laurynas Stuoka-Gucevičius for many years has been and continues to be one of the main hubs of trading, festivities, celebrations and other culture events in Vilnius.

The Bastion of Vilnius Defence Wall

The Bastion of Vilnius defensive wall is a very picturesque place in the Vilnius Old Town which keeps many historical secrets. Visiting it may reveal some of them thus the ambivalent atmosphere still will not be dispelled...

Vilnius TV Tower

Vilnius TV Tower is the highest building in Lithuania. At the height of 165 meters there is a restaurant called "Paukščių takas" ("Milky Way"). Visiting it for a dinner and a great panoramic view is a must for everyone staying in Vilnius.

The Park of Europe

The Park of Europe is a very surprising open air museum located in the city of Vilnius. Visitors are always persuaded that the European art can be extremely original.

National Museum of Lithuania

National Museum of Lithuania is one of the most important and oldest museums in Lithuania. It contains thousands of different exhibits and over 250 000 people visit the museum every year.

ACCOMMODATION - KSU Student House

KSU offers an apartment for rent in Vilnius (a dorm-style apartment for rent), a convenient transportation, and 4 minutes walk to the Old Town and the station, you can arrange your furniture in a room as you wish or bring your own furniture. This is a place for local students as well as foreign students.

The rent price includes all utilities, wireless internet, and general cleaning of joint rooms.

Other advantages:

Other benefits include an indoor night locked courtyard (each room will have the key), next there is a company that supplies food to schools and kindergartens, so you can order breakfast, lunch or dinner for +/- 4-5 Euros. A bathhouse with a recreation room would also be available with an additional fee.

Joint rooms: A corridor, kitchen, 2 showers, 2 toilets, a washing machine.

Information about the rooms:

double room	200 EUR (for person)
triple room	170 EUR (for person)
single room	260 EUR (one person)

Conditions for the rent payment:	A deposit – 300 EUR. The rent must be paid for 5 months in advance. Minimum rental period – 5 months, maximum – 1 year.
Map	http://www.maps.lt/map/default.aspx?lang=lt#q=sodu%20g.%206%20vilnius

Due to big interest and limited places (in total 10 places), the accommodation is provided to those who make the best offer.

Please send your offers by email: rimvydas.vitenas@ksu.lt, tel.: (+370 5) 213 3493, mob. tel. +370 614 75790.



Transportation

The public transportation system in Vilnius consists of buses and trolleybuses. Tickets in Vilnius transport system are presented as electronic tickets limited by time (30, 60 minutes) and single tickets. Full prices for electronic time limited tickets for 30 or 60 minutes cost (0,60 euro and 0,90 euro respectively). A single ticket for a trolleybus or bus, if purchased in a vehicle, costs 1 euro. Students can purchase tickets at a discount only after obtaining students ID card. The single ticket price with a discount for students is 0,50 euro if bought on the bus. A monthly electronic ticket with a discount for students costs 5,79 Euro (for both bus and trolleybus). Students who hold an ISIC card are eligible for discounted public transportation tickets. Public transportation starts working at 5 a.m. and runs until 11 p.m.

More info available: <http://www.vilniustransport.lt/en/pages/prices>.

Taxis can be booked on the [Etaksi](#) page, by using the Apps eTAKSI or [Taxify](#). There you will find a list of companies that provide taxi services in Vilnius.

Rail links are fairly good between Vilnius and Minsk, covering the approximately 170 kilometers distance in about three hours. The train can take you from Vilnius to Kaunas in about one hour. Information about rail service and schedules are available [here](#).

[Vilnius International Airport](#) offers flights to many European capitals, with connections to most any part of the world.

KSU Students' Union

Once you are studying in Vilnius, a healthy social life will undoubtedly enhance your stay. Social contacts are very important, especially for exchange students who arrive in a new country with a different culture. The student culture together with the different education culture makes a period of study abroad worthwhile. One of the best ways to get in touch with other students is to visit KSU Students' Representation or contact by email: info@ksusa.lt.

Telephone and Useful Numbers

In Lithuania, area codes consist of 2 digits for the towns with 6-digit numbering. Smaller towns have a 3-digit area code and 5-digit phone number, Vilnius has 7-digit number and single digit city code. Total national number's length is always 8 digits.

To make an international call, first dial 8-10 OR 00, then dial the country (and city) code and then the telephone number. Usually all country codes are listed in the telephone books or may be consulted by calling 117 (free of charge telecom customer service) or 118 (information telephone at 0,43 EUR/min. Pay-phone cards (in Lithuanian telefono kortelė) may be purchased in all press kiosks, shopping centers or supermarkets.

Mobile communications are provided by the three major operators in Lithuania which are Omnitel, Bite GSM, and Tele2. All international students may get services under the same conditions as regular local students (usually with special student discounts). Prepaid mobile telephone cards (EXTRA from Omnitel, LABAS from Bite GSM, PILDYK from Tele2) ease communication both within Lithuania and international student home country.

Lithuania Emergency Telephone Numbers

112- All emergencies

011- Fire Brigade

022- Police

033- Medical emergencies

Useful Vocabulary

ENGLISH	LITHUANIAN
Hello	Labas, sveiki
Welcome	Sveiki atvykę
How are you?	Kaip sekasi?
Thanks, I'm fine, and you?	Ačiu, gerai. O Jums?
What's your name?	Kuo tu vardu?
My name is ...	Mano vardas ...
Where are you from?	Iš kur tu esi?
I'm from ...	Aš iš ...
Pleased to meet you	Malonu susipažinti
Good morning	Labas rytas
Good afternoon	Laba diena
Good evening	Labas vakaras
Goodbye	Viso gero
Good luck	Sėkmės! Geros kloties!
Bon appétit	Gero apetito! Skanaus!
How do you say ... in Lithuanian?	Kaip lietuviškai pasakyti ...?
Sorry	Atsiprašau! Atleiskite!
Please	Prašau
Thank you	Ačiū
Get well soon!	Sveikite greičiau
Leave me alone!	Atstokite! Palikite mane ramybėje!

Some Useful Words to be used in Post Office

ENGLISH	LITHUANIAN
Airmail	Oro paštu
Letter	Laiškas
Registered Mail	Registruotas laiškas
Small Package	Smulki siunta
Stamp	Pašto ženklas

Some Useful Words to be used in Hospital

ENGLISH	LITHUANIAN
How many should I take per day?	Kiek kartų per dieną?
I am diabetic/Asthmatic	Aš sergu diabetu, astma
I am in pain	Man skauda
I have stomach-ache	Man skauda skrandį
I have a sore throat	Man skauda gerklę
I have a tooth-ache	Man skauda dantį
I have a cold	Peršalau
I have a flu	Man gripas
Where is the nearest pharmacy?	Kur artimiausia vaistinė?
Ambulance	Greitoji pagalba
Choking	Užspringau
Blood	Kraujas
Fever	Karštis
Cut	Įsijoviau
Hospital	Ligoninė
Medicine	Vaistai
Painkiller	Skausmą malšinantys vaistai

Some Useful Words to be used in Pharmacies

ENGLISH	LITHUANIAN
Aspirin	Aspirinas
Bandage	Tvarstis
Condom	Prezervatyvai
Enema	Klizma
Emetic	Vimdomasis
Injection	Įšvirkštimas
Pill	Piliulė
Powder	Pudra
Serum	Serumas
Syrup	Sirupas
Pomade	Pomada
Lotion	Losjonas

In their own words: stories from international students

Ariane Mercier de Beaurouvre (French student)

When I choose Lithuania for my Erasmus term, I thought it was a good place because it was an unknown country in my surrounding, in a European region that I knew almost nothing about, which I would had like to discover.



This is how last February I arrived in this totally new country, with the coldest climate I have ever felt. After four months I can say that this experience has been really interesting and more than everything, enriching. During my time here in Lithuania, I met wonderful people and I discovered incredible cultures. Lithuanian culture was the first and the deepest, thanks to important events as Independence Day on the 16th of February. Moreover, Lithuania represented for me a gate to Eastern Europe and Russia. During the four last months I have been to St Petersburg, Warsaw, Krakow and Budapest. I hope I will be able to continue by visiting Riga and Tallinn before I leave.

Before I left France I heard different opinions about Erasmus, now I made my own: I think it is a really incredible experience, I will never forget and I feel lucky that I had this opportunity. Today, I am really grateful to my university, ICES, and KSU for this adventure.

Büşra Özellibes (Turkish student)

Since I heard something like Erasmus exists, that time, I told myself: "I definitely must not miss this opportunity". And Lithuania, Vilnius, Kazimiero Simonaviciaus University's Law Faculty was my choice.



If you compare Vilnius with my city: Istanbul in Turkey, I thought that there is never ending winter here, and the coldest weather I have ever seen. Nevertheless, I really like people here, they are very nice, kind and helpful all the time... I am also glad for having found good friends, I believe that we are more like a family rather than only friends... A family which is international: Slovakian, French, Czech, Tadjik, German, Turkish, Lithuanian... This experience is something which I will remember for all my life, unique and unforgettable.

Thanks to Erasmus programme, we also found time to travel, to know other cultures, traditions and to taste different cuisines... One of the best things about Lithuania for me was Kibinai, I really like it.

I think Erasmus shouldn't be considered just as a study programme. It's more than this. You learn how to overcome everything on your own, which you need for your life. Even if your heart is always with your home, you become stronger day by day and you know yourself better than before. Now, I am very glad not to have missed this opportunity and I advise everybody to experience these their selves :)

Natalia Ducsayova (Slovakian student)

I am an Erasmus student from Slovakia. I definitely decided to go for Erasmus because of so nice friends' speech about her experience. I wanted to have my own.



The first difficult decision was to choose a country and a town where I would have spent almost 6 months. I chose Vilnius maybe because I am quite a curious person and even if it is a northern country, I considered it as an exotic one, where I had never been before. How will Lithuanians be and what about other Erasmus students? What about their culture and nature and... So many questions were on my mind. So I came. Fortunately, winter was not that cold this year.



My nice mentor welcomed me, and showed me everything. I met so many new people. We became friends and, honestly, now we are like a big Erasmus family, even though we are from different parts of the world. I learnt a lot about different nations, cultures, traditions and this enriched my life indescribable. We had the possibility to travel and know places we did not know they exist. We also went through different everyday situations, which were not always

perfect, but it also helps to discover ourselves and prepare us for our future life. If now somebody asks me about the Erasmus experience, I would answer: "It is everything you just can imagine".



A bonus for me was to learn and taste many delicious recipes and drinks, which are typical for many countries. I enjoyed our national evenings: Czech, Slovak, Turkish, French.... :)

Tuğba Sevimoğlu (Turkish student)



Hello, I am Tuğba from Turkey! But now I am in Lithuania, so greetings from Lithuania! What about Lithuania... Well, actually to write something brief about Lithuania and my experiences is quite difficult for me because I have been here for almost 8 months, this means that I have collected a lot of memories. But, still, I will try! I remember clearly, when I was selected under the Erasmus+ programme, I was really shocked because I didn't expect that I could be successful, but it happened and that is why I came here. At the first times I was very shy and silent because of my English (Somebody knows very well!). I couldn't explain my status, my ideas and my feelings to anybody. I couldn't find friend

easily. I've felt so alone. It was quite bad for me and really I wanted to come back to Turkey but I couldn't. And then, in 2 months, everything changed in a positive sense. I've started to speak in English, to learn Lithuanian language, to travel a lot, to live pleasurably and so on. Namely, Lithuania gave me a big chance to introduce myself to everybody! It has enabled me to be a mature and self-confident girl! To be honest, before my graduation, Erasmus represents a big step for me. I believe that I have used this chance in a good way; I have passed this step successfully.

Thanks for everything Lithuania!

Ačiū jums už viską Lietuva!

Bilal Çelebi (Turkish student)



I love this country. Of course, the temperature impressed me a bit in the beginning; however people are warm enough so that was okay :) I am also pleased by lecturer, they are qualified and friendly; so are the mentors, it wasn't like our first meeting, it seemed like we had known each other for a long time, they are friendly, cooperative and always smiley faced.

I don't know when but I am sure I will come back to visit the city at least one more time, in a more relaxed way, and of course during summer :))

KEY DATA	
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