

## **Student`s Opinion**

I wanted to participate in Erasmus+ because I needed to improve my English for study level and future life. Additionally, I wanted to meet people who are from other countries.

The biggest reasons I chose to go to Riga are that Latvia is a really cheap country in Europe and the transportation is easy in the country, university prices are also cheap. I also like winter. Riga, however, has a bit too much of snow.

Actually, I did not know this college until June. We had two Erasmus+ exams. Although I passed the first Erasmus+ exam, I could not be chosen because of quotas. There was an extra grant from 2017 Erasmus+ project. This time, my university coordinator had forgotten to add your college in the system. We told her, that we can see College of Law at the agreements but we cannot see that college at our options in the system. Then my coordinator added College of Law to options and that is why I could choose your university.

Many of my classes are being taught at your college, so I am able to graduate from my university in summer without problems. That is also one of the reasons I chose College of Law. My favourite subject is Criminal Law but in reality, all the classes here are really enjoyable. One of the biggest differences between this college and my home university is that we don't write thesis in bachelor level but you do. We can write thesis in high bachelor level if we want to. Overall the college left a good impression on me. The things I liked the most about the college are my lecturers and the tasty coffee in the kitchen. I would like much more Erasmus+ agreements with other universities though.

Relationship between exchange students was really good but it varies depending on the people you meet. Some people are very friendly and some are very cold. But actually, I met friendly people. So, I have been lucky so far.

The things I liked the most about Latvia are the sea, public transport, and some cities. I lived in Villand Hotel. I don't know national foods here but I tried some soups in Lido. My favourite one is Skabenu Zupa. I saw Christmas market for the first time in my life in Riga and Latvia. I also saw the celebration of the Independence Day and I celebrated the New Year in Riga. It was fun and a great experience.

I have had some strange experiences here as well. Also, someone slept on my friend's bed in hotel, but we did not know who. We threw him out of the hotel. He was an illegal who slept in my friend's room. We did not know how to get in the hotel, so the police came and arrested him. The funniest experience here is when I travelled to Sweden with my friends by ferry, we literally were crying because of laughing. The strangest experience is that my lecturers were really good

people. My friends told me that our lecturers are not as good as yours. I was really surprised about that.

I have also had some problems in Latvia and college. In Latvia heaters don't work until 1 October and that is an issue for me. In college, I did not know how to do my homework properly. My lecturer thought I knew, so we had some problems about that with each other but afterwards all the problems were solved. The very first month here was quite difficult.

I have travelled a bit in Europe and Latvia in my spare times with my friends who are also Erasmus+ students. I like to travel and speak English with my friends. In my opinion, speaking English is really enjoyable. I have travelled to Jurmala and Sigulda twice, Cesis and Ventspils. Jurmala is very beautiful both in summer and winter. Sigulda is very green city and has many forests. Ventspils has ships and model cows in the old town. My favourite city is Cesis – a small, quiet and very cute city. Also, there is a skiing hill. I had never been on skiing slope before.

Culturally Latvia and Turkey are very different. Every culture can be amazing. For example, Latvian traditional dance and traditional clothes are very beautiful. Not only Latvian, but also Lithuanian Polish, Scottish. Turkey has seven regions. Each region has its own folklore dance. I'm living in the Aegean Region. Our folk dance's name is Zeybek. Zeybeks was the people who once stood against the governors who exploited the rights of the citizens.

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