

THE WORLD AWAITS

DIVE INTO THE LATEST FROM



JULY 2024, #1



EDITORIAL - TO DO OR TO PLAY? THAT IS THE QUESTION!

In the world of sports, we are accustomed to using action verbs like "play" to describe our favorite activities. So why, for certain sports such as cycling or skiing, do we often use the verb "do"? The same question applies to the realm of international activities.

This thinking leads us to view internationalization as a game where creativity, adaptability, and collaboration are the rules of the field. With this in mind, the ILC team at the IUT of Annecy has decided to embrace a collaborative and proactive approach. Let's have fun reinventing the international within the B.U.T.!

After nearly 2 years, we remain deeply convinced of the importance of internationalization in our programs. We firmly believe that global openness, intercultural exchanges, and diversity enrich the educational experience and prepare our students to tackle the challenges of the modern world.

We're also convinced that every department, every service, has its own imperatives, and that "B.U.T. & International" duo is a challenge!

Rather than succumbing to the nostalgia of the old "almost perfect" couple formed by the D.U.T. & the DUETI, reminiscing "it was better before" or questioning "why change something that worked," we have chosen to dive headfirst into the promising couple of the B.U.T. & INTERNATIONAL!

It is like an exciting game where each day brings a new stage to conquer. Sure, there's work involved, but that's where all the fun lies! We move forward, make mistakes, correct them, and learn together.

"When you have a WHY, you can tolerate any HOWs."

Our "why" is clear: to offer our students a quality international educational experience. The "hows," on the other hand, gradually emerge through the initiatives of each department, and the ILC is here to support you in this process. Thus, by adopting the perspective of "playing international," we embrace a philosophy that invites us to explore, learn, and grow together.

We extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone - departments, services, components of the USMB, and management - for their work.

Happy reading & LET'S PLAY TOGETHER!

- Carole Cretinon | ILC Team

MORE
EXCITING
ARTICLES IN
THIS ISSUE!

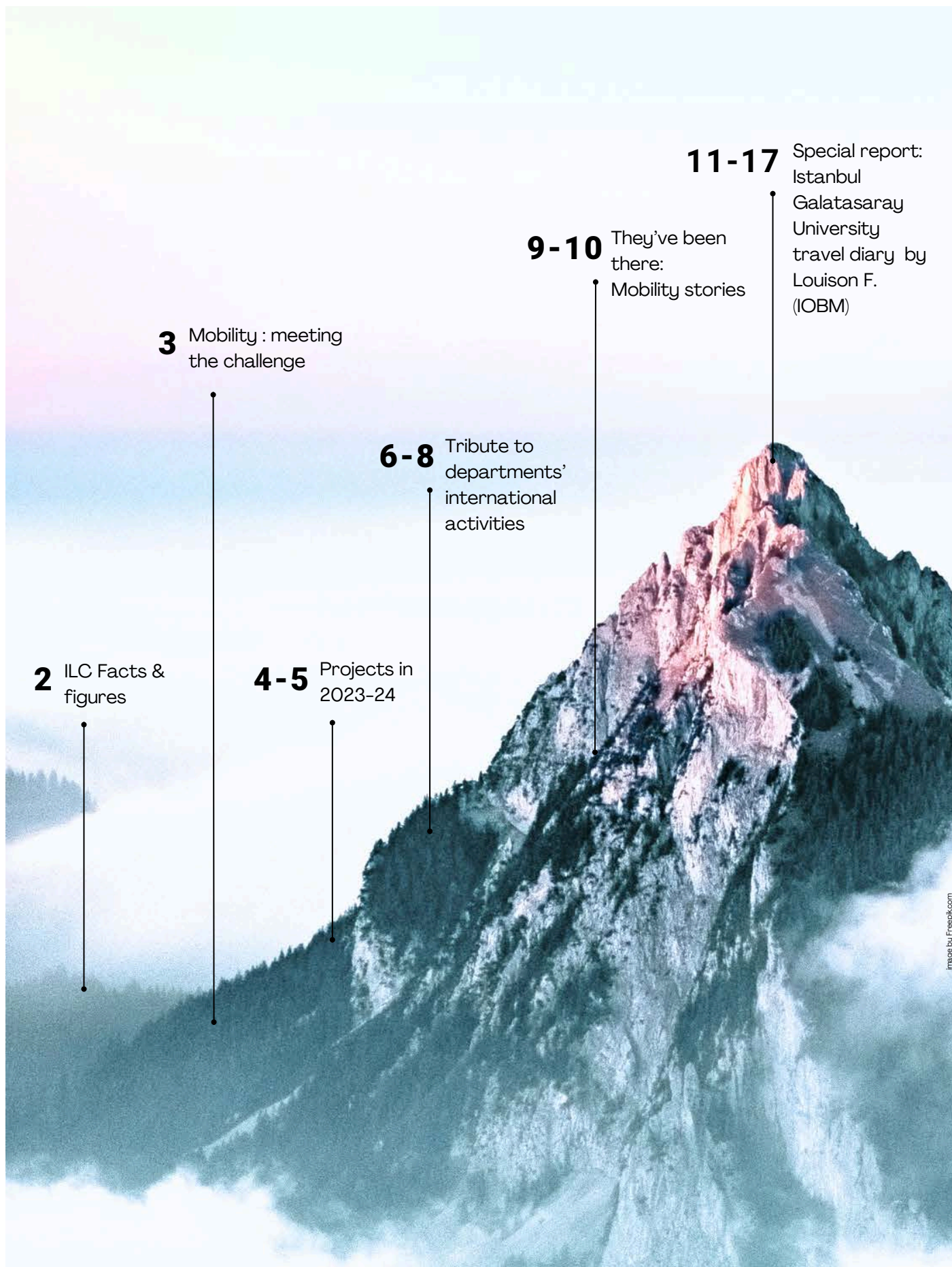
TRIBUTE TO THE
INTERNATIONAL
ACTIVITIES OF THE
DEPARTMENTS

TESTIMONIALS
FROM STUDENTS
RETURNING FROM
MOBILITY

SPECIAL REPORT:
ISTANBUL BY
LOUISON F. | IOBM



ROAD OF CONTENTS



THE 2023-24 TEAM

- 2** Administrative team : Nadia Benziane & Jérémy Machy
- 2** Educational coordinators: Carole Cretinon & Stéphanie Vibrac
- 3** Interns : Tessia, Maxime & Perrine who have helped us carry out major projects



EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS

180+ agreements renegotiated in 2 years by USMB IR Division and ILC

450+ outgoing student places for IUT.A

INCOMING MOBILITY

20 incoming students in S5-2023

14 nationalities in S5-2023

12 incoming students in S4/S6-2024

8 nationalities in S4/S6-2024

2 "Staff mobilities" : QLIO - Wroclaw (PL), Business Game

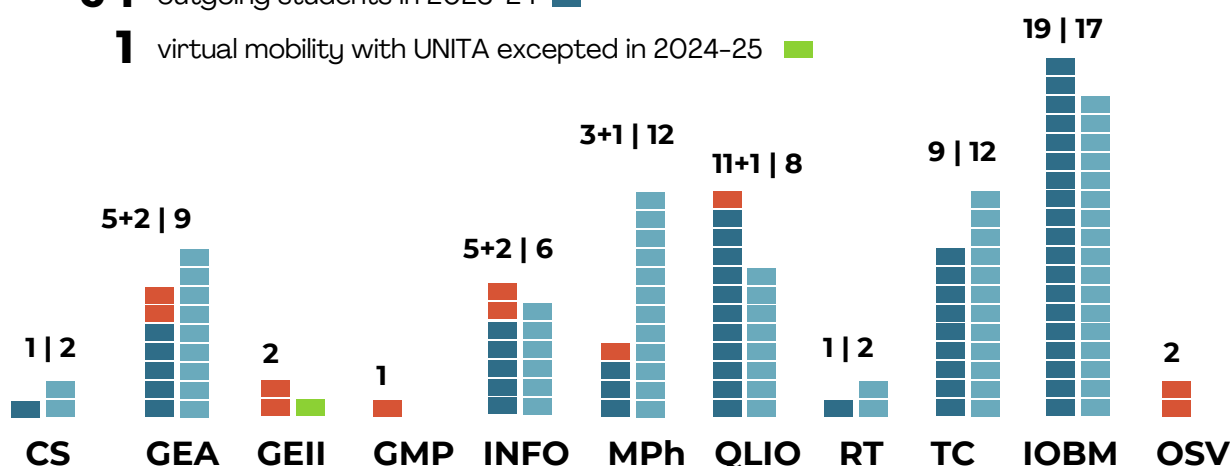
OUTGOING MOBILITY

11 departures for internships (outside Switzerland) in 2024

68 outgoing students expected in 2024-25

54 outgoing students in 2023-24

1 virtual mobility with UNITA excepted in 2024-25



DID YOU KNOW?

With the end of the DUETI and the arrival of the B.U.T., 100% of the historical Erasmus+ exchange agreements with the IUT had to be rewritten by the USMB's International Relations Department, approved and re-signed with the partners. As for North America, and Quebec in particular, the task proved to be even more complex from a legal point of view. Many thanks to all the members of the DRI for this colossal work!



RECONNECTING TO QUÉBEC

Since the end of 2023, we have met and welcomed a number of CÉGEPs*, including Rimouski, André Laurendeau, Trois Rivières, St Jean sur Richelieu and Mont Tremblant.

We have been working with the CÉGEPs to strengthen relations, gain a better understanding of our institutions and bring our teaching programmes closer together. To what end?

1. To offer exchanges to our students, mainly in Semester 4 for the moment, but the intention is to harmonise our programmes for other semesters.
2. To work on the joint construction of a Business Marketing Bootcamp.
3. To offer internships to students in departments wishing to develop this field.

All these projects take time and remind us all too harshly of the adage "Time flies!"

However, to end on a positive note and to thumb our noses at the passage of time, collaborations with the CÉGEPs will develop in the months and years to come, offering great opportunities to our students on both sides of the Atlantic.

*CÉGEPs (Colleges of General and Vocational Education) in Quebec are post-secondary institutions offering two-year pre-university programmes and three-year technical programmes. They prepare students either for university or for direct entry into the job market. CÉGEPs are a unique feature of the Quebec education system, situated between secondary school and university.

2 SEMESTERS OF STUDY PUT TO THE TEST

While the transformation of the DUETI into an international semester has enabled us to align with the European format, exchanges with our North American partners, particularly in Canada and Quebec, have been undermined. A renegotiation process that lasted almost 2 years has allowed 2 pilot departments, INFO and GEA, to join a double degree programme with UQAC (Chicoutimi) and ÉTS (Montreal).

In the first case, students will have the opportunity to validate the Quebec Baccalauréat and the B.U.T. by taking semesters 5 and 6 in Canada. The internship issue has proved to be particularly sensitive, and the follow-up of students applying for the 2024-25 programme will be a challenge to ensure that the internship carried out in Quebec is in line with our requirements, otherwise students will have to return to France for their B.U.T.3 internship.

The arrangement with ÉTS is more complex, since at the end of B.U.T.3, students will validate both the B.U.T. and the first year of engineering school, with a view to continuing their studies in Canada. Once again, the question of the work placement will prove decisive.

We can only hope that the collaboration will be effective, since both Quebec establishments offer a student placement service.

PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2023-24

SPECIAL AGENTS RECRUITED BY ILC



Code name:

Tessia

Training centre:

BTS SAM

Type of

intervention:

Internship

Period: 01-02/2024

Special missions:

Proposing organisational and classification methods and tools.

Synthesising information for incoming students and creating a booklet in English containing useful information for a successful mobility.

Synthesising the information for outgoing students and creating a booklet in French containing the information needed to prepare for their mobility.

Code name:

Perrine

Training centre:

BTS SAM

Type of

intervention:

Work-study



Period: 04-06/2024 with ILC

Special missions:

Agent sent by the General Services Department of IUT Annecy on a special international assignment.

Editor-in-chief of the ILC Newsletter: selection of articles, interviews on international actions carried out in the departments, writing and translation of content.



Code name:

Maxime

Training centre:

BUT INFO - IUT.A

Type of

intervention:

Internship

Period: 04-07/2024

Special missions:

Designing, producing and implementing an outgoing mobility management web and mobile application for IUT Annecy, with a complete catalogue of proposed destinations and the integration of numerous functions enabling students, departments and ILC to communicate, obtain information, sort, filter, evaluate and validate students' mobility application files. This tool aims to provide a single entry point for all players involved in outgoing mobility.

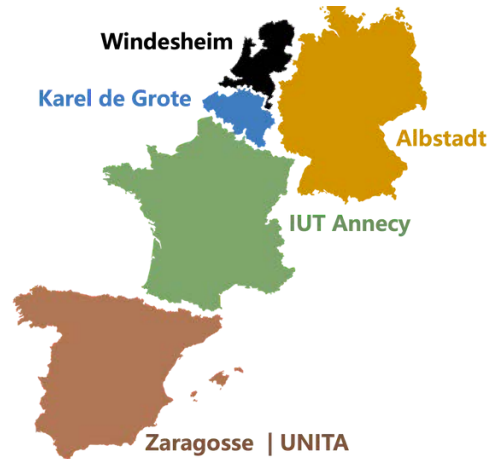
QUALITY STRATEGY AT ILC

In 2023-2024, ILC has worked to develop a quality framework and strategy to harmonise practices and ensure consistency in decision-making. Our three trainees have played a full part in this process, developing the tools that ILC needs to work effectively and optimise the quality of its services. As a result, comprehensive documentation has been produced, and from September 2024, an outgoing mobility management application will provide an ergonomic IT platform accessible to all those involved in the process, enabling traceability and comfortable management of mobility.

PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2023-24

[B.I.P.] DU IIBM/IOBM BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAMME

- 5** partner universities worked together to offer The Grand-Bornand a branding strategy for sustainable tourism.
- 41** international students were involved in the project in competing teams, for
- 3** months of collaboration from September to November 2023.
- 12** IUT staff worked hard to make this experience a real success!
- 1** exchange week was held in Annecy in November (13-18) to allow students to meet with the client and validate
- 4** ECTS as part of their training course.



CREATION OF TOOLS: BOOKLETS & REFERENCE DOCUMENTS



International grading guide



DU IIBM & IOBM communication brochures



2 Welcome booklets for incoming and outgoing students



8 Department files for international partners

A TASTE OF INTERNATIONAL

This year, the departments worked hard to give the B.U.T. an international flavour. It was essential to pay tribute to their efforts. Only a few highlights will be mentioned here, as the international dimension is present in many other ways, through the teaching and assessment situations.

CGE3S – DEVELOPING INTERCULTURALITY

To enhance the international approach within our newly established department, the teaching team aims to integrate interculturality, a method already proven in the QLIO and GEII departments. This project seeks to explore new cultures, facilitate exchanges between students, and enrich their personal cultural backgrounds. However, the current curriculum of the department does not closely align with other international programs, which limits the number of students participating in mobility. Despite this, interculturality remains essential for the future lives of the students.

- Philippe Bonnot



GEA – EXTENDING MOBILITY

The GEA department has recently shown a desire to revive the one-year mobility programme in Quebec, which had been undermined by the end of the DUETI. An agreement has been signed with the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC), enabling students to study for a double Baccalauréat-B.U.T. degree. As in the INFO department, the one-year mobility will end with a longer work placement than provided for in the Baccalauréat in order to comply with the requirements of the B.U.T.



Globalink Research Internship (GRI) offers an intensive programme of activities for international undergraduate students as part of a 12-week research internship (May to September) at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

GEII – INTERNSHIPS & INTERCULTURALITY IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

GEII has been working hard to develop partnerships enabling their students to go abroad for a work placement. Among them, a great opportunity has arisen for GEII students, in partnership with École Supérieure de Montréal (ÉTS), to carry out MITACS Research internships at ÉTS, funded by MITACS. Two students applied with the help of iLC and one of them, Victor T., was selected and was able to benefit from this exceptional research mobility experience.

For the last two years, we have been welcoming a number of foreign students to our first-year classes. With Paul Jones, the department has organised an intercultural afternoon on 6 June. It was a GEII 1st edition and it received a very warm welcome! The programme included Malaysia, Portugal and Singapore, and I even opened it up to our students' passions. So we also had the country of music ;-). It made other, more reserved students want to take the plunge next time!

- Isabelle De Bonis

INFO – AN INTERNATIONAL LEARNING & ASSESSMENT SITUATION (SAÉ)

The B.U.T. INFO has integrated an essential international dimension since its inception. For the past two years, as part of project SAÉ 2.06, first-year students have been organizing professional seminars for their fictional client, GameEvent. These seminars took place in London in May 2023 with 88 participants and in Barcelona in May 2024 with 64 participants. They serve as opportunities to validate their scenarios and develop professional documents tailored to the client. Students who prefer not to travel abroad organize a seminar in Annecy for a foreign client, demonstrating heightened motivation when groups are balanced in terms of participants.

This work introduces students to intercultural communication, a skill that will be further developed in a second-year English module focusing on international advertising adaptation strategy.

- Stephanie Vibrac



QLIO – INTERCULTURAL WEEK

Since 2006, the QLIO department has organised an annual intercultural week. This initiative aims to celebrate diversity by highlighting various countries and cultures. Beyond promoting intercultural understanding, this week enhances cohesion and dialogue among students.

The event is not limited to cultural exploration: it also facilitates language exchanges and supports students in their international professional aspirations, particularly for mobility periods.

By inviting professionals, often former QLIO students, to share their international experiences, the event exposes students to the realities and challenges of working in international environments. This not only raises awareness of practical skills but also helps them develop an essential intercultural sensitivity for their future careers.

- Paul Jones & Elodie Manthé

GMP – FASTER THAN EVER!

On 17 September, GMP streamlined bike, ALTAÏR 7, travelled at 140 km/h in Battle Mountain, in the Nevada desert (USA), beating the European record and almost the world record.

Six students from the GMP department, accompanied by Guillaume de France, team manager of the project, François Pervis, racer of ALTAÏR 7, and Arthur Bacquet, former GMP student, were part of this outstanding adventure, which has put GMP in the international spotlight.

MPH – CROSSROADS OF MOBILITIES

Sandrine Gruffaz, the department's English teacher, supported students seeking international mobility and organised a meeting and presentations with B.U.T.3 students returning from mobility.

This exchange was a real highlight, helping to promote the value of a semester's study abroad and to encourage students to make the most of their future mobility.

RT – 1-WEEK SEMINAR IN BRIGHTON

For over 25 years every September, Miriam Ebrill, the department's English teacher, has organised an annual field trip to Brighton, England, for around fifty B.U.T.2 students (formerly D.U.T.2). This weeklong stay takes place at the University of Sussex, where the participants engage in various typical English activities such as games, museum visits, and they discover local companies and organisations. The Students also have the opportunity to carry out surveys, enhancing their immersion and interaction with the local people.

Not only does this experience aim to strengthen their English proficiency, it also encourages them to consider future study mobility abroad. Although it is optional due to the cost involved for students and their families, the department emphasises the importance of this enriching experience, which offers significant benefits for their personal and academic development. The department subsidises all the activities.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO PAUL JONES

What would the IUT's international activities be without Mister Paul Jones, who has worked tirelessly for over 20 years to promote international activities, languages and a network that he has brought to life with passion and expertise. On behalf of the entire ILC team, we would like to extend our warmest thanks to him. Other professional projects have called him away, but he still manages the Language Centre and when an international event is coming up at the IUT, Paul is never far away. Many thanks!

TC – NEW INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

As students mobility is restricted to one semester due to a tight program in the B.U.T., our team found Semester 4 most suitable. This allows students to meet B.U.T. requirements while adapting to new programs and environments. The team, including the second-year program director (responsible for the academic curriculum) and the head of department, with the help of the ILC coordinator, have worked together to create useful documents to ease the research process for our students who are willing to go and study abroad. TC also wanted to provide a clear vision of logical pathways between French and international teaching programs.

All this has been done in the spirit of staying as close as possible to the skills required by the B.U.T. program.

The department also lets its students the opportunity to choose a parallel International Program from another department: to offer more international experiences, students can now enroll in a parallel international program, earning a D.U. with semester 5 at IUT (100% English-taught module) and semester 6 abroad at partner universities (mainly through the ERASMUS program). This program promotes a partnership with the IAE university, offering an opportunity of dual degree.

These decisions have been made to significantly enhance our students' credentials and career prospects. The department, conscious that international experience is a cornerstone of our teaching programs, will continue to reflect on ways to enhance opportunities in the future.

- Julie Sonzogni & Carole Cretinon

[B.I.P.] BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM - PORTUGAL

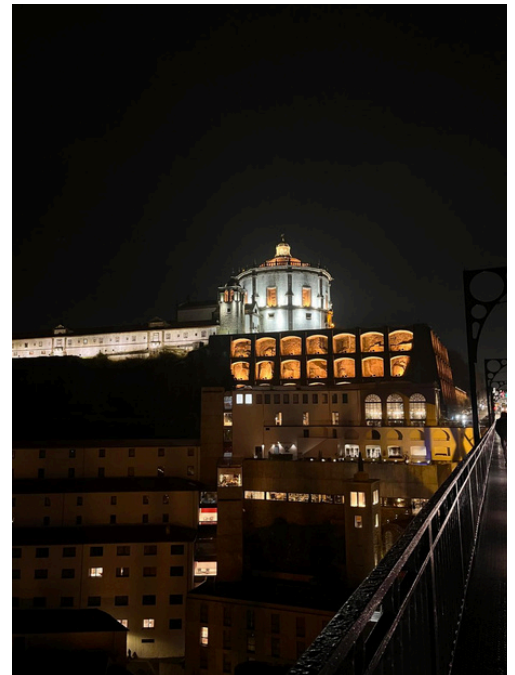


This international experience was one of the most memorable of my life. A BIP is not just about courses, but also about meeting new people, learning a new culture, and advancing your career. It's a great first step towards a semester abroad.

I discovered Portuguese through classes and interactions with students. Visits, hikes, and food tastings immersed me in the local culture. Despite the short format, the encounters and memories are unforgettable.

'Saudade,' a word our Portuguese teacher emphasized, captures a mix of melancholy and nostalgia, with a lingering hope. This feeling defines the end of my exchange in Portugal, making me eager to repeat the experience.

- Yanis G. | MPH



WINDESHEIM - NETHERLANDS



During my placement in the Netherlands, finding accommodation proved to be a major challenge, requiring an intensive search. Despite this, the experience enabled me to discover and appreciate new cultures. The slower pace of the course also gave me the opportunity to travel around the country, adding an enriching dimension to my stay and enabling me to make the most of this international adventure.

- Justine M. | QLIO



TRONDHEIM - NORWAY



During my Erasmus semester at NTNU Trondheim, I took degree-related courses. The efficient welcome and integration week were helpful.

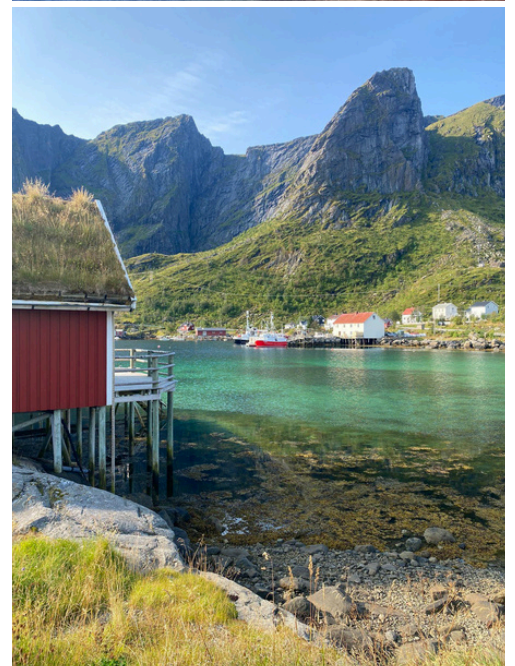
Trondheim's light variations were striking, with 11:30 pm sunsets in summer and cold, short winter days. Living costs were higher than in France.

I hiked, skated on frozen lakes, skied, watched Rosenborg matches, Northern Lights and whales in Tromsø, and ranked local patisseries.

Cultural events like the UKA festival and ESN adventures enriched my stay. Egon Tarnet's pizza buffet was a highlight.

NTNU's courses involved more personal work, flexible choices, shorter weeks, and exams over a month for better revision.

- Manon K. | GEA



THEY'VE BEEN THERE: MOBILITY STORIES



VAANTA - FINLAND

I would like to thank you once again for organizing everything for us. Personally, I am having an extraordinary experience and an unforgettable semester.

In addition to discovering a fascinating country and culture, my English comprehension level keeps improving, as well as my speaking and reading skills (although writing is still something I need to work on, haha!).

By the way, you were right about the classrooms with sofas! Here, all our classrooms are equipped with the latest technology, with multiple TV screens in each room and different types of chairs. There's even a room with a swing!

- Elisa M. | IOBM



CENTRIA - FINLAND

Centria University is a small university and courses are mainly taught to small groups of less than 20 students, which makes it much easier to understand and talk to the teacher. The classrooms are very modern and most courses are taught in hybrid mode (face-to-face but filmed, downloadable and retransmitted). The university regularly organises various events for international students, such as an extraordinary trip to Lapland.

- Souhayb B. | MPH



BLEKINGE - SWEDEN

My mobility started with Célian on 22 August, heading for Karlskrona, an island in the Blekinge archipelago that is listed by unesco. As for our studies, we went to BTH, the main university in the region, where all the students come to become engineers. It has numerous halls, a cafeteria, a university library and many facilities to help you throughout your studies. Apart from that, you can explore the town and its services with a bus network that serves the whole of Karlskrona; you can choose to go bowling, sing Britney Spears' 'Toxic', go to the gym or even take part in swimming competitions. Of course, you'll need somewhere to live to do all this, which is why we opted for an amazing shared house for only €300 per person... yes, you got that right! And of course, what would a university exchange be without adventures, and here I don't have the words to describe my best student experience ever!

- Yanis B. | INFO



ERASMUS ISTANBUL



WHY CHOOSE ISTANBUL?

At 1,693 years old, the city has lived through different eras, wars, politics and cultures. It is a city steeped in history and experience, which can still be seen today in the cityscape. It is full of monuments and districts to visit, on two continents.



My 5-month Erasmus stay is coming to an end soon, and I'm delighted to be able to write a report on it to highlight the importance of this destination.

Istanbul marks my second Erasmus, and I'm convinced that it will be one of my most memorable trips. In my opinion, this city is still not very popular with students, even though it has an exceptional cultural and historical wealth.

So, here's what I think you should know about the partner school and the different aspects of an Erasmus stay in Istanbul.



GALATASARAY UNIVERSITESI

First and foremost, Galatasaray University is a highly recognised university in Turkey. The school is very well located, in the Beşiktaş district, which is a particularly student and dynamic area. It is also very close to the port of Beşiktaş and the Ortaköy district.



- How the courses work -

At Galatasaray, the choice of courses is very varied. There's maths, marketing, economics, law, politics, communication, journalism, philosophy and more.

All courses are in French, but you also have the option of taking English courses, particularly specialised English for business (if you are in commerce). The examination timetable is in two stages. Firstly, in the middle of the semester, there are the mid-term exams, which are often presentations with a short assignment or knowledge tests. Secondly, at the end of the semester, there are the final mid-term exams, which can be written papers or table-top exams, depending on the subject and the teacher.

Students are free to choose their own courses. This means that they can create their own timetable. As a result, Erasmus students have ample opportunity to set aside several free days in the week, in order to make more visits and trips.

In terms of holidays, the school provides for a week's holiday at the end of Ramadan, as well as the country's official public holidays.

- Student well-being -

In terms of student well-being, the school offers several advantages.

Firstly, the school has a café on the banks of the Bosphorus where students meet to work and chat.

There is also a modern library, which is a very pleasant place to work.

There are both Turkish and French teachers who help us with our reports.

Students also have access to a free sports hall with several machines and ping-pong tables.



The self-service restaurant is also a good address, offering Turkish specialties with starter, main course and dessert. You can also create your own salad at a special stand, and season your dish as you wish, as a number of fresh and dried spices are available. The self-service restaurant is open mornings, lunches and evenings (during Ramadan, another service is added).

Morning - 7.50am - 8.45am: 20 cents (cafeteria on the Bosphorus side) Lunch - 11.00am - 2.30pm: 30 cents (cafeteria on the I licence side) Evening - 5.00pm - 6.25pm: 35 cents (cafeteria on the I licence side)



To get there, you simply need to credit your student card, and there are terminals available at the school for this purpose.

Also, when class times don't suit, self-service isn't the only option. In the two cafeterias, we are also offered a choice of sandwiches, salads or tacos.

- Student integration -

At the beginning and end of the year, the school organises a number of events and activities to bring the Erasmus students together, which makes it easier to make initial contacts and establish a good atmosphere of camaraderie.

The school also organises trips with other schools, so you can meet new Erasmus students and sometimes speak other languages. These are also great opportunities to discover the country in a great student atmosphere.

- Registration & Administration -

The Erasmus procedures have been modified by the country at the end of the 1st semester 2024. As a result, the administrative part is a little longer and more complex, but the school is there to help students and find solutions. There's nothing to worry about, you just have to be aware of it.

To sum up quickly:

To stay in Turkey for more than 90 days, you need to create a residence permit (an "Ikamet" in Turkish). You will need to apply for this card once all the required documents have been received:

Health insurance: Turkey does not have a health agreement with France, so you will need to take out health insurance that is valid for Turkish immigration (tip: the school offers Swiss insurance at €30, validated by immigration, which is a very good option).

An accommodation contract validated by a notary. If you are subletting, you can also draw up a letter of commitment with the main tenant. I strongly recommend the second option, which is the least expensive. 4 biometric photographs. This only costs a few euros, but they will have to be taken in Turkey, as the French format is not accepted.

A Turkish telephone number. Personally, I didn't use one, as you can also use someone you know, but taking out a package on the spot is very affordable and easy to do.

A valid passport, stamped by customs. Just make sure that your passport is stamped correctly on arrival.

All these formalities will be explained by the school, and each student will be well looked after. As far as enrolment is concerned, you simply have to follow the IUT's instructions, and then the school will send you all the information you need to follow. There is no particular procedure.

STUDENT LIFE IN ISTANBUL

- Transport -

Istanbul is a very large city, so using transport is clearly essential. As a student, you need to create a student transport card, which costs around €5. You then have to top it up every month (€7/month). The top-up offers around 200 journeys, which is more than enough for one month. This card gives you access to all transport in Greater Istanbul: boats, metros, trams and buses.

TRAVEL DIARY | CARNET DE VOYAGE

The greater Istanbul area even includes the small villages on the Black Sea coast and the islands of Istanbul, making for more out-of-the-way and very enjoyable visits.

- Cultural advantages -

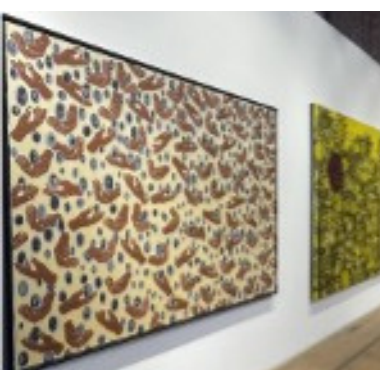
Museums also offer benefits for students. In Istanbul, sightseeing can be quite expensive, but as a student you have access to the €1 student museum card, which will allow you two free visits per museum. This card is also valid in several regions of Turkey, such as Cappadocia and Pamukkale, and will allow you to visit museums free of charge.

I strongly recommend :

Topkapi Palace
Basilica Cistern
Dolmabahçe Palace
Museum of Islamic Art
Museum of Archaeology

And also without the museum card:

Ortakoy district
Çamlıca Mosque (in the evening)
Café Pierre Loti
Balat district
Bebek district
Blue Mosque
Prince's Island



- Night Life -

Istanbul is full of great places to go out at night. Taksim is the place for student clubs. In Beşiktaş, Kadıköy, and in several other districts, there are numerous bars with varied atmospheres. There's something for everyone, with a wide range of options.

MY OPINION

In my opinion, it's a way for European students to open up and understand how other countries and cultures work. Although Istanbul is still very westernised, this Erasmus offers, in my opinion, a much greater cultural discovery than our European neighbours, because it is different from what we are used to seeing.

Organised trips also give you a chance to understand the workings of the country in its entirety.

Finally, Istanbul is a cosmopolitan city where all religions are accepted, and it's also a city where, as students, we felt particularly safe.

What's more, despite the fact that this is the economic capital and a very large city, there are no problems with flights, either on public transport or when out and about. The people of Istanbul are very welcoming and particularly warm.

Also, despite representations of Turkey in France, Turkey is a secular country where everyone wears what they want, especially in the neighbourhoods where Erasmus students live (Beşiktaş, Kadıköy, Karaköy, Galata, Sultanahmet, Taksim, Ortaköy, etc.).

On the other hand, although it's a very touristy city, very little English is spoken in Istanbul, so it will take some getting used to. But you adapt quickly.

- Louison F. | IOBM

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