

## Impression of a student from FOF-LNTU (Ukraine) from studies abroad within the ICM Erasmus+ programme



Students of the Faculty of Accounting and Finance from Lutsk National Technical University (FOF-LNTU) actively participate in international projects. While studying abroad, they obtain innovative knowledge and invaluable experience of European education systems. And one of the students Vladimir Vasylyuk is an accountant. He enrolled in one of the best universities in Portugal (Polytechnic Institute of Bragança), where total number of students is about 7,000, of which 15% are international students.

Vladimir decided to share his impressions about the systems and features of education in the university: "The main goal of teachers is to teach students the ability to achieve set of tasks themselves. The learning process is built on group performance of various kinds of projects and tasks, which are not only based on simple memorization and reproduction of various problems and tasks, but also finding of the best decision. Personal opinion is very much appreciated no matter it is correct or not.

The university has a 20-point grading system. Teachers often consult with students on the current system and make it possible to choose. It should be noted that the 50-60% of final score depends on the performance and the presentation of different kinds of group projects. Usually it is 2-3 projects. However, there are courses in which 100% of the final assessment will depend on the performance and presentation of a project at the end of the course. Thus, groups consist of 2-3 students and it is desirable that they were international. The remaining 40-50% of final grade is the final exam (some teachers share of 40-50% for 2 parts).

For example "International Project Management" discipline can be divided to 6 projects (each constitutes 10% of the total score) and to write a test that will be 40%. However, it is not mandatory, you can choose from 0 to 5 projects, but then the exam will make up 50-100% respectively of the total score.

The average number of subjects per semester for Bachelor is 5-7 and 2-3 for the Masters. Students have the opportunity to choose subjects to study, and in what semester to attend classes on a particular subject. To obtain a bachelor's degree the student must attend 3 years, and 2 years for obtaining a master's degree.

Duration of classes is not definitive; some lessons could last 1.5 hours and the others 2 hours or even 3-4 hours. It is not axiomatic. If the teacher believes that he has taught everything he wanted to he can finish the class earlier. Also during lectures teachers have the flexibility to take breaks.

To ensure effective learning process special electronic platform is utilized, the essence of which is that every university student has a personal page where he can see his schedule, list of courses, basic information about himself and his classmates. But the main advantage of this system is that it is a

great way of communication between teachers and students. Thus, the teachers upload all the necessary materials from their lecturers to the platform and all the students who are enrolled to a particular subject can use the materials. At the same time, students send their projects, assignments, presentations to their professors for review.

To monitor attendance of students there is a special system. Each audience is placed a special device that reads information from a student card and immediately displays the student's name on a small screen and puts the information into the system. For passing the exams students have the right to miss no more than 20-30% of the lectures.

As for the availability of teaching materials, the students have the conditions for a successful and productive learning. Every audience is equipped with a projector that allows teachers to visually show the necessary material, and for students not to write "kilometres" of lecture. Each student has access to all the materials and resources used in class. The whole university is covered with free Wi-Fi Internet. Library (it is simply gorgeous!), in which except for the enormous choice of literature there are much space for independent and group studies.

Also it marks for educational leisure organization of which helps students very quickly to adapt themselves and integrate in a new environment. Thus, the University regularly offers students free tickets to theatres, concerts, festivals and other interesting events that happen in the city or near it. In addition, the University organizes international students absolutely free courses of Portuguese language ability (on condition of the successful handing over examination) to obtain a certificate.

In conclusion, I would like to note that the university is primarily for students and that the student is at the centre of the educational process.

### **Volodymyr Vasyliuk**

Lutsk National Technical University, Ukraine

Double Diploma in International Business Management (Bachelor level) at IPB

2015/2016 IPB International Credit Mobility

From the Lutsk NTU webpage: <http://fof.lntu.edu.ua/fakultet/novini/260-vrazhennia-studenta-fof-vid-navchannia-za-kordonom-v-ramkakh-prohramy-erazmus.html>

