

Erasmus+ experience

Location: Universitatea Politehnica Timisoara

From: 15.02.2016, To: 03.07.2016.

Student: Stefan Špirić

Greetings Timisoara, my name is Stefan Špirić and I have attended the Erasmus+ learning mobility program at the Politehnica University of Timisoara, Faculty of Civil engineering, Department for Steel structures and Theory of structures (CMMC).

This was my first time in Timisoara and Romania, and also my first Erasmus experience. It is safe to say after these four and a half months that it definitely surpassed my expectations.

Starting from the first day every person involved was making their best effort to make our initial adaptation as comfortable as possible, and that continued until the very end. Faculty staff from the rectorate made it easy for us to communicate and finish all of the necessary paperwork in due time– thank you Diana and Loredana. Staff from the department gave us a great office, provided us with whatever we needed learning wise, and also treated us very friendly, took us to good restaurants and interesting events, recommended further study opportunities, and the list goes on – special thanks to my coordinator from UPT, Andrei Crisan.

As for the accommodation in the student complex, being that I spent all of my studies in my home city of Belgrade, this was my first experience of this kind, and I can only say that the adaptation period was not long, and that the quality of the facility is more than decent for the price – and the price is super affordable. The complex becomes a part of your life, it will be missed without a doubt. One suggestion I would add for the dormitories is to have an English version of each paper of information that the supervisors put on the doors or walls, e.g. instructions for setting up the internet, or rules for using the laundry etc. It was not a big problem, but foreign students would definitely appreciate it.

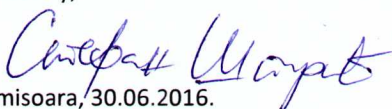
I would also like to thank UPT for organizing the Romanian language course for us, which was not intended at first but due to high demand from our side the people from the University made it possible.

Another aspect that I would like to mention are the sports facilities that the University provides free of charge for their students and Erasmus students alike. A lot of students from different countries that were living here with me agreed that it is something we don't see at our home universities, and it is an excellent feature. When you read on the website that there are swimming pools, saunas, and courts for all major sports for free – it is not false advertising, everything is available free of charge every day.

Now to touch on the city itself. Timisoara is a clean and well maintained city with flowers and parks on every corner, and also with a lot of contents for young people. Most part of the city center is being redecorated, the river side is neatly arranged with so many beautiful parks for relaxing, but also with bicycle tracks everywhere for the active person.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who made this possible, people from Politehnica Timisoara and also from my home University of Belgrade and the Faculty of Civil engineering; Coordinators, staff from the international departments, professors, assistant professors, I thank you all for this amazing journey.

Sincerely,


Timisoara, 30.06.2016.