



**Hacettepe Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi İngiliz Dili ve Edebiyatı Bölümü Erasmus
Incoming Students Feedback**

Name: Camille

Surname: Sahuc

University / Country: Hacettepe University TURKEY

Year / Semester: 2008/2009

E-mail: camillesahuc@laposte.net

Student Feedback:

a. Cultural Feedback

My stay as an Erasmus student in Turkey is one of the best experience of my life. I have to admit that I did not plan to go in Turkey first because I didn't know much about this country and culture. I went there because there were not much agreement in our university and the choice was very limited, but it is clear to me that I never regretted it and that it was a stroke of luck.

As to the cultural experience, I can say that it was huge. I did learn a lot about Turkish culture thanks to all my friends, the teachers and people around us and also thanks to the people of the street, my neighbours or all the persons I could meet. I was surprised to discover a culture open to the world and a perfect mix of tradition and modernity. I learn how to deal with the french and turkish culture to adapt my way of life as an erasmus student in Turkey. I still have some habits directly coming from the turkish culture. The people are nice and friendly in general, and even though I couldn't speak a single word of Turkish at the beginning of my stay, everybody was patient and nice to me. The cultural experience is hard to explain because it changed a big parts of my way of live during my stay in Turkey. I can speak for example about the food, the way of travelling, spending money, the conception of time, the way of behaving with new or different people... I had the chance to have turkish friends that took me out, showed me the real turkish life, and that's why even if I had a lot of foreign friends I had a chance to discover what is Turkey in reality, more than beautiful

landscapes and nice people. I just wish I could speak better Turkish since the beginning. I think I had no difficulty to integrate the culture, of course, the people knew I was from a foreign country but I never felt rejected for that. On the contrary, the people in my neighbourhood were really curious about me and happy to see a french girl living in their country.

I never felt scared in the streets or whatever, you just have to know what you can do or not. I can say I felt more safe in Ankara than in many big cities in France or Europe, but maybe it was not true at the beginning as I did not know the city. Many things were different from what I was used to but I was really curious about it and came to discover a new culture.

b. Academic Feedback

Concerning the academic experience, I can say that it was a good thing to discover another way of teaching and an university really different from where I come from. I was a bit scared at the beginning because the lessons were totally different from what I was supposed to take in my 3rd year at university. As I was studying spanish and english, (mainly translation to french) added with economy, I chose to focus my studies on english literature and economics and law lessons in english, ant to take lessons of spanish and Turkish. My university had some difficulties to accept these lessons but finally did. The difficulty also was due to the fact that I had to attend lessons in different departments. I enjoyed the lessons because I chose it. I had interesting teachers and had the opportunity to make some friends in some lessons even though it sounded difficult at the beginning because I had a different class every time. I did progress in english and in other themes like law or economic history. I can't say the same for spanish but I had a great teacher and tried in addition to study with books.

