

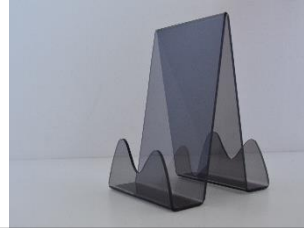
ERASMUS 2020-2021 SPRING SEMESTER
Instituto Politecnico de Castelo Branco| Portugal
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In the spring semester of my 3rd year, I had the chance to study at the Instituto Politecnico de Castelo Branco in Castelo Branco, Portugal, thanks to the Erasmus program. Studying in Europe at some point in my life was something I always wanted to do and I thought Erasmus was the best way to do it. After passing the exam, it started in an exciting but also somewhat challenging process. The dreams and sweet excitements helped me a lot in this process. The first month of Erasmus was an adaptation period for me. The fact that schools were online for the first month I went because of the pandemic made this process easier. At the same time, Castelo Branco was a small city and you could explore and finish it all in a short time. However, it was good for me to be in a small, quiet and calm place than a big and crowded city like Izmir. Thanks to Erasmus gatherings and events, I made many friends and had a great time. It helped me to improve and practise my English more when I had to communicate with my foreign friends by speaking English. In addition, studying in a small city really helped me financially. You'll agree with what I said while visiting Europe at the end of the semester.

If I talk about the education of the school, I encountered a much easier education than I expected. I can say that the education I received in Turkey is much more detailed but I think I have gained skills in different fields in the education I received in Erasmus. They give more importance to applied and manual dexterity lessons in the workshops there. The lessons were taught in Portuguese and the instructors were giving short summaries at the end of the lesson. Of course, we were preparing our homework in English. The attitude of the teachers towards us was generally good.

Apart from these, one of the biggest reasons why I wanted to participate in the Erasmus+ program was to travel to Europe more. First of all, I visited many cities in Portugal with my group of friends in Erasmus. Then I had the chance to go to Spain and Italy. They were all so beautiful apart from each other. It was a great feeling to go to each city with a different perspective and leave with more advanced perspectives. It was nice to see different cultures and meet different people.

Looking back now, I can't believe how so many months went by so quickly. It always felt like we had a lot of time when we were there. I miss those days so much already. I can say that the best period of my life was the period I study with the Erasmus program. Standing on my own two feet in a completely different country and rediscovering myself was a completely different experience and gave me self-confidence and maturity. Before I go, I was often afraid that there would be a problem and I wouldn't be able to go, but I realized that nothing is as difficult as we thought and we can do anything we want.



Some of my works in my semester in Portugal



Castelo Branco days with friends



Castelo Branco

*Jardim do Paço
Episcopal*

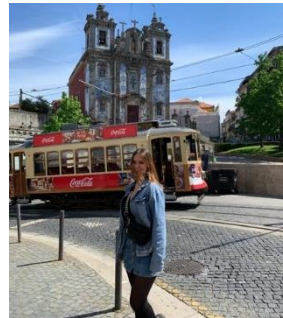
Some of the traditional foods of Portugal



Azenhos Do Mar



Belem,Lisbon



Porto, Portugal





Lagos, Algarve, Portugal



Sevilla, Spain

Sevilla, Spain

Sevilla, Spain

Madrid, Spain



Venice, Italy

Rome, Italy

Florence, Italy

Milano, Italy