



## INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENT GUIDE



Erasmus+

Ondokuz Mayıs University  
International Relations Office  
<http://uib-en.omu.edu.tr/>

Dear Student,

Welcome to Ondokuz Mayıs University. We look forward to seeing you in Samsun very soon.

In this guide, you shall find some practical and useful information about our university and daily life in Samsun. It has been prepared for you by the team of OMU International Relations Office to make your stay here pleasant, satisfying and most enjoyable.

Our university is a modern local state university founded in 1975 and situated in a land of 10,000 acres with a view of the Black Sea on the one side and a view of the nationally famous Kocadağ Mountain on the other side, which is well known for its national yearly walks. The university has schools in the City of Samsun and 7 other counties. The main campus is located in Samsun, a coastal and harbour city situated on the border of the Black Sea in the North of Turkey.

OMU gives great importance to science, education and research and takes place amongst the significant and large universities of Turkey. The University also aims to satisfy all the needs of a student in terms of professional training and other social needs; such as accommodation, health service, nutrition, cultural, social and sport activities etc.

The university has 17 faculties, 3 schools (first cycle), 1 music conservatoire, 11 vocational schools (short cycle), 5 graduate schools, 22 research centres, 6 educational centres including a children's hospital. It has approximately 52,000 students (including postgraduate and distance learning students), 2300 academic staff and 1,800 administrative staff.

For more information about OMU, please visit:

<http://www.omu.edu.tr>

<http://uib-en.omu.edu.tr/>

<http://erasmus-en.omu.edu.tr/>

<http://ebs.omu.edu.tr/en/ondokuz-mayis-university.html>



## ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

An orientation programme of 3-5 days for new incoming exchange students is arranged twice a year, at the beginning of each semester. You will be informed about the certain dates by e-mail. This programme is very important and will optimise your study opportunity in OMU.



### STUDENT BUDDY

Each requesting student is assigned a buddy who will help you with the first steps of living and studying in Samsun. The buddies will be arranged by ESN Samsun. The

student buddies are voluntary and will contact you by e-mail before your arrival. They will help you with the formalities at the university and with practical issues. You are invited to be friends with *ESN Samsun* on Facebook. You may also e-mail them at [esnsamsun@esnturkey.org](mailto:esnsamsun@esnturkey.org)

## INTENSIVE LANGUAGE COURSES

In the beginning of each semester The OMU Turkish Language Centre provides four week intensive Turkish Language Courses. The Centre sets a suitable programme according to all enrolled exchange

student timetables. Please contact them for further information: <http://omuturkce.omu.edu.tr>

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year consists of two 14-week (70 work days) semesters. The Fall Semester lasts from September to January and the Spring Semester lasts from February to June. There are separate academic calendars for the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine and Law. The University Senate can extend or shorten the length of semesters if necessary.

The calendar for each academic year will be provided by the International Relations Office and can be found on the following website: <http://www.omu.edu.tr/en/ogrenci/akademik-takvim>  
**Please find attached the academic calendar 2016-2017.**

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day

1 January

National Sovereignty Day / Children's Holiday

23 April

Labour and Solidarity Day

01 May

Atatürk Commemoration and Youth & Sports Day

19 May

Victory Day

30 August

Republic Day

29 October

Summer Holidays

July-August



## RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Ramazan Bayrami: Three-day festival when sweets are eaten to celebrate the end of the fast of Ramadan month. Also known as "Şeker (sweets) Bayrami" since it's customary to offer candies to family members and friends that are visiting.

Kurban Bayrami: Four-day festival when sheep or cows are sacrificed and their meat distributed to the poor.

The dates of these religious festivals change according to the Islamic calendar and thus occur 10-11 days (exact difference between Gregorian and Lunar calendars is 10 days and 21 hrs) earlier each year.



## REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Once you have completed all application requirements(<http://erasmus-en.omu.edu.tr/>) to study at OMU as an exchange student you will receive a letter of acceptance. All accepted students will need to register the courses that they have selected on their Learning Agreements. This can be done at the International Relations Office. Please visit the office on your arrival as soon as possible. After registration you will be issued a student ID card which enables you to benefit from all OMU student privileges.

## COURSE PROGRAMS

Course programs during undergraduate studies and the distribution of courses to the semesters are arranged by the Department concerned, confirmed by the Faculty Committee, and approved by

the Senate. The course programs are available on the related links on our information package – course catalogue web site

<http://ebs.omu.edu.tr/en/ondokuz-mayis-university.html>

<http://ebs.omu.edu.tr/ebs/index.php?dil=en>

## LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION



Our language of instruction is Turkish. However, we do have three departments offered in English, they are, the Department of English Medicine, the Department of International Trade and Logistics and the Department of English Language Teaching. We also have a great variety of courses from different departments offered in English.

**Please find attached the list of courses offered in English.**

For further enquiries about the updated information on courses offered in English please contact the host Erasmus departmental coordinator.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

Our 3 elective courses are all offered in the Faculty of Education. The courses are:

Academic English (Course Code ERS 415A + 416A)

Basic Turkish (Course Code ERS 417A + 418A)

Turkish History and Culture (Course Code ERS 301GK + 302GK)



If you wish to take these courses please do your registration with the International Relations Office first.

## LEARNING AGREEMENT

The “Learning Agreement” is a list of courses that have been established by you and your university and with this document your university undertakes to recognise the exams passed and credits obtained during your exchange period. It is a compulsory document that we need to keep in your file so make sure that you have given one copy to us. You will be able to change your Learning Agreement within one month of your arrival to OMU. Please initially do this with your OMU and home Departmental Coordinators and then inform OMU International Relations Office. While at OMU you should also contact with the Departmental Coordinator for all academic issues and anything related to your Learning Agreement. For the list of OMU departmental coordinators please click: <http://erasmus-en.omu.edu.tr/uploads/documents/koordinatörler.pdf> and please find attached.

## ATTENDANCE

Course attendance is compulsory. Students must attend classes, practices and examinations. The Instructor concerned checks students’ regular attendance. If you need to be away from the Department, please inform your Departmental Coordinator.

## EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

In addition to midterm examinations and other work, students are required to take a final examination. At least one midterm examination is given during each semester. The Departments

concerned in the first month of the semester announce dates of midterm examinations. Final examinations are held at the appropriate places and hours as decided and announced by the Faculty. The course instructor’s assessment is realized by taking into account the midterm examinations, final examinations, the semesters’ work and attendance.



Students may be given a make-up examination for any exams that they have not attended, if they provide valid reasons. If for some reasons you cannot sit for your examination please inform your Departmental Coordinator.

Courses, which do not require midterm and/or final examinations, are determined by the Department concerned. For these courses, the semester grade is given by evaluating the work done throughout the semester.

The practical and/or laboratory components may be evaluated separately. In this case, the course and practical and/or laboratory sessions taken separately must conform to the above regulations.

## EXAMINATION DATES

The examination dates slightly vary each year. However, the Fall Semester final examinations are generally held between the first and second weeks of January and runs for about 13 days. The Spring Semester final examinations are held from the last week of May to the first week of June and lasts for around 13 days.





## GRADING SYSTEM

Absolute or Relative Grading System can be used for assessment of the students. The system to be used in the programmes is announced before the beginning of the academic year after the decision and approval of the Senate. The statistical distribution chosen for the

Relative Grading System is defined in the related regulation of the Senate and is announced in the University web site.

All assessment procedures are based on ECTS Credits.

## GRADING SCHEME FOR ABSOLUTE ASSESSMENT

### a) Faculty of Medicine

GRADE POINTS	GRADE	DEGREE	MARK
4.00	AA	Excellent	90-100
3.50	BA	Very Good	85-89
3.00	BB	Good	80-84
2.50	CB	Fair	75-79
2.00	CC	Satisfactory	60-69
1.50	DC	Fail	40-59
1.00	DD	Fail	20-39
0.00	FF	Fail	0-19
0.00	FD	No Attendance	
0.00	FG	Did not sit for exams /fail	

### b) Other Higher Education Units

GRADE POINTS	GRADE	DEGREE	MARK
4.00	AA	Excellent	90-100
3.50	BA	Very Good	85-89
3.00	BB	Good	75-84
2.50	CB	Fair	70-74
2.00	CC	Satisfactory	60-69
1.50	DC	Fail	40-59
1.00	DD	Fail	20-39
0.00	FF	Fail	0-19
0.00	FD	No Attendance	
0.00	FG	Did not sit for exams /fail	

According to letter grades

a) (AA), (BA), (BB), (CB) and (CC) are considered as successful for undergraduate education.

Other letter grades:

a) G: pass grade for non-credit courses

b) M: grade for the courses considered "exempted"; e.g. the previously taken and recognized courses of the transferred students.

c) MZ: Grade incomplete for the students who did not attend any of the exams with an excuse, after completion of the makeup exams, changed with the final grade

d) DC, DD, FF fail

e) FD: No Attendance

f) FG: Not attended to exams /fail

g) E: Grade incomplete for the practical courses,

G, E and M grades are not counted for GPA and CGPA calculations.

## TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS

You will be issued a Transcript of Records (ToR) at the end of your study exchange semester (no later than **3** weeks after the assessment period) both in English and Turkish.

## HOST COUNTRY FORMALITIES

### *STUDENT VISAS AND RESIDENCE PERMITS*

#### Visa



International exchange students wishing to study in Turkey need to have a passport valid at least six months longer than the expiry date of the student visa. Before travel you will need to obtain a student visa from a Turkish Embassy/Consulate in your home country. As visa regulations may

change quite frequently, please contact the nearest Turkish Embassy or Consulate in your country for the most up-to-date and detailed information. Student visas cannot be obtained within Turkey.

For more visa information, please visit Ministry of Foreign Affairs' official website:

<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/sub.en.mfa?cc4e437c-6769-4d79-9017-10b63c651224>

#### What may I need for a student visa?

The following documents may be requested from the Turkish Embassy / Consulate for visa application:

- Passport
- Visa application form taken from the Turkish Embassy/Consulate
- 1 Passport Photograph
- Proof of student status in home country (Official paper taken from the home university Registrar's Office)
- The letter of acceptance sent by Ondokuz Mayıs University

It takes around eight weeks from the time you submit your application until you receive your visa. The visa will be stamped in your passport. When you receive your visa check to see that it is a "student visa".

#### How long is a student visa valid?

Although a time limit will be stamped on your visa, the student visa will be valid as long as you are enrolled in the school.

#### What is a Residence Permit?

If you have a valid visa, you do not need a Residence Permit up to 90 days.

If you are staying in Turkey more than 90 days you will need a Residence Permit, regardless of status.

You will need to apply for a Residence Permit from the «Samsun Valiliği, İl Göç İdaresi Müdürlüğü».

For a residence permit you will need the following documents:

A student certificate provided by the International Relations Office  
A document stating that you are an Exchange student provided by the International Relations Office  
4 Coloured Passport size Photographs  
Passport  
Health Insurance Policy Statement  
Fee: 58.50

For more detailed information please visit:

[http://www.goc.gov.tr/main/Eng\\_3](http://www.goc.gov.tr/main/Eng_3)

It may take up to 90 days for issue. Your Residence Permit will be mailed to the address of your residency in Turkey. In Turkey, you may at any time be required to show your Residence Permit. Ondokuz Mayıs University International Relations Office also requires a copy of your Residence Permit.

### **When must a student apply for a Residence Permit?**

Students must register within one month after entering Turkey. However, sometimes students cannot complete all the procedures required within that month. If you don't take your residence permit before the deadline, you will be in a fugitive position in Turkey. In this context, you may be deported and be obliged to pay a fine.

### **How long is the Residence Permit valid and how are they extended?**



Students enrolled in an exchange program at Ondokuz Mayıs University are usually given residence permits that are valid for the exchange period as indicated in the student visa.

If the Student Visa is valid for six months, then the residence permit will be for 6 month. Such students can extend their residence permit if they extend their enrolment at Ondokuz Mayıs University. Extension requires the same procedures as applying for a new residence permit with one exception, 2 Coloured Passport Photographs.

### **In case of lost passport and /or residence permit...**

If you lose your passport while in Turkey you must report it to your country's Embassy / Consulate in Turkey (they are mainly situated in Ankara and Istanbul). They will issue you an emergency passport. If you lose your residence permit, you must first report this to the closest police station at the place of the incident. (Please do not forget to get a copy of the report that the police holds about this incident). You then need to report this to the International Relations Office at OMU. The office will provide you another document for the application of a new residence permit.





## Changes in address

If you change the address that you initially gave to the International Relations Office, you must inform the Migration Office and the International Relations Office about this change within 2 days (48 hours).

## HEALTH AND INSURANCE



Before applying for a residence permit all incoming exchange students must have a valid health insurance. Therefore, we recommend that you obtain this before your departure from your home country or you may also have the opportunity to obtain one from Turkey. You can benefit from “general health insurance” coverage

in Turkey. If you have the "general health insurance", you can use all state hospitals without a fee and also private hospitals paying a moderate fee.

For benefiting from the General Health Insurance System in Turkey, you should firstly visit OMU International Relations Office for a required student certificate. Then you will need to go to the Turkish State Social Security Institution (SGK) in the city centre with the necessary documents to apply in person. When you complete your application, you will need to pay your general health insurance fee which is determined on an annual basis within 1 month from the date of Social Security records.

If you don't apply for general health insurance system within the given time period (in 3 months), you cannot benefit from the general health insurance services of the Turkish State. However, you can use your international health insurance if you have one or you can get

private health insurance in Turkey by any insurance company you wish; but please remember that the insurance must include the below minimum content:

*Minimum Policy Content*

	Contracted Institutions		*Non- Contracted Institutions	
	Annual Minimum Limit	Contributions	Annual Minimum Limit	Contributions
<b>Outpatient Diagnosis Treatment</b>	2.000. -TL	Insured : % 40 Company : % 60	2.000.-TL	Insured : % 40 Company : % 60
<b>Inpatient Diagnosis Treatment</b>	Unlimited	Insured : % 0 Company : % 100	20.000.-TL	Insured : % 20 Company : % 80

**\*Non- Contracted Institutions:** Institutions (hospitals, physicians' offices, and the other health institutions.) do not have an agreement with the insurer.

Please also bear in mind that Turkey is well-known for its high quality doctors and health facilities with relatively low service prices.

## Medical Facilities on Campus

Ondokuz Mayıs University gives great importance to the health care of students, staff and the community. The Faculty of Medicine (University Hospital <http://hastane.omu.edu.tr/> ) and the Faculty of Dentistry (Dental Hospital <http://dis.omu.edu.tr/> ) provides all kinds of dental and medical treatment in the Day-Time Clinics and the Emergency Clinic. Both Faculties are fully equipped with modern medical equipment and with its clinical laboratories, radiology and emergency units; they have all the requirements for diagnosis and treatment in all areas of health. We also have a Children's Hospital and Animal Hospital

(<http://veteriner.omu.edu.tr>) if you wish to travel with your children and pets. If you have a slight health problem you may also visit our practitioner, psychologists, social worker and nurses who serve students and staff on the campus from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm weekdays.

## COST OF LIVING

The estimated cost of living is 300-350 Euros per month. This includes board, accommodation and local transport. Other personal expenses may amount to 300-500 Euros per semester.

Public transport: per ride 2 TL (Turkish Lira)  $\approx$  45 cents.

Bread : 1 TL  $\approx$  35 cents

A cup of coffee in an average café : 5-6 TL  $\approx$  2-2.5 Euro

0.5 litre of fresh water in the market : 50 Kuruş  $\approx$  20Cents

A litre of milk :  $\approx$  3 TL  $\approx$  1 Euro

Beer (50 cl) in the pub : 7 TL  $\approx$  3 Euro

A litre of coke in the market : 2 TL  $\approx$  85Cents

A kilo of chicken meat : 3 Euro

A dozen of eggs : 4.5 TL  $\approx$  1.50 Euro

A kilo of beef meat : 8-10 Euro

A liter of petrol : 4.80 TL  $\approx$  2 Euro

Cinema ticket for students : 10-15 TL  $\approx$  3-5 Euro

Average restaurant meal: 4-5 Euro



## FOOD



### In Turkey

Turkish cuisine is one of the most elegant cuisines in the world.

The variety of products offered by the lands of Asia and Anatolia, interaction with numerous different cultures over a long historical process, the new tastes developed in the palace kitchens of the Seljuk and the Ottoman empires have all played a part in shaping the new character of our culinary culture.

Turkish Cuisine, which in general consists of sauced dishes prepared with cereals, various vegetables and some meat, soups, cold dishes cooked with olive oil, pastry dishes and dishes made from wild vegetation has also produced a series of health foods.

Turkish Cuisine, while rich in variety and taste-bud friendly, also contains examples which could provide a source for healthy and balanced diets and vegetarian cuisines. It has some similarities with the ancient cultural cuisines of Anatolia, Mesopotamia, Central Asia, Mediterranean and the Balkans.

For more information about traditional Turkish and Ottoman cuisine please visit <http://www.kultur.gov.tr/EN,35306/culinary-culture.html>

### In Samsun

*Pide* is one of Samsun's delicious 'events' and has four different types available *Kapalı*, *peynirli-yumurtalı* (cheese&egg), *pastırmalı-yumurtalı* (spicy Turkish salami & egg) and *sucuklu-yumurtalı* (Turkish sausage & egg) although there are some further varieties, such as spinach, kavurmalı etc.

The local people eat *pide* every Sunday morning almost ritualistically.

These *pides* are totally unique to the city, and even though you can find “*pide*” in different cities it will never taste like the ones in Samsun.

### Food on Campus

In almost all schools there are dining halls called “Yemekhane” where students and staff are served lunch and dinner at a very reasonable price (2 TL  $\approx$  0,70 €).

When you complete your course enrolments at OMU, you will be given a personal student ID Card. You may eat your meals at the student dining halls by loading credits on your ID card. You can obtain these credits in front of the dining halls. Even if you do not have your student ID cards in the first days, you can go to the dining halls and have your meal saying that you are an “Erasmus Student”. (In this circumstance, you pay your meal in cash which is the same price.)

The “yemekhane” open hours on weekdays:

- For lunch: 11.30-13.00
- For dinner: 17.30-19.00

The “yemekhane” is closed on weekends. To enhance the variety of meals, there are also many canteens, cafeterias and restaurants in “Yaşam Merkezi” on the campus.

### ACCOMODATION

OMU offers accommodation to incoming exchange students in the International Student Dormitory. The dormitory is situated on the “Guzel Sanatlar” Campus and is comfortably suitable for students with all the necessary facilities of a flat; including bathrooms, kitchens and wi-fi internet.

Please find attached the *Dormitory Rules and Regulations*.

For further information please visit:

<http://erasmus-en.omu.edu.tr/general-information/accommodation/>



Monthly fees:

Single room	280,00 TL
Double room	200,00 TL per person
Room for 3	170,00 TL per person
Room for 4	150,00 TL per person

F E E S

If you do not wish to stay in the dormitory you may ask our office staff for assistance to learn about other options to stay on or close to the campus. You may also stay in private dormitories, hotels or rent flats for approximately 120 Euros. The easiest way to find a flat is to do some research on the internet (eg. <http://www.emlakcim.com.tr/>) or knock the door of a real estate agency in your neighbourhood.

If you have extra time, it is also possible to find an apartment by wandering around and looking for a flat for rent. When you rent a flat via agency, you should prepare to discard one-month rental as an agency cut. Besides, you should take into consideration paying a deposit whether you are renting the flat directly or through an agency.

The amount of deposit is equal to approximately one-month rent. However, at the end of the tenancy contract, if you hand in the flat in good condition, the deposit you paid will be given back to you.



### **SPORT FACILITIES AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES**

The social and cultural activities carried out in our city and university provide the students with many alternative opportunities for leisure.

Alongside academic success, our university gives great importance to social and cultural activities of students. Throughout the academic

year, the university hosts many famous guests from different academic and artistic backgrounds, enabling students to participate in a variety of lectures, seminars and workshops, in addition to

enjoying performances and special exhibitions in music, dance, theatre and visual arts.

There are various events traditionally organized in the university. Some of them are: Spring Festivals, Sports Festival, Media Awards, National Theater Festival, University Fair and Career Days. Every year, more and more traditional sport activities and competitions are organized in the University.

Students can participate in many different branches of sport in the indoor and outdoor complexes situated in the various campuses. The University has 5 indoor sport complexes, 4 football fields (2 indoor and 2 outdoor), an athletic track, 3 tennis courts and a swimming complex with an Olympic and Diving Pool. We also have fitness salons, saunas, spa baths, table tennis, billiards and massage.

Incoming students also have the privilege to join our university Sport Teams. Some of our teams are: Basketball, Box, Football, Wrestling, etc.

**Please find attached the list of sport teams.**

For further information on campus sport facilities please visit <http://sbf.omu.edu.tr/>

### ***Student Clubs***

Students can join any of the many student clubs (there are 85 clubs) the campus life offers them, such as: “ESN





Samsun”, Mountaineering Club, Aviation Club etc.

**Please find attached the list of student clubs.**

### ***Life Centre***

This centre includes the bare necessities of students for clothes and accessories, market, grocery and food shopping, eat-in and take-away food, rent-a-car, cargo post, copy centre, travel agency and some leisure activities such as; play station, mini golf and bowling.

### ***Student Boutique***



A student boutique is founded by the General Directorate of Health Culture and Sports for students with economic needs. The boutique is run by charities of the firms and people. The students can take two products free of charge per month by showing their student ID cards.

### ***Other Campus Facilities***

Observation House, Planetarium, Artificial Climbing Wall

### ***Sport and leisure facilities in the city***

With the great numbers of sport facilities in Samsun, the city is vastly progressing to become “a city of sports”. The sport complexes and centres of the City Municipality and the Ministry of Youth and Sport are also for the use of our students with very low membership and entrance fees.

The nearest sport complex to the Exchange Student Dormitory in *Guzel Sanatlar* Campus is Mustafa Dagistanli Sport Complex.

Please visit

<https://www.facebook.com/MustafaDagistanliSporSalonu>

### ***Library***

The university library system supports the overarching educational and research objectives of the university, supporting its students, faculty and staff in all aspects of their information and documentation needs. In addition, the library, through its staff and services, supports the collection use and dissemination of published information, within Turkey and throughout the world. The main campus library has a collection of 100,000 books, all of which are available to students and staff. The university offers access to periodicals, academic journals and a variety of other documents through its archives. Online access to subscription-based information sources, including academic journals, is available to students, faculty and staff. The university offers internet access to students and staff across the campus





facilities. The Kurupelit campus hosts an internet café with 105 internet-enabled computers. Free wireless internet access is available in student canteens, labs, reading rooms, the central library, faculties and vocational schools.

We have subscriptions to electronic databases, e-journals, e-books, e-theses and e-standards that are important for scientific research.

<http://kutuphane.omu.edu.tr/>



### **TRANSPORT INFORMATION TO THE DORMITORY:**

#### ***By plane***

When you arrive to Samsun Çarşamba Airport you will see two different exit gates (domestic and international flights) before entering the

airport building. Please choose the correct exit gate for your luggage pick up.

After taking your luggage, you will leave the airport from the exit door, which is right in front of the luggage claim. When you go outside, you will notice the airport shuttles called "BAFAŞ". Irrespective of the flight company you have used, you may use this shuttle. Please specify to the driver that you will need to go to the "Atakum Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü" (Fine Arts Campus). The shuttle

will take you exactly there and drop you off right in front of the dormitory. The cost of the shuttle is around 10 TL.

There is other means of travelling to the dormitory like taking the taxi (very expensive and not recommended ☺ ) or just taking the shuttle to the city centre "Meydan" and from there you have 3 alternative means of transport to Atakum Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü .

1. Faculty minibus ("dolmuş") right near the "Meydan" bus stop. That will cost around 3 TL.
2. Faculty tram again right near the "Meydan" bus stop. That will cost around 1.75 TL.
3. The city council busses. There are many routes and bus stops. Please take the bus that goes to Atakum Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü. This trip will also cost you around 1.75 TL.

As you can see, the easiest way is just to take a shuttle from the airport and get off at Atakum Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü.

#### ***By bus***

Some bus companies have shuttles to Atakum Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü. You may take them or you may take the University minibus ("dolmuş") and it will cost around 2 TL.

### **Local Transport in Samsun**

After you have been issued a student ID from OMU you may apply for a student discount for





travel ticket “SAMKART” to be used on all public transport (tram, city busses) in Samsun. Public transport in Samsun is very convenient, frequent and reasonable in price.

## **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

### **Money**

The currency in Turkey is Turkish Lira (TL). Traveller’s cheques are not favoured in Turkey. ATMs can be found in even the smallest Turkish towns. Most accept international credit cards or bank cards (a strip of logos is usually displayed above the ATM). Almost all ATMs have a language key to enable you to read the instructions in English. Most commercial establishments accept international credit cards, such as Visa, Master Card and American Express.

The value-added tax, here called KDV, is 18%. Hotels typically combine it with a service charge of 10% to 15%. Value-added tax is nearly always included in quoted prices. Certain shops are authorized to refund the tax so you must ask about this.

### **Tipping**

For meals at restaurants, it is customary to leave a 5 % tip. Some high-end restaurant and hotels add a 10% service charge to the bill automatically. Please check the bill first or ask if service is included.

### **Postal Service**

Post offices (PTT) are open from 8.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30 Monday to Friday. Postal charges vary for different services depending on destination and weight of the letter. All PTT branches have the facilities to exchange money at the current international exchange rates, as well as international postal orders and travellers’ cheques. There is also an express postal service (APS) for letters, documents and small packages operating to 90 countries. A wide variety of special stamps are available in all PTT centres for philatelists.

### **Mobile Phones, Telephone & Internet**

The major GSM operators in Turkey are Turkcell, Vodafone and Avea. You can use your mobile phone in Turkey if your provider has enabled international roaming. However, for exchange students we recommend that you buy a local prepaid SIM card here. Turkey has very wide coverage networks so you shouldn’t have any problems with your calls.



Each Turkish mobile provider is assigned a range of area codes (or mobile prefixes). Turkcell uses numbers 530-539, Vodafone 541-549, and Avea 502-506.

For international calls from Turkey you must dial 00 + country code + area code. For national calls within Turkey you must dial 0 + area code + 7 digit local phone number. For local calls, dialling only the telephone number is sufficient.

Here are the area codes for Turkey's major cities:

- Adana 322
- Ankara 312
- Antalya 242
- Bursa 224
- Istanbul (Asian side) 216
- Istanbul (European side) 212
- Izmir 232

## Emergency Numbers

Emergency Phones (all over Turkey)

110 - Fire

112 - Ambulance

115 - Third-party charges (International)

118 - Directory Assistance

131 - Third-party charges (Inter-city)

135 - Awakening service

153 - Municipal Police (Zabita)

154 - Traffic Police

155 - Police



156 - Gendarmerie

153 - Coastal Security

170 - Tourism Info

177 - Forest Fire

184 - Health Information



## Things to Bring With You

All documents related to your exchange programme

Passport

Visa (if required)

Insurance documents

Identity Card

Pocket money

For trips:

- Bathing suit
- Backpacks
- Sleeping bags

Driving License (if you have one)

Camera

And don't forget to bring your prescribed medication paper if necessary

## BANKS

There are 4 bank branches (Vakıfbank, Ziraat Bankası, Garanti Bankası and Akbank) and 10 ATMs on the University campus for the use of students, academic and administrative staff.

## SHOPPING

Other than the many student canteens, restaurants, cafeterias and rest rooms, there is a flower and souvenir shop, shoe repair service and three hairdressing salons on the campus. In Samsun, the main shopping areas for food, clothes, toys, presents, electric-electronic items etc. are Çiftlik (on İstiklal Caddesi), Mecidiye (on Gazi Caddesi) and Yabancılar Çarşısı at “Meydan” (City Square) . Other various sized shopping malls where you can find almost everything are: Piazza AVM (AVM means shopping mall), Bulvar AVM, Yeşilyurt AVM, Makro AVM, Lovelet, Migros, BIM, A101, Carrefour etc.

## TRAVELLING

Turkey is home to the world's earliest settlements and numerous civilizations ranging from the tiniest of communities to the greatest of empires. It is the cradle of cultures and civilizations connecting Europe and Asia and also the capital of civilizations that have reined the lands of Anatolia for centuries.

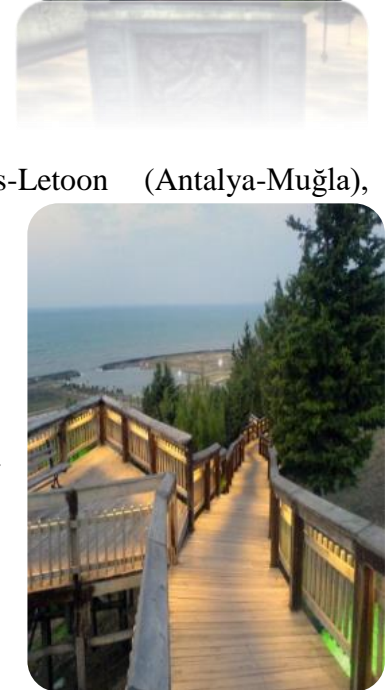
Since the beginning of history, Anatolia, well known as one of the earliest settlements, has continued to flourish with the migration of various tribes, and accumulated a large cultural heritage through a line of succeeding empires and civilizations. Many empires ranging from the Sumerians to the Hittites, the Lydians to the Byzantines and the Seljuks to the Ottomans have once thrived and expired within the borders of Turkey.

Almost every city in Turkey has its own value of tourism, which reminds us of a paradise with its mountains, rivers, caves, ski resorts and beaches.

In Turkey, there are 9 cultural and natural inheritances as the 'world heritage', a status given by UNESCO to internationally unique splendors, monuments and sites because they are worthy of protection and admiration.

Among many, here are some of the historical places you can enjoy visiting: Istanbul, city of Safranbolu (Karabük), Hattusas (Boğazköy)-Capital of Hittite (Çorum), Mount Nemrut (Adıyaman-Kahta), Xanthos-Letoon (Antalya-Muğla), Divriği Ulu Camii and Hospital (Sivas), the ancient city of Troy (Çanakkale), Pamukkale-Hierapolis (Denizli), Göreme National Park and Cappadocia (Nevşehir).

Samsun is a city in the Central Karadeniz (Black Sea) Region of Turkey. It is the largest city and port on the Turkish Black Sea coast and has a special place in the republican history of Turkey, as this is where the republic's founder, Mustafa Kemal





Atatürk, has set foot to start the War of Independence in 1919.

There are many places you can visit in Samsun as it is famous for its:

History that dates back to 7th Century B.C

Historical sites

Legend that the Amazons lived in Terme, Samsun

Thermal springs in Havza and Ladik

Hazelnut, tobacco and rice plantations

Bird wildlife

Kizilirmak Delta

Annual International Folk Dancing Festival

Samsun “Pide” and “Simit” and many more...

Visiting Turkey and Samsun while you study will give you the opportunity to comprehend Turkey's cultural and historical richness.

For more information: [www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr](http://www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr) ;  
<https://goturkey.com> ; <http://www.kultur.gov.tr> ;  
<http://samsun.gov.tr/index.php?islem=turizm-alternatifleri>

## WEATHER

The Mediterranean and the Aegean climates are cool and characterized wet winters and hot, dry summers. The climate in the Aegean region of Turkey is great throughout the year, even during the European winter.



The weather in the eastern region of Turkey, bordering Georgia and Iraq, has hot summers and sometimes icy winters.



Turkey's climate and weather along the coast of the Black Sea is a continental climate, but during summer in northern Turkey humidity levels can be quite high. The weather in winter, particularly December and January, is cold and temperatures can drop below zero.

The weather in Turkey's capital, Ankara, as well as the central Anatolian region is cold in winter and hot and dry in summer. Central Turkey's climate is known as a mixture between a continental climate and a steppe climate.

For more information on weather in Turkey <http://www.mgm.gov.tr>

## CULTURE, ART AND HISTORY

Recently, there is vividness in arts, such as cinema, theatre and music. International and national cinema, music and theatre festivals are organized throughout the year in most of the cities, especially in Ankara and İstanbul. To follow the events please visit:



[www.devtyatro.gov.tr](http://www.devtyatro.gov.tr)

[www.dobgm.gov.tr](http://www.dobgm.gov.tr)

<https://secure.dobgm.gov.tr/opera2013/devopera.aspx>

(Opera and Ballet in Samsun)

The main film festivals are: International Adana Golden Ball Film Festival, Ankara International Film Festival, İstanbul International Film Festival, International Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival,



Bursa Silk Road Festival, Film çekimi, International Short Film Festival, Flying Broom International Women's Film Festival.

Some music festivals are: Ankara International Music Festival, Akbank Jazz Festival, Bursa Rock Festival, Rumeli Hisarı Concerts, Rock'n Coke, İzmir European Jazz Festival, İstanbul Jazz Festival, Freshtival, Rock İstanbul are important organizations where local and foreign artists take place in. Besides, spring festivals and music festivals are organized by the majority of the universities every year. For detailed information [www.kultur.gov.tr](http://www.kultur.gov.tr)

If you are interested in history and culture, you can visit museums and the ruins which are over 300 in numbers, and also which are subject to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, for a year without paying anything by getting a 'museum card' (*Müzekart*) for a reasonable price and submitting your student id. The details could be found at: [www.muze.gov.tr](http://www.muze.gov.tr)

## MISCELLANEOUS FACTS

**Local time:** Standard time zone: UTC/GMT + 2 hours

**Electricity :** The electrical current in Turkey is 220 volts, 50cycles alternating current (AC); wall outlets take Continental-type plugs, with two or three round prongs.

**Tap water :** Safe to drink in all cities since it has been chlorinated.

**Weights and measures :** Metric system.

**Foreign newspapers :** Available in large cities and tourist areas.

## TIME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TURKEY AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES

Australia	+9
Germany	-1
France	-1
England	-2
Italy	-1
Japan	+6
Netherlands	-1
Austria	-1
Spain	-1
USA (East Coast)	-7

## OPENING HOURS OF....

Government Offices	8:00-12:00	(closed Saturday and Sunday)
	13:00-17:00	
Banks	9:00-12:00	(closed Saturday and Sunday)
	13:3- 17:00	
Shops	10.00-21:00	Some close around midnight



Merhaba  
Günaydın  
İyi Akşamlar  
İyi Geceler  
Güle Güle  
Evet  
Hayır  
Lütfen  
Teşekkürler  
Afedersiniz  
Kahvaltı  
Öğle Yemeği  
Akşam Yemeği  
Yiyecek  
İçecek  
Bira  
Kahve  
Çay  
Meyva suyu

Su  
Bilet  
Otobüs  
Sokak  
Yol  
Havaalanı  
Uçak  
Tren  
Para  
Adam/Erkek  
Kadın  
Erkek Çocuk  
Kız  
Hastane  
Üniversite  
Kitap  
Kütüphane  
Sağ  
Sol  
Giriş  
Çıkış  
Şehir  
Seni seviyorum!  
Benim adım...  
Şerefe!  
Bir bira, lütfen!  
İmdat!



## USEFUL LINKS

### *ABOUT TURKEY*

[www.ua.gov.tr](http://www.ua.gov.tr) (The Turkish National Agency)

[www.mfa.gov.tr](http://www.mfa.gov.tr) (Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

[www.turizm.gov.tr/](http://www.turizm.gov.tr/) (Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism)

[www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr](http://www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr) (Directorate General of Cultural Beings and Museums)

[www.goturkey.com](http://www.goturkey.com) (Tourism portal of Turkey)

[www.abgs.gov.tr](http://www.abgs.gov.tr) (Secretariat General for the EU Affairs)

[www.yok.gov.tr](http://www.yok.gov.tr) (The Council of Higher Education)

[www.turkishairlines.com](http://www.turkishairlines.com) (Turkish Airlines)

[www.mkutup.gov.tr](http://www.mkutup.gov.tr) (National Library of Turkey)

[www.tubitak.gov.tr](http://www.tubitak.gov.tr) (The Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey)

[www.mgm.gov.tr/](http://www.mgm.gov.tr/) (Turkish State Meteorological Service)

[www.tursab.org.tr](http://www.tursab.org.tr) (Association of Turkish Travel Agencies)

### *ABOUT SAMSUN*

[www.omu.edu.tr](http://www.omu.edu.tr) (Ondokuz Mayıs University)

[www.samsun.gov.tr/](http://www.samsun.gov.tr/) (Governorship of Samsun)

[www.samsun.bel.tr/](http://www.samsun.bel.tr/) (Samsun City Council)

[www.samsuntso.org.tr/](http://www.samsuntso.org.tr/) (Samsun Chamber of Commerce and Trade)



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Name of Institution:** ONDOKUZ MAYIS  
UNIVERSITY

**Erasmus ID Code :** TRSAMSUN 01

**Rector:** Prof. Dr. Hüseyin AKAN

**Address:** Atakum 55200  
SAMSUN -TURKEY

**Tel:** +90-362-3121919 (Ext: 1613 / 1609)

**Fax:** +90-362-4576091

**University web page:** <http://www.omu.edu.tr>

**International Relations Office**

**Head of International Relations:**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nalan KIZILTAN

**ERASMUS Institutional Coordinator /**

**International Relations Office Manager**

Emine BOL YAZICI

**e-mail:** [eminebol@omu.edu.tr](mailto:eminebol@omu.edu.tr) / [erasmus@omu.edu.tr](mailto:erasmus@omu.edu.tr)

**ECTS/DS Coordinator/Responsible for MEVLANA Programme**

Esra DERLE

**e-mail:** [esra.derle@omu.edu.tr](mailto:esra.derle@omu.edu.tr) / [erasmus@omu.edu.tr](mailto:erasmus@omu.edu.tr)

**Office Staff Members:**

Nazan ŞİMŞEK (Responsible for Erasmus Incoming Students)

**e-mail:** [nazan.simsek@omu.edu.tr](mailto:nazan.simsek@omu.edu.tr) / [erasmus@omu.edu.tr](mailto:erasmus@omu.edu.tr)

Tuğçe KARAZ (Responsible for Erasmus Outgoing Students)

**e-mail:** [tugce.karaz@omu.edu.tr](mailto:tugce.karaz@omu.edu.tr)



[university.html](http://www.omu.edu.tr/university.html)

**Address:** 55200 ATAKUM  
SAMSUN -TURKEY

**Tel:** +90-362-3121919 (Ext: 1613 / 1609)

**Fax:** +90-362-4576091

**Office E-mail:** [erasmus@omu.edu.tr](mailto:erasmus@omu.edu.tr)

**Office websites:**

<http://www.omu.edu.tr>

<http://uib-en.omu.edu.tr>

<http://erasmus-en.omu.edu.tr>

<http://ebs.omu.edu.tr/en/ondokuz-mayis>



Ondokuz Mayıs University  
International Relations Office  
<http://uib-en.omu.edu.tr/>

Designed by Betül YILDIRIM