

# UNIVERSITY OF BIALYSTOK GUIDE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS



#### THE CITY OF BIALYSTOK

Bialystok, with a population of nearly 300 thousand, is the largest city in the north-eastern part of Poland and the capital of Podlasie Region. The location near borders with Belarus, Lithuania and Russia creates good conditions for the development of economic and cultural connections with Eastern European countries. Bialystok plays a role of administrative, economic, scientific and cultural centre of this part of the country (thanks to ecological assets, it is called "The Green Lungs of Poland").

Bialystok's specific character has been shaped by the co-existence of many nations, religions, cultures, customs and traditions. It has always been a place where Polish, Belorussian, Jewish, Lithuanian, German and Russian people meet.

Bialystok is a trans-regional academic and scientific centre. About 50 thousand people study at eighteen higher education institutions. Public universities, like University of Bialystok, Medical University (one of the leading medical colleges in the country) and Bialystok University of Technology, which have been in operation for several dozen years, have a significant scientific output. You can find some private Universities or Art Colleges as well.

Bialystok is a lovely city with many sightseeing possibilities and a great place for living and studying.



#### ARRIVING IN BIALYSTOK

The nearest airport is located in Warsaw, the capital of Poland. Once you arrive in Warsaw, you can take a bus or a train that will bring you to the central railway station (Warszawa Centralna), where the trains to Bialystok can be easily found. There are also some direct buses from the airport to Bialystok.

To check the timetable and other connections visit the website: www.pkp.pl (available in English, German and French).



Below are some useful websites: www.bialystok.pl, www.wrotapodlasia.pl, www.podlaskieit.pl, www.discover.bialystok.pl, www.visitbialystok.com, www.poland.gov.pl.

#### UNIVERSITY OF BIALYSTOK

The University of Bialystok was founded in 1997 by transforming the former 29-year old Branch of Warsaw University. Over the fifteen years, the University has become a dynamically growing institution of higher education. It is the largest in Podlasie Region, considering the number of research workers, fields of study and forms of education offered, as well as the number of students and graduates.

Presently, the University of Bialystok offers education at nine faculties, including one located abroad in Vilnius, Lithuania. Classes and lectures are delivered by approximately 900 academic teachers. At present the University educates over 16000 students in almost 30 fields of study. It offers 102 different postgraduate courses. The doctoral programmes are provided by five university units: the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Economics and Management, the Faculty of Philology, the Faculty of Biology and Chemistry and the Faculty of History and Sociology. The University is entitled to confer 10 doctoral degrees and 4 postdoctoral degrees.

All degree courses have the accreditation of the Polish Accreditation Committee. Faculty of Law received the highest notes and prestigious distinction. Institute of Chemistry has the following European accreditations: Eurobachelor Label and Euromaster Label. In 2010 and 2011



the University of Bialystok was ranked third in the competition "The most innovative and creative institutions of higher education in Poland". In 2011 it was awarded the certificate "University of Leaders" by the Foundation for the Development of Education and Higher Learning. The competition promotes institutions of higher learning, which invest in the job market-oriented education and care about the practical knowledge of the students.

The University realizes how important it is to the students and staff to develop their expertise and experience in scientific centres of the foreign countries.

Therefore international cooperation is one of the University's priorities. In November of 1998, the University of Bialystok signed its first Institutional Contract and became a participant of the ERASMUS Programme. Lately Erasmus+ was announced and our University continous student and staff mobility. During those years, the University has enlarged the list of its partners to over 105 universities from 23 European Union countries, as well as Turkey. It hosted over 390 incoming students and over 1200 students from the University have studied abroad.

#### **COORDINATORS**

#### **Faculty of Biology and Chemistry**

Biology | Biology and Geography | Chemistry | Natural Environmental Protection

#### Erasmus coordinators:

Emilia Grądzka, Ph.D. (Institute of Chemistry) emilia@uwb.edu.pl

#### www.biol-chem.uwb.edu.pl

Maciej Karpowicz, M.A. (Institute of Biology) m.karpowicz@uwb.edu.pl

#### **Faculty of Economics and Management**

Economics | Economics and Law | International Economic Relations (also available in English) | Management

#### **Erasmus coordinators:**

Marek Kruk, Ph.D. marek.kruk@uwb.edu.pl Paweł Piątkowski, Ph.D. - Incoming students erasmus pl@wp.pl

Anna Busłowska, Ph.D.
- Outgoing students
aniabuslowska@yahoo.com

www.filologia.uwb.edu.pl

www.weiz.uwb.edu.pl

#### **Faculty of Philology**

Cultural Studies | Polish Philology |
Philology: English Philology, English for
Specific Purposes with Spanish, French
Philology, French for Specific Purposes
with Spanish, Belorussian Philology,
Russian Philology, Russian PhilologyLanguage Communication in Business

#### Erasmus coordinators:

Konrad Szamryk, Ph.D. (Institute of Polish Philology) konrad.szamryk@wp.pl

Krzysztof Rutkowski, Ph.D. (Institute of East Slavonic Philology) krz.rut@gmail.com

#### Prof. Grzegorz Moroz (Chair of Neophilology-

-English Language) grzes.furbia@wp.pl

Agnieszka Włoczewska, Ph.D. (Chair of Neophilology--French Language) agnieszka@absyst.com Adrianna Naruk, Ph.D. (Chair of Neophilology--French Language) a.naruk@uwb.edu.pl

#### Faculty of Physics

Physics | Medical Physics

#### **Erasmus coordinator:**

Krystyna Perzyńska, Ph.D. krystyna@alpha.uwb.edu.pl www.physics.uwb.edu.pl

**Faculty of History and Sociology** 

www.hist-soc.uwb.edu.pl

History | Sociology | International Relations | Philosophy

**Erasmus coordinators:** 

Krzysztof Boroda, Ph.D. (Institute of History) kbrda@wp.pl

Maciei Białous, M.A. (Institute of Sociology)

Urszula Citko, Ph.D.

(Institute of Computer

Science Coordinator)

ucitko@ii.uwb.edu.pl

maciej.bialous@gmail.com

Łukasz Niewiński, Ph.D. (International Relations) rebeliant63@wp.pl

**Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics** 

www.matinf.uwb.edu.pl

Mathematics | Financial Mathematis | Informatics and Econometrics | Informatics **Erasmus coordinators:** 

Jarosław Kotowicz, Ph.D. (Institute of Mathematics Coordinator)

kotowicz@math.uwb.edu.pl

Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology

www.pip.uwb.edu.pl

Social Work | Pedagogy | Social Policy

**Erasmus coordinator:** 

Emilia Żvłkiewicz-Płońska, M.A. - Faculty Coordinator pip.erasmus@uwb.edu.pl

**Faculty of Law** 

www.prawo.uwb.edu.pl

Law | Administration | European Studies (also available in English) | National Security **Erasmus coordinators:** 

Izabela Kraśnicka, Ph.D. - Faculty Coordinator krasnicka@uwb.edu.pl

Magdalena Perkowska, Ph.D.

- Outgoing Students Coordinator uwb.erasmus@gmail.com

Elżbieta Kużelewska, Ph.D. - Incoming Students Coordinator uwb.incoming@gmail.com

Faculty of Economics and Informatics in Vilnius

www.uwb.lt

Economics | Informatics

**Erasmus coordinator:** 

Stanisław Pilżys, M.A. - Faculty Coordinator s.pilzys@uwb.edu.pl

List of offered courses in foreign languages can be found at: www.uwb.edu.pl.

## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND RELATIONS OFFICE



#### Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Room 808

#### **Erasmus team**

- Edyta Wasiluk-Ostrowska, M.A. Head of the Office ac-dwz@uwb.edu.pl
- Joanna Matowicka, M.A. (Incoming Students, Staff Mobility) incoming@uwb.edu.pl
- Magdalena Tkaczuk, M.A. (Outgoing Students, Bilateral Agreements) erasmus@uwb.edu.pl

#### **Erasmus Institutional Coordinator**

Prof. Anna Piszcz, piszcz@uwb.edu.pl

ERASMUS ID CODE OF THE INSTITUTION: PL BIALYST04

For further information on the ERASMUS+ please visit the homepage of the European Commission: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus\_en or the Polish National Erasmus Agency website: www.erasmusplus.org.pl, www.frse.org.pl

#### www.uwb.edu.pl

#### APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you have been nominated by your home university, you can apply to study at the University of Bialystok. Before arrival you need to send by e-mail, fax or post the following documents:

- Application Form duly signed and stamped
- Learning Agreement accepted by coordinators of both sides

incoming@uwb.edu.pl, fax: +48 85 745 70 89 University of Bialystok International Programmes and Relations Office M. Sklodowskiej-Curie 14, 15-097 Bialystok, Poland.

#### APPLICATION DEADLINES

Winter Semester 31st May - Faculty of Law students Full academic year 30th June - other Faculties

Summer Semester

31th October - Faculty of Law students
30th November - other Faculties

All the necessary documents that need to be filled by Erasmus students planning to study at the University can be downloaded from the website: www.uwb.edu.pl.

#### www.uwb.edu.pl

Tel.: + 48 85 745 70 89, +48 85 745 70 51

Fax: +48 85 745 70 89

#### POLISH LANGUAGE COURSE

The University of Bialystok provides free of charge Polish language course for all Erasmus students coming to study at the University. The course is offered in each semester and includes 30 hours of classes (4 ECTS) with English speaking instructor.

#### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

#### COSTS OF LIVING

WINTER SEMESTER		
Semester start	1st October	
Examinations	first two weeks of February	
SUMMER SEMESTER		
Semester start	Mid-February	
Examinations	two last weeks of June	
Semester end	30th June	

Summer holidays	July, August, September
Winter holidays	one week in February
Christmas and New Year break	two weeks
Easter brake	one week

Public and Church holidays include the following: New Year 1st January; The Epiphany 6th January; Labour Day 1st May; Constitution Day 3rd May; Corpus Christi Thursday in June; Ascension of the Holy Mary 15th August; All Saints Day 1st November; Independence Day 11th November.

The cost of living in Bialystok is slightly lower than in other big cities in Poland. The monthly cost of living per one student is approximately 1300-1600 PLN (310-385 EUR).

#### 1 EUR = approximately 4.20 PLN

The average cost of monthly living should be divided into:

- accommodation in the student's dormitory: 360 PLN-410 PLN (85 EUR-100 EUR):
- monthly food costs: approx. 700 PLN (170 EUR);
- transport: approx. 60 PLN (15 EUR); single student bus ticket: 1,40 PLN (0,30 EUR)
- leisure, books: approx. 300 PLN (70 EUR).

Polish student ID card authorizes to 50% discount for public transport.



Bialystok is located in a region that is ecologically clean, full of tourist attractions and with well-developed infrastructure. That makes the city and its surroundings an attractive place to live in, rest and develop tourism. There are a lot of shopping centres, theatres, cinemas,

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museums, pubs, cafes, dance clubs and recently opened Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic- European Centre for the Arts. There are also many sport centres, like: fitness clubs, swimming pools, skate parks. You can even try horseback riding or jumping with a parachute.

oto: Aldona Weglarz

#### www.domystudenta.uwb.edu.pl

#### **DORMITORIES**



The University of Bialystok has two dormitories, offering the Erasmus students lodgings in the conveniently located places.

The monthly rent is 360 PLN (around 85 EUR) for a double room. This cost is established for foreigners and includes the real maintenance costs. There is also a very good bus connection from the dormitories to the city centre, as well as to all the faculties of the University. Erasmus students wishing to find an accommodation at the dormitory should mark it in the Application Form and contact the International Programmes and Relations Office.



#### www.bg.uwb.edu.pl

#### LIBRARIES

The University has a modern and superbly equipped library located in the centre of Bialystok with over 470 thousand books and monographs, over 86 thousand periodicals, over 15 thousand volumes of special collections. The thematic scope of the collection is very broad. The University Library offers reading rooms for 327 people; each equipped with computers and Internet connection. The Library provides online access to the most important national and foreign electronic periodicals. The Library users may look through bibliographical databases of the National Library and other institutions. Thanks to reference publications and well organized databases, the University Library is an important centre of information science in the region.



Apart from the University Library, the University of Bialystok offers access to the collections of the several institute and faculty libraries.

#### THE CAMPUS

The construction of university campus, started in February 2011, which has a chance to become the most recognizable structure in the region. In terms of its scientific and didactic facilities it is one of the most modern academic centres in Poland.

The campus designer is prof. Marek Budzyński, one of the most renowned Polish architects, the creator of the University Library in Warsaw. Architectural design is based on the philosophical concept according to which sciences need to be synthesized in the pursuit of truth.

The University Campus is located on Ciolkowski Street in Bialystok

and is consisted of: Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, Physics, Biology and Chemistry; University Computing Centre, a greenhouse, the Prof. Andrzej Myrcha University Natural Science Museum, the animal house and University Culture Centre with cafe and concert hall. All classrooms and laboratories in the campus are equipped with the high quality computers and laboratory equipment. Just to mention few: X-ray diffractometer, dental radiographic, DNA sequenator, spectrometers (e.g. ICP-MS), chromatographs.

The Campus is a high standard, modern and fully equipped place to study.







Photo: Artur Mnich

#### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

There are many different types of organizations and associations active at the University of Bialystok, such as: Student Parliament, Independent Student Association NZS, Polish Students' Association ZSP, European Law Students' Association ELSA, International Association of Students in Economics and Management AIESEC, Business Centre Club, Academic Choir

It should be noted that each faculty offers the students many other possibilities to join the scientific clubs and student groups. About 70 student scientific groups are active at the University, the most – over 20, at the Faculty of Law.



www.azs.uwb.edu.pl

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS CENTRE



The University's Physical Education and Sports Centre of conducts didactic activity and provides compulsory physical education classes for all faculties. Together with the University Sport Association (AZS) offers sports classes in basketball, volleyball, football, table tennis, athletics, judo and swimming. The Centre is located near the Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology.

#### **ERASMUS GALLERY**

The University wants to help incoming Erasmus students to integrate with the community. That is why International Programmes and Relations Office organizes many events, for example: Welcome dinner, Christmas Eve and Sleigh ride in the winter time, as well as many trips.







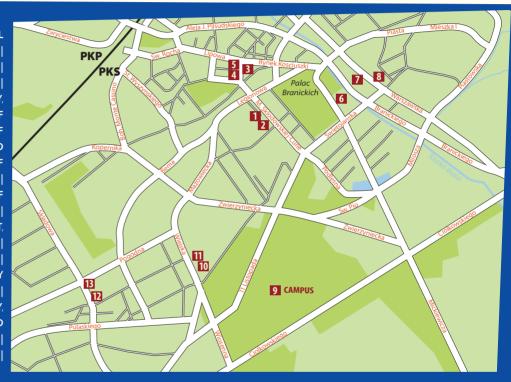




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## Welcome to the University of Bialystok

1. RECTOR'S OFFICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND RELATIONS OFFICE FOREIGN LANGUAGES TEACHING CENTRE STUDENT PARLIAMENT, M. Sklodowskiej-Curie 14 2. JERZY GIEDROYC UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. M. Sklodowskiej-Curie 14A | 3. CHAIR OF NEOPHILOLOGY, Liniarskiego 3 | 4. FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY | FACULTY OF HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY, Plac Uniwersytecki 1 | 5. CHAIR OF ORTHODOX THEOLOGY, Sw. Mikolaja 5 6. FACULTY OF LAW, Mickiewicza 1 | 7. CHAIR OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY, Warszawska 50 8. FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT, Warszawska 63 | 9. FACULTY OF PHYSICS | **FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATICS** UNIVERSITY COMPUTING CENTRE | FACULTY OF BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY, Ciolkowskiego 10. FACULTY OF PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY. Swierkowa 20 | 11. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS CENTRE, SPORTS HALL, Swierkowa 20 A | 12. STUDENT'S HOUSE NO. 1, Zeromskiego 1 13. STUDENT'S HOUSE NO. 3, Pogodna 65



### International Programmes and Relations Office

M. Sklodowskiej-Curie 14 15-097 Bialystok, Poland Tel./fax: +48 85 745 70 89 incoming@uwb.edu.pl erasmus@uwb.edu.pl This guide has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Commission within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme. This publication reflects the views only of the author and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

