

STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT



By being part of the European Master in Renewable Energy, you have the possibility of choosing a specialization for the second semester taught by universities in different European countries. In my case, since I chose the wind energy specialization I had to go to Greece to continue my studies, and I had the chance of applying to ERASMUS. The process was simple, as I had the support of my faculty coordinator and the International Office of the university. Therefore, after submitting the required documents the Grant was approved. To travel to Athens, I booked KLM tickets (Bremen to Amsterdam and Amsterdam to Athens) and the trip took about 6 hours. I found the accommodation

through Airbnb, contacting the hosts and asking if they would allow me to monthly rent the place at a cheaper price. I decided the place based on prices and location since my lectures were at the Zografou campus of the NTUA. Upon arriving at the airport, I took a taxi and arrived at my new stay.

The academic method is based on four modules where the fundamental concepts of wind energy are studied through the lectures, laboratories, and projects. There is a final exam for each of the first three modules and the fourth consists of the development of two projects. Due to the pandemic and restrictions, most of my classes were virtual, being these generally from Monday to Friday in the morning (10-1pm). Over the course of the semester, I had the opportunity to interact with various professors, tutors, and industry professionals, which allowed me to gain a broad perspective on the subject. In the same way, I always had great support from the



coordinator and teachers with any doubt or inconvenience that arose, both regarding academic issues and adaptation to the new place. The university is huge, but due to COVID I did not have the opportunity to know beyond the laboratories. One great thing is that the cafeteria offers free lunches and dinners for students.



The everyday life in Athens is fantastic, there is always something to do. The first thing I did when the restrictions ended was to visit the Acropolis. The city center is very beautiful and cultural. There are many restaurants, bars, concerts, and museums. So, I was always surrounded by good music, friendly people and a very good weather. In the same way I had the opportunity to know some of the islands (Santorini, Mykonos and Zante). This has definitely been one of the best experiences of my life.

Recommendations:



- Before buying flight tickets, look at webpages like [skyscanner.net](https://www.skyscanner.net) so that you find the options that best suit you in order to save money and time. It is generally cheaper to fly from Hamburg instead of Bremen.
- Athens airport is far from the urban center of the city, so when arriving in Athens, it is much cheaper to take the bus or metro (6 euros) instead of a taxi (35 euros). But if you have a lot of luggage, it is better to take a taxi.
- Within the city, taxis in Athens are much cheaper compared to Germany. Beat is a very good app to order taxis there.
- To find accommodation, it is important to verify the neighborhood where you will stay, because in Athens there are areas that are not secure. Then it is better to search near the university (do not forget to check on which campus your classes will be, as the university has one located in Zografou and another in the center).
- Not knowing Greek will not be a problem, as most people also speak English.
- Take the opportunity to travel, as Greece is a beautiful country.