



Ondokuz Mayıs  
elevate yourself  
you university



EXCHANGE  
STUDENT  
GUIDE



# *International Relations Office*

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## Dear Student,

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 Ondokuz Mayıs University (OMU) International Relations Office (IRO) to make your stay here pleasant, satisfying and most enjoyable.

OMU is a well-established state university founded in 1975 with the purpose of bringing a fresh dynamism to the economic, cultural and social life of the Black Sea Region.

OMU has a clear and bright vision and mission to accomplish high standard of education, research and provide all the necessary qualifications and competences that all our graduates need in order to pursue their career either in their professional life or in their academic life. In order to achieve this, our university vision is to become an aspired university where innovativeness in science and technology, quality in education and service satisfaction of our stakeholders are at a highest level.

Our international strategy has been derived with the purpose of accomplishing the aims of our university vision.

Today, OMU has approximately 58,000 students (of which 3,422 are full time international students from 104 different countries), 2,348 academic staff and 3,937 employees.

OMU has 18 Faculties, 12 Vocational Schools, 1 College, 5 Graduate Schools, 1 Conservatory and 24 Research Centres.

As for general information about our university and city, OMU is one of the most beautiful campuses in Turkey. The main campus is located in the suburb of Kurupelit in Samsun, a coastal and harbour city situated on the border of the Black Sea in the North of Turkey. There are 10 other smaller campuses in other districts of Samsun.

Kurupelit Campus is situated in a land of 8,800 acres with a brilliant view of the Black Sea on the one side and a magnificent view of the nationally famous Kocadag Mountain on the other side. Samsun has one of the longest and widest beachside in Turkey with very fine golden sand. It also has a mild climate and a lot of sunshine. If you are interested in fishing, Samsun is the perfect place for you.

Furthermore, OMU has a large incoming student capacity. We have many privileges to offer them on our campus like good accommodation, an Olympic swimming pool, a fitness centre and many more sport facilities and even a climbing wall. We also have a planetarium and observation house.

One of the main priorities of the university is to facilitate education, training and living areas to our students with disabilities. OMU gives support to 96 different student clubs which are active in different areas of culture, arts, sports, thinking and career.

There is so much to write about Samsun and OMU but I think the best thing is to invite you here.



## **FACULTIES**

### **Ali Fuad Başgil Faculty of Law**

#### **Faculty of Dentistry**

#### **Faculty of Education**

##### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Computer and Inst. Tech. Teacher Education Prog.  
Psychological Counseling and Guidance Prog.  
Arts Education Programme  
Music Teacher Education Programme  
Chemistry Teacher Education Programme  
Physics Teacher Education Programme  
Biology Teacher Education Programme  
Mathematics Teacher Education Programme  
Science Teacher Education Programme  
Elementary School Mathematics Education Prog.  
Teacher Education For Hearing Impaired Prog.  
Teacher Education For Mentally Challenged Prog.  
Social Sciences Teacher Education Programme  
Turkish Language Teacher Education Prog.  
Early Childhood Education Programme  
Primary School Teacher Education Prog.  
English Language Teacher Education Prog.  
German Language Teacher Education Prog.  
French Language Teacher Education Prog.

#### **Faculty of Science and Letters**

##### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Archeology  
Department of Biology  
Department of Geography  
Department of Philosophy  
Department of Physics  
Department of Statistics  
Department of Chemistry  
Department of Mathematics  
Department of Psychology  
Department of History of Art  
Department of Sociology  
Department of Turkish Language and Literature  
Department of History  
Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics



## Faculty of Fine Arts

### Undergraduate Programmes

Department of Visual Communication Design  
Department of Painting  
Department of Ceramics and Glass  
Department of Industrial Design  
Department of Sculpture

## Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences

### Undergraduate Programmes

Department of Economics  
Department of Management  
Department of Political Science and  
Public Administration  
Department of International Trade and Logistics

## Faculty of Divinity

### Undergraduate Programmes

Department of Divinity  
Elementary School Religious Culture and Knowledge  
of Ethics Programme

## Faculty of Communication

### Undergraduate Programmes

Department of Journalism  
Department of Public Relations and Publicity  
Department of Radio, Television and Cinema

## Faculty of Veterinary Medicine





## **Faculty of Architecture**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Architecture  
Department of Interior Design  
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

## **Faculty of Engineering**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Computer Engineering  
Department of Environmental Engineering  
Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering  
Department of Industrial Engineering  
Department of Food Engineering  
Department of Geomatics Engineering  
Department of Civil Engineering  
Department of Chemical Engineering  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Department of Material Science and Engineering

## **Faculty of Health Sciences**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Nursing  
Department of Midwifery  
Department of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Department of Social Services  
Department of Health Management  
Department of Language and Speech Therapy

## **Faculty of Tourism**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Tourism Management  
Department of Tourist Guidance  
Department of Recreation Management  
Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts

## **Faculty of Medicine**



## **Yaşar Doğu Faculty of Sport Sciences**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Dept. of Physical Edu. and Sports Teacher Edu.  
Department of Coaching Education  
Department of Sport Management  
Department of Recreation

## **Faculty of Agriculture**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Horticulture  
Department of Plant Protection  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Department of Agricultural Machinery and  
Technologies Engineering  
Department of Agricultural Biotechnology  
Dept. of Agricultural Construction and Irrigation  
Department of Field Crops  
Department of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition  
Department of Animal Science

## **Bafra Faculty of Business Administration**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Insurance and Social Security  
Department of Banking and Finance

## **Çarşamba Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

### **Undergraduate Programmes**

Department of Information and Records Management  
Department of Slavonic Languages and Cultures



## **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://erasmus.omu.edu.tr/en>

## **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>

## **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 and Instagram. You may also e-mail them at [esnsamsun@esnturkey.org](mailto:esnsamsun@esnturkey.org)

## **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.

## **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

New Year's Day : **1 January**

National Sovereignty Day / Children's Holiday : **23 April**

Labour and Solidarity Day : **1 May**

Atatürk Commemoration and Youth & Sports Day: **19 May**

Victory Day: **30 August**

Republic Day: **29 October**

Summer Holidays: **July-August**

## **RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

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

**Kurban Bayramı:** 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 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 website: <http://ebs.omu.edu.tr/en>

## **LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION**

At undergraduate level, the language of instruction in most of our Departments is mainly Turkish. However, these Departments offer assistance (i.e materials, tutorials, exams etc. in English) to the exchange students. Nevertheless, we have 3 departments offered completely in English. They are: the Department of English Medicine, the Department of Economics and the Department of English Language Teaching. Furthermore, 30% of the courses in our Department of Material Sciences and Engineering are offered in English. We also have a pool of courses offered in English. Please check our website for the updated list of courses. We must also inform you that all Masters and PhD programs in our university are offered in Turkish and English.

## **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)

These elective courses are for incoming Erasmus Students. If you wish to take one or more of these courses, you may include them in your Learning Agreement before coming to Samsun or they can be added to your Learning Agreement after your arrival. Registration to these courses will be done by the International Relations Office first.



### **LEARNING AGREEMENT**

The “Learning Agreement” includes 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 in OMU. 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 the Departmental Coordinator for all academic issues and anything related to your Learning Agreement. The list of OMU departmental coordinators can be found on our website.

### **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 website.

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	70-74
1.50	DC	Fail	40-69
1.00	DD	Fail	30-39
0.00	FF	Fail	0-29
0.00	FD	No Attendance	
0.00	FG	Did not sit for exams /fail	
	KM	Exemption from cancelled courses	
	E	Failed from the practice and could not attend final exam	

### 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	
	KM	Exemption from cancelled courses	
	G	Successful/non credit courses	

G, E and KM 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://mfa.gov.tr>

#### **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 OMU

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 «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: 72TL

For more detailed information please visit: <http://goc.gov.tr>

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. OMU IRO 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, 4 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) 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:

	Contracted Institutions		Non- Contracted Insitutions	
	Annual Minimum Limit	Contributions	Annual Minimum Limit	Contributions
Outpatient Diagnosis Treatment	2.000 TL	Insured : %40 Company : %60	2.000 TL	Insured : %40 Company : %60
Inpatient Diagnosis Treatment	Unlimited	Insured : %40 Company : %100	20.000 TL	Insured : %20 Company : %80

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 5.00pm 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.

 Milk (regular), (1 liter) Average: ≈ 3 ₺	 Loaf of Fresh White Bread Average: ≈ 1 ₺	 Domestic Beer (0.5 liter bottle) Average: ≈ 8 ₺
 Rice (white), (1kg) Average: ≈ 5.25 ₺	 Eggs (12) Average: ≈ 6 ₺	 One-way Ticket(Local Transport) Average: ≈ 2.50 ₺
 Local Cheese (1kg) Average: ≈ 20 ₺	 Chicken Breasts(Boneless, Skinless), (1kg) Average: ≈ 13 ₺	 Cinema, International Release 1 Seat Average: ≈ 16 ₺
 Apples (1kg) Average: ≈ 3 ₺	 Water (1.5 liter bottle) Average: ≈ 1.50 ₺	 Restaurant Meal Average: ≈ 20 ₺

## ACCOMODATION

### Atakum Boys' Dormitory

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.

### Atakum Girls' Dormitory

The dormitory is located in the suburb of Mimar Sinan, one of the most favourite and central part of the town of Atakum. It consists of 2 blocks and has a 150 bed capacity. It includes double rooms and rooms for three. Each floor has a lounge and a TV room. Our dormitories are rather suitable for comfortable accommodation and study purposes. It has all the necessary facilities of a flat; including bathrooms, kitchens and wi-fi internet.

For further information please visit:

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

If you do not wish to stay in the dormitory you may ask the IRO 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 per month. The easiest way to find a flat is to do some research on the internet or knock the door of a real estate agency in your neighbourhood (eg. <http://emlakcim.com.tr>).

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 rent 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.





## 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://kultur.gov.tr/EN,98790/culinary-culture.html>

### In Samsun

Pide is one of Samsun's delicious 'events' and has four main different types available; "Kapalı", "peynirli-yumurtalı" (cheese&egg)", pastirmali-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

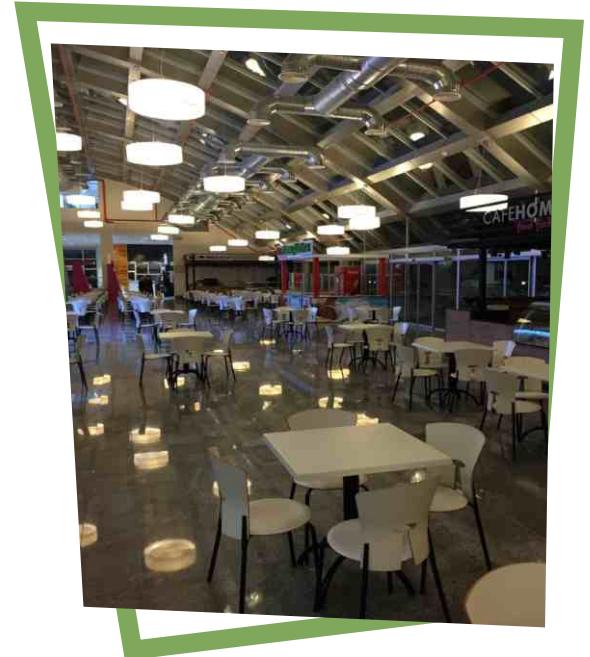
In almost all schools there are dining halls called “Yemekhane” where students and staff are served lunch and dinner at a very reasonable price (2 TL  $\approx$  0,70 €).

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.







## **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.

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 88 clubs) the campus life offers them, such as: “ESN Samsun”, Mountaineering Club, Aviation Club etc.

### **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 found on the campus 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 etc.

### **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://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/tr>

## **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.

## 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







## **BANKS**

There are 4 bank branches (Vakıfbank, Ziraat Bankası, Garanti Bankası and Akbank) and 13 ATMs on the University campus for the use of students, academic and administrative staff.

## **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 (Zabıta)
- 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



# TRANSPORT

If you arrive to Samsun;

## **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. The shuttle is normally available for departure 30-45 minutes from the landing time. Please specify to the driver that you will need to go to one of the dormitory addresses given.

## 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.

**Atakum Boys' Dormitory:** The dormitory is situated on the “Guzel Sanatlar Kampüsü” (Fine Arts Campus)

Address: Güzel Sanatlar Kampüsü

The shuttle will take you exactly there and drop you off right in front of the dormitory.

**Atakum Girls' Dormitory:** The dormitory is located in the suburb of Mimar Sinan.

Address: Mimar Sinan Mahallesi 167.Sokak No:21 (behind “Türkış Migros” Market)

You will need to get off “TÜRKiŞ SAPAĞI” (Türkış intersection) and walk across the road opposite the seaside. It is approximately a ten minute walk).

The cost of the shuttle is around 10 TL.

## Other

There are other means of travelling to the dormitories 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 the dormitories.

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. 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 the relevant stop.

## Local Transport in Samsun

After you have been issued a student ID from OMU you may apply for a student discount for the local travel ticket “SAMKART” to be used on all public transport (tram and city busses) in Samsun. Public transport in Samsun is very convenient, frequent and reasonable in price.





# 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.

## **WEATHER**

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

## **CULTURE, ART AND HISTORY**

In Samsun, we have an Opera and Ballet which offers shows once a week throughout the academic semester. There are also many cinema complexes open every day of the week and theaters which you can find plays held at least twice a week.

To follow the events please visit:

<https://devtiyatro.gov.tr>

<https://dobgm.gov.tr>

<https://secure.dobgm.gov.tr>

In Samsun, we have many museums, including archaeological and contemporary, that can be visited every day except Mondays. All students can enter the museums with reasonable prices with a yearly membership of a 'museum card' (Müzekart). You will need your student ID for the discount. The details could be found at: <https://muze.gov.tr>

Throughout Turkey, there are many film and music festivals. For more information please visit: <https://kultur.gov.tr>

The main film festivals in Turkey 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 in Turkey 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.





A hiker with a large backpack is walking away on a dirt path in a forest. The hiker is wearing a dark jacket, light-colored pants, and dark boots. The path is surrounded by trees and foliage, with sunlight filtering through the leaves. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

# 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: İstanbul, 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
- Ski resort in Ladik - Akdağ
- Hazelnut plantations
- Bird wildlife
- Kizilirmak Delta
- 19 Mayıs Culture, Art and Youth Festival
- Food such as "Pide" and "Simit" and many more...

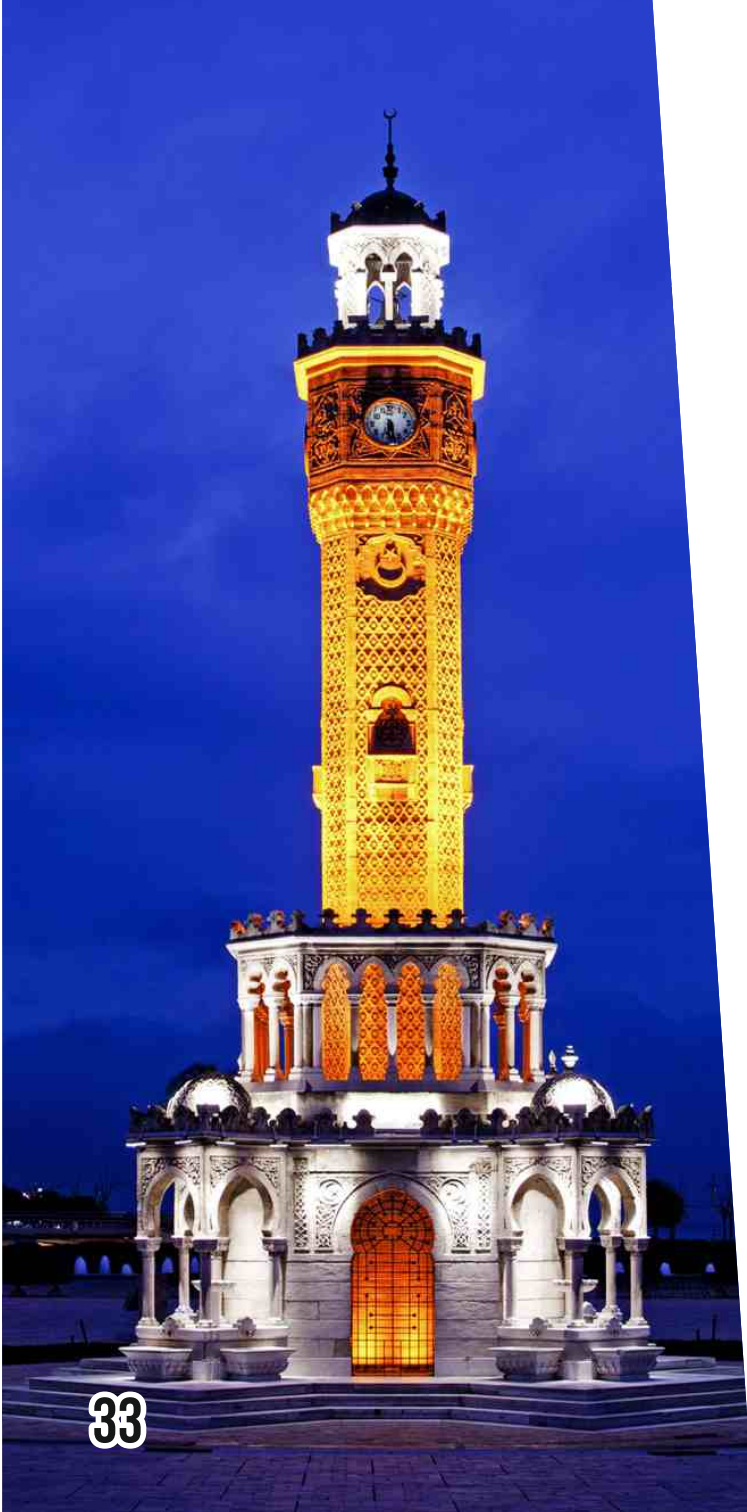
Visiting Turkey and Samsun while you study will give you the opportunity to comprehend Turkey's cultural and historical richness.

For more information:

[www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr](http://www.kulturvarliklari.gov.tr) | [www.goturkey.com](http://www.goturkey.com)  
[www.kultur.gov.tr](http://www.kultur.gov.tr) | [www.samsun.gov.tr](http://www.samsun.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	+7
Germany	-1
France	-1
England	-2
Italy	-1
Japan	+6
Netherlands	-1
Austria	-1
Spain	-1
USA (East Coast)	-7

OPENING HOURS OF....

<b>Government Offices</b>	08:00-12:00	closed Saturday and Sunday
	13:00-17:00	
<b>Banks</b>	09:00-12:00	closed Saturday and Sunday
	13:30- 17:00	
<b>Shops</b>	10.00-21:00	some close around midnight



## A BIT OF TURKISH: VOCABULARY AND SOME EXPRESSIONS

Hello  
Good Morning  
Good Evening  
Good Night  
Goodbye  
Yes  
No  
Please  
Thanks  
Excuse me  
Breakfast  
Lunch  
Dinner  
Food  
Drink  
Beer  
Coffee  
Tea  
Fruit Juice  
Water  
Ticket  
Bus  
Street

**Merhaba**  
**Günaydın**  
**İyi Akşamlar**  
**İyi Geceler**  
**Güle Güle**  
**Evet**  
**Hayır**  
**Lütfen**  
**Teşekkürler**  
**Afedersiniz**  
**Kahvaltı**  
**Öğle Yemeği**  
**Akşam Yemeği**  
**Yiyecek**  
**İçecek**  
**Bira**  
**Kahve**  
**Çay**  
**Meyve suyu**  
**Su**  
**Bilet**  
**Otobüs**  
**Sokak**

Road  
Airport  
Plane  
Train  
Money  
Man  
Woman  
Boy  
Girl  
Hospital  
University  
Book  
Library  
Right  
Left  
Entrance  
Exit  
City  
I love you!  
My name is...  
Cheers!  
One beer, please!  
Help!

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

You are Welcome!  
How much is this ?  
The bill please  
very/ lot / many  
How are you ?  
I don't understand  
Next Stop  
Drop me off here  
Is there any discount ?  
Where can I exchange ?

**Bir şey değil**  
**Bu ne kadar ?**  
**Hesap lütfen**  
**çok**  
**Nasılsın?**  
**Anlamadım**  
**Sonraki durak**  
**Beni burada indirin**  
**İndirim var mı ?**  
**Nerde para**  
**bozdurabilirim ?**



## 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.goturkeytourism.com](http://www.goturkeytourism.com) (Tourism portal of Turkey)

[www.ab.gov.tr](http://www.ab.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**

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SAMSUN -TURKEY

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