

5th year of Bachelor, Civil Engineering
Leuven, Belgium
KU Leuven
„ Sports, Building and City Aerodynamics “
From 18/11/2023 to 25/11/2023



Arenberg Castle, Campus of KU Leuven

Preparation

Once you're nominated by the Athens Network and applied for the funding through the International Office, you'll have to plan your transport and organisation. My first choice would have been a night train but since there was no direct connection between Vienna and Brussel, I went by plane. I recommend to book as soon as you get all the necessary information from your host university via email. A bonus tip: Try to get in touch with other students from TU Wien, who take part in the same Athens course. I was lucky to meet two awesome people from TU Wien to share a room with and to have companionship during the trip.

Study Program

The course was every day (Monday to Friday) from 9 to 4, except for our first day when the professor was sick, and they couldn't find a replacement. This made the second day even more intense, nevertheless it was possible to follow the lectures. The professor encouraged us to actively share our thoughts with the group. We were 60 people from all around the globe (mostly Europe) with various fields of study, sitting in quite historical facilities.

Funding and financial expenses

The organisation of the funding (450 EUR) from the International Office went smoothly. However, be aware that this most likely won't cover your full expenses. They'll also charge you some money for the social activities, but in my opinion, it was totally worth it.

Free time and social activities: European Dimensions Program

You are expected to be present at the lectures as much as for the social activities. If you're sick or need some time off, it is also perfectly fine. The Belgian students from BEST Leuven were eager to show us as many traditions as possible. This included a trip to Brussel with a City game, "Cantus", a Belgian Evening and much more.

Conclusion

In a nutshell, I would do it again. This "Baby Erasmus" is a perfect opportunity to take your first steps alone into the big world or simply get a break from your daily routine. It'll broaden your horizon in many ways, and you might have some unexpected moments.