



***Modernization and Harmonization of Tourism Study Programs
in Serbia***

544543-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR

Work package 2	Activity 2.7.1. Evaluation of modernized and developed programmes and programme appraisal based on evaluation outcomes (undergraduate study program) Activity 2.7.2. Evaluation of modernized and developed programmes and programme appraisal based on evaluation outcomes (postgraduate study program)
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**Report on a study visit of HBSL students to
Technological Education of Piraeus University of
Applied Sciences, Greece**

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Project task:

2.7.1. Evaluation of modernized and developed programmes and programme appraisal based on evaluation outcomes (undergraduate study program)

2.7.2. Evaluation of modernized and developed programmes and programme appraisal based on evaluation outcomes (postgraduate study program)

The description of the project task:

Study visit is organised in order to introduce and familiarize us as a Serbian students of tourism (at Business College of Vocational Studies, Leskovac, and Business-Technical College of Vocational Studies, Uzice) with EU (Greece) educational system, (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus).

The description of the outcome:

This report is created as the result of students' collaboration, after the study travel in Piraeus



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NCHE The National Council for Higher Education
CAQA Commission for Accreditation and Quality Assurance
MESTD Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development
CSU Conference of Serbian Universities
ECTS European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
HEI Higher Education Institution
BTC Business Technical College, Užice
NSBS Novi Sad Business School
HBS Higher Business School of Leskovac
FHMT Faculty of Hotel Management and Tourism, Vrnjačka Banja



INTRODUCTION

The study trip to Piraeus was taken as the part of the project :Modernization and Harmonization of Tourism Study Programs in Serbia 544543-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR, involving two students from Higher Business-Technical College of Vocational Studies, in Uzice, and 2 students from Business College of Vocational Studies in Leskovac.

That visit started on 10th of October, and lasted until 10th of November 2016.

We stayed at STACS hostel in Piraeus, and our assignment was to take the classes in English, at the Tehnological Education Institute of Piraeus, in order to get more familiar with Greek higher educational system in tourism field, as well as to sightsee Athens, and absorb Greek culture and cultural tourism that was developed due to their rich cultural-historical heritage.

1. Study visit to the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus)

Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) is an independent and self governed Institute of higher education. The operation of the Institute is based on the Greek laws 4009/2011, 4076/2012, 3549/2007, 2916/2001. The degrees offered are recognized by the Greek state and EU and are fully evaluated. The studies in the Departments of Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) for the first level degrees are lasting four years typically and are equivalent to 240 ECTS, according to the Bologna Process Guidelines.

After graduation, the new scientists may continue their studies in the second level (MSc) programs that last one to two years weighted 90-120 ECTS. Then, a third level course is possible for PhD studies in collaboration with several Universities in Greece or in European region.

The campus is extended on an area of about 100.000 m² in the middle of an olive grove, which includes some of the very same olive trees that used to shade Plato's Academy. The campus is near the center of Athens and the port of Piraeus and includes several buildings with the equivalent of 50.000 m² space. Among them the Conference Center and the library are encountered. There are facilities that cover all students' needs and support academic activities.

Nine (9) Departments exist in Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) , grouped in two schools:

1. Engineering School (7):
 - Automation Engineering Department
 - Civil Engineering Department
 - Computer Systems Engineering Department
 - Electrical Engineering Department
 - Electronic Engineering Department
 - Mechanical Engineering Department
 - Textile Engineering Department
2. School of Business and Economics (2)

Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) had been may awarded a DS label for the system of Higher Education alignment procedures.



There are also fifteen (15) Postgraduate Programs at the second level (Master). Some of them are autonomous and are governed by the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) rules. There are also programs that are organized in collaboration with several Universities in the European area and the United States.

Each year approximately 1500-2000 new students are enrolled in Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) and the total number of the active students is approximately 12.000. The permanent Academic Staff is encountered to 160 Professors. The teaching staff is enriched with approximately 300 part time professors. The academic operation is supported by 160 permanent members of the administration staff. These operations are also supported by approximately 30 additional persons that are engaged in several R & D programs.

There are approximately 25 Laboratories in Engineering School and 10 Laboratories in the School of Business and Economics that support the teaching and research and development activities. They are engaged in several research and development programs that are funded by the Greek Government and European Union.

Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) maintains permanent links with other and foreign educational and research institutions and participates in numerous programs of the European Union, while encourages international cooperation and improvement of knowledge diffusion.



1.1. Classes on TEI university in Piraeus

We took the classes on TEI, where we had the lessons in the tourism field given in English. We had a lessons three times a week, on the subject of Business English where we listened to the lectures and did the exercises.



1.2. Consultations with professor Michael Coniordos

Other than the classes, we had the consultations with professor Michael Coniordos, from TEI, two to three times a week. With the professors' instructions we wrote two papers that will be presented on the next SED conference in Uzice, in 2017, on the subjects: "Serbian students' perception of Greek educational system", and "Serbian student' perception of Greek cultural tourism". At the end of our stay in Piraeus, we received the "Certificates of Attendance" as a confirmation for our attendance to classes on TEI.



2. Tour around Athens

Our spare time, we mainly used for sightseeing. We have managed to visit numerous of places, crucial for cultural tourism in Athens.

Athens is considered as the historical capital of Europe, with a long history, dating from the first settlement in the Neolithic age. Today, it offers visitors a unique experience. A journey in its six thousand year old history, including the chance to see renowned monuments and masterpieces of art of the antiquity and the Middle age, and the architectural heritage of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

2.1. The National Historical museum of Athens

One of the very important cultural sight that we saw was the historical museum. The National Historical Museum was founded in 1882, is the oldest of its kind in Greece. It is located in the Old Parliament House at Stadium Street in Athens, which housed the Hellenic Parliament between 1875 and 1932. The museum houses the collection of the Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece (IEEE).



2.2. The Acropolis of Athens and Acropolis museum

Along with our Greek colleagues, we went to the Acropolis, and Acropolis museum. The Acropolis of Athens and its monuments are universal symbols of the classical spirit and civilization and form the greatest architectural and artistic complex bequeathed by Greek Antiquity to the world. While there is evidence that the hill was inhabited as far back as the fourth millennium BC, it was Pericles (c. 495 – 429 BC) in the fifth century BC who coordinated the construction of the site's most important buildings including the Parthenon, the Propylaia, the Erechtheion and the Temple of Athena Nike.

The museum was founded in 2003, and it's an archaeological museum focused on the findings of the archaeological site of the Acropolis of Athens.



2.3. The Greek Parliament on Syntagma Square



Also known as Kallimaro, it is one of the main attractions of Athens. It was primarily built for the Panathenaic Games. After being refurbished, it hosted the opening and closing ceremonies of the first modern Olympics in 1896 and was the venue for 4 of the 9 contested sports. It was used for various purposes in the 20th century and was once again used as an Olympic venue in 2004. It is the finishing point for the annual Athens Classic Marathon. It is also the last venue in Greece from where the Olympic flame handover ceremony to the host nation takes place.



2.4. Zappeion

Zappeion is a building in the National Gardens of Athens in the heart of Athens, Greece. It is generally used for meetings and ceremonies, both official and private.



2.5. The National Garden, placed in the center of Athens



2.6. Monastiraki Square and Plaka street

We took a walk down the famous Monastraki square as well as the Plaka street.



2.11. Tavern

With our Greek colleagues, we had a chance to taste the traditional Greek cuisine and enjoy listening to traditional Greek music.



2.12. Parade in Piraeus for the 'Oxi (No) Day'

By chance, we were in Piraeus when parade for Anniversary of the "No Day" was going on.





3. In addition to the report:

3.1. Links of the facebook page of the Business College of Vocational Studies, Leskovac:

<https://sr-rs.facebook.com/Visoka-poslovna-%C5%A1kola-strukovnih-studija-Leskovac-329083130627241/>;

And the video URL:

<https://sr-rs.facebook.com/329083130627241/videos/592052054330346/>

3.2. Scanned Certificate of students' attendance to classes on TEI

CONCLUSION

Study trip to Piraeus and attending lessons on TEI was very important educational experience. We managed to participate in their classes, and to see the differences between Greek and Serbian educational system, and to be introduced to another methods of studying and giving lectures.

One of the results of our collaboration with professor Michael Coniordos, and professor Giorgos Skourtis, are two papers that we wrote following their instructions, and that will be presented on the next SED conference in Uzice, in 2017, on the subjects: "Serbian students' perception of Greek educational system", and "Serbian student' perception of Greek cultural tourism". Also, at the end of our stay we received The Certificate of Attendance to classes in TEI.

Rich cultural heritage of Athens didn't leave us indifferent. The view on the whole city from majestic Acropolis, down the crowded Plaka street, and scenic path through the National Garden are just parts of the wide puzzle of Athens' amazing tourist offer.

Other than beautiful sights that we enjoyed, and new perspectives on studying and education, another thing that made our visit comfortable, enjoyable and interesting, is the hospitality and kindness of the Greek people. Special credits not just for professional support, but also friendly attitude toward us, go to professors, as well as to our colleagues students from TEI, who were there for us from the first to the last day, and who helped us in everything. We hope that this trip was just the start of the future collaboration between our colleges on some mutual projects.



PIRAEUS UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Athens, November 11th 2016

Certificate of Attendance

This is to certify that **Mr Milos Djokic**, student of Higher Business School, Leskovac, participated in the study visit organized by the Piraeus University of Applied Sciences (Technological Education Institute of Piraeus) attending all lectures and completing all activities during the period 10 October - 10 November 2016.

The study visit was organized within the framework of the TEMPUS project No. 544543-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR, entitled "Modernization and Harmonization of Tourism Study Programs in Serbia" with the aim of introducing and familiarizing Serbian students with EU (Greece) good practice.

During her stay, Mr Milos Djokic attended lectures in the tourism field given in English, and prepared papers on the Greek educational system entitled "Serbian students' perception of Greek educational system" as well as on the cultural tourism in Greece entitled "Serbian students' perception of Greek cultural tourism".



Professor Michael Koniordos
Department of Business Administration
Project Coordinator



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