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Incoming Erasmus Student Orientation: An In-country Orientation Program for Incoming Erasmus Students Studying at Istanbul Bilgi University

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Abstract

Incoming Erasmus Student Orientation: An In-country Orientation Program for Incoming Students Studying at Istanbul Bilgi University is a two-day orientation program designed for students spending a semester or full year in Istanbul, Turkey. This Course-Linked Capstone (CLC) proposes a program design that welcomes Erasmus students to Istanbul Bilgi University while preparing the students in various subjects in order to aid in a successful transition to their new surroundings. A needs assessment included in this proposal provides evidence that there is a need for an updated orientation program. The in-country orientation will be provided by the International Center of Istanbul Bilgi University one week before the start of the semester.

The orientation program takes place on the main campus for the first day of the program and at Pierre Loti, a local site, for the second day. The program will be led by various staff of the International Center with the Erasmus Institutional Coordinator as the head person in charge. A variation of presentations and activities will be provided to inform and acquaint students with the International Center staff, Bilgi Volunteer Program group, the university, the city, residential procedures, safety and the local culture. In order to ensure the quality of the program, the incoming Erasmus students will assess the orientation by filling out a provided evaluation form at the end of the program.