Participant: Anna Rita Gailīte

Sending Institution: Luther Academy

Host Country: Croatia

Host Institution: Evangelical Theological Seminary, Cvjetkova Street 32, Osijek, Croatia

Field of Study: Old Testament

Mobility Duration: 6.10.2025.-10.10.2025.

Why I Chose to Participate in Erasmus+ Study Mobility

Erasmus+ mobility offered a unique opportunity to broaden my academic perspective, experience interdenominational theological dialogue, and grow personally. I was eager to explore how the Old Testament is interpreted in a different cultural context and to develop my discussion and theological reasoning skills in an international environment.

Experience with the Sending and Host Institutions

Luther Academy provided clear and supportive communication before the mobility, assisting with documentation and preparation. The host institution in Osijek welcomed me warmly—on the first day, we received a detailed overview of the week's activities, creating a friendly and open atmosphere. During the mobility, I received academic mentoring, and after the program, I was encouraged to maintain contact with the lecturers.

Academic and Personal Gains

Academically, I gained deeper insights into Old Testament texts, especially through lectures on Imago Dei, theodicy, and prophetic literature. Personally, I improved my adaptability in a multicultural setting, enhanced my English skills, and found inspiration for future theological growth.

Highlights of Living Abroad During Mobility

The guided tour of Osijek was one of the most memorable experiences-the city's history, architecture, and local culture left a strong impression. The morning devotion in the seminary library, where

students even sat on the floor due to high attendance, created a powerful sense of community. Evening service in a Pentecostal congregation offered valuable interdenominational experience.

Practical Advice for Future Erasmus+ Students

- Prepare your documents early and maintain close communication with both institutions.
- Be open to intercultural dialogue-it enriches both academic and personal life.
- Actively participate in lectures and discussions-they're a great way to learn and connect.
- Explore the local area-Osijek offers many historical and cultural sites worth visiting.

Other Relevant Aspects

The interdenominational theological experience, discussions with students from various countries, and intensive lectures sparked deep reflections on the relevance of Scripture in today's world. This week was not only an academic adventure, but also a personal transformation.

Arrival in Zagreb

Devotional in the library and lunch for the Latvian group.