

Turkey, Istanbul – Spring 2013

IAP PROGRAM HANDBOOK

The Istanbul, Turkey program is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in conjunction with Bogazici University. This IAP Program Handbook supplements handbooks or materials you receive from Bogazici University as well as the IAP Study Abroad Handbook and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of printing. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

Questions about your program abroad (housing options, facilities abroad, etc.) as well as questions relating to your relationship with your host university or academics (e.g. course credit and equivalents, registration deadlines, etc.) should be directed to IAP at UW-Madison.

This program handbook contains the following information:

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Contact Information

ON-SITE PROGRAM INFORMATION

Your primary contact at Bogazici University will be:

Fall/Spring/Academic Year students:

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UW-MADISON INFORMATION

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Web: www.studyabroad.wisc.edu

Kate Hamoonga
IAP Study Abroad Advisor
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hamoonga@studyabroad.wisc.edu

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of an emergency, call the main IAP number **(608) 265 6329** between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday; after-hours or on weekends call the IAP staff on call at **(608) 516 9440**.

U.S. EMBASSY REGISTRATION

All program participants who are U.S. citizens must register at the U.S. Embassy before departure as this will help in case of a lost passport or other mishap. You can register on-line at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. If you are not a U.S. citizen, register at your home country's embassy or consulate.

U.S. Embassy in Istanbul
Kaplıcalar Mevkii SokakNo.2
İstinye 34460
Istanbul
Turkey
Phone: (90) 212 335 9000
<http://turkey.usembassy.gov/>

Preparation before Leaving

IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

Passport: A passport is needed to travel to Turkey and to obtain your residence permit. Apply immediately for a passport if you do not already have one. Passport information and application forms can be found on the U.S. State Department website <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>. If you already have your passport, make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months beyond the length of your stay abroad.

Student Visa: Students studying in Turkey for a semester or academic year are required to apply for a student visa prior to departure. A visa is a sticker or stamp in your passport that grants you entry to your country for the duration of the program. For summer program students, a student visa is not required and students may enter on a tourist visa.

Please see the following website for information on how to apply for the student visa, including downloadable forms.

Consular Services at the Turkish Embassy in Washington, DC:
<http://www.washington.emb.mfa.gov.tr/ConsularServices.aspx?ID=6> for general information. The list of Turkish Consulates in the U.S. can be found on the left-hand side of the page under "Turkish Consulates." You will need to refer to one of these specific consulate websites (i.e. the Consulate General of Chicago page: <http://sikago.bk.mfa.gov.tr/ConsularServices.aspx?ID=6>) to access the visa application and to see more detailed information.

You will find that one of the requirements is a **letter of acceptance given by the school** in Turkey. Bogazici will mail this to you before the start of the program. Please start the application process as soon as you receive this letter.

As part of your visa application, the Turkish Embassy will require you to submit your actual passport. You cannot submit a photocopy of your passport in lieu of the original. The visa must be put in your passport by a consular official and cannot be mailed separately to you.

When downloading the visa application it's best to type in your answers and then print out the form. Below are answers to frequently asked visa application questions. Please refer to these responses if you have any questions completing the form.

Profession: *Student.*

Business Address: *Leave blank.*

Approximate date of your entry to Turkey (dd/mm/yy): *Put the program start date here, unless you know that you will be arriving in Turkey early.*

How long do you intend to stay in Turkey? *Six months for semester students or nine months for academic year students.*

What kind of visa do you require? *Single entry.*

Please photocopy all documents for your records (including the front page of your passport that has your photograph) before submitting them to the consulate. It is always best to make sure that you have a copy of everything just in case the unexpected occurs.

There are five Turkish Consulates in the U.S. (Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Los Angeles, CA; New York, NY; and Chicago, IL) and each one has jurisdiction for different states. For example, if your permanent address is in California, you may not apply to the consulate in New York. For complete consular contact information, please click the following link:

<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkish-representations.en.mfa>

In most cases, you may either submit your application in person or by mail. Please double-check with the appropriate Consulate to verify whether or not they may receive applications by mail. If you decide to apply by mail or by courier service, you need to send a pre-paid or self stamped return envelope. Note that neither the visa officer nor the Turkish Consulates are responsible for lost documents.

If applying by mail, please note that it is best to mail important documents, such as your passport, via DHL, FedEx, or UPS. Certified mail can take longer than regular mail and is not easily traced until up to 6 weeks after mailing. Please do not fold any documents and never mail your passport via regular USPS mail.

Once the consulate receives your application, it should only take **48 HOURS** to process. Once the process is complete, they will send your passport and visa to you via FedEx. **Please do NOT wait until the last moment to apply for your visa. It is best to apply as soon as possible.**

Residence Permit

You need to apply for a residence permit within 30 days of your arrival in Turkey. The international office will assist you to do this. This permit will allow you to travel in and out of Turkey without re-applying for the visa. Following application, the residence permit is processed within several days. The authorities will need to keep your passport in the meantime. It will then be returned to you along with your residence permit booklet.

When to Apply: Although the requirement stipulates only that you *apply* within 30 days of your arrival, application spots fill up very quickly. For example, as of October 4th, the earliest appointment times are in February. So please, apply early. While not having your residence permit is not technically a problem if you stay within the country, it does mean you will not be able to leave Turkey during that time. Because your student visa is a single-entry visa, you only get to enter the country using it once. If you leave Turkey and then return without a residence permit, they may not allow you re-entry. If you intend to do a lot of travelling outside the country, we recommend that you apply for the appointment early (shoot for an appointment in mid-October), before leaving the US.

This will allow you to get a residence permit appointment soon after you arrive in Turkey, as soon as you receive your student certificate (öğrenci belgesi) from Bogazici. The university will let you know when your certificate is available, but you may have to request one from the international office earlier if you have an early residence permit appointment.

How to Apply: Generally the university, or Superdorm if you choose to live there, will send you information on how to apply for your residence permit. If you want to do it on your own, this is how:

1. Go to this website: <http://yabancilar.iem.gov.tr/ikamet.html> (The site is almost all in Turkish, but don't panic, the form itself is in English).
2. The page looks like this:



3. Click on the E-RANDEVU button circled above in red. That will take you to:



İSTANBUL YABANCILAR ŞUBE MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ



Yabancılar E-Randevu



Kategoriler

- Anasayfa
- İkamet işlemleri
- Duyurular
- İletişim

Saat



Takvim

Ekim 2012

Pt	Sa	Ça	Pe	Cu	Çt	Pa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

14:04:56

Danışma Hattı
(0 212) 636 18 74

"DİKKAT"

Önemli Uyarılar

- İkamet uzatma işlemleri İlçe Emniyet Müdürlüğü Yabancılar Büro Amirliklerinde yapılmaktadır. (Residence permit extensions are carried out by District Police Departments Foreigners Offices.)
- İlk müracaat işlemleri Şube Müdürlüğümüzde yapılmakta olup, İlçe Yabancılar Büro Amirliklerinde ilk müracaat işlemleri yapılmamaktadır
- İkamet Tezkeresi Düzenleyecek İlçe Emniyet Müdürlüklerinin Listesi.
- İlçe Emniyet Müdürlüklerinin işlem yapacakları ikamet amaçlarının listesi.

1 ay içerisinde teslim alınmayan İkamet Tezkereleri iptal edilecektir.

RANDEVU AL



FOREIGNERS DEPARTMENT
Electronic Appointment FOR RESIDENCE PERMIT

Yabancılar



Önemli Not

- E-Randevu Sisteminden Alacağınız **Takip Fişlerini Türkçe** Olarak Yazdırmanız Gereklemektedir

Harç Miktarları

2011 YILI HARÇ MİTARI

Gerekli Linkler

- Istanbul Emniyet Müdürlüğü
- Emniyet Genel Müdürlüğü
- Yabancıların Çalışma İzni
- Yabancı Kimlik Numarası
- Vatandaşlık İşlemleri

Harçlar için resime tıklayınız



4. dil_sec.aspx
5. On this page, click on the RANDEVU AL button, circled here in red.
6. At this point you can select whether to proceed in English or Turkish; follow the directions to the finish.



İSTANBUL EMNİYET MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ
Yabancılar Şube Müdürlüğü

e-randevu

Dil Seçiniz / Select Language

 **TÜRKÇE**

 **ENGLISH**

Bilgi İşlem Şube Müdürlüğü - Programlama Kısmı Amirliği

HANDLING MONEY ABROAD

The Turkish currency is the lira. As of 9/27/12, the exchange rate is \$1 USD to 1.79 TRY. You should bring some money with you in cash for incidental purchases as well as for bus and train fares. It is possible to convert almost any currency into Lira at the airport when you arrive.

The cost of living in Turkey is low relative to other European countries, and high relative to other Middle Eastern countries. Nevertheless, it is possible to spend a fair amount of money during the semester. Many students are surprised at how expensive Istanbul is. However, basic survival items are less expensive in Turkey than in the United States.

Banks: There are two banks in the school and several ATM's. The **Garanti Bank** is by the Engineering Building. It exchanges foreign traveler's checks or cash for Turkish Lira and vice versa. There are ATMs located just outside the bank as well as in the **quad**. There is also a **Yapi Kredi Bank** right across the Registrar Office. They cannot change traveler's checks but are able to convert dollars and Euros to Liras. They also have an ATM. *Halkbank* has an ATM behind the telephone booths across from the 1st Women's Dormitory. In front of the entrance of the North Campus there is a *Garanti Bank* ATM and a *Yapi Kredi* ATM.

ATM/Debit Cards: You can obtain cash advances from your Visa or MasterCard, or with your ATM card in bank machines all over Istanbul. Make sure your card is linked to the CIRRUS or PLUS systems. Remember that it may not be possible to get balance information when using foreign ATMs, so it is important to track your finances carefully if you choose this option to handle your money. Also- be sure that you can use your ATM card while abroad and that fraud protection systems do not hinder you from withdrawing money while in Turkey. Remember that cash advances taken on a credit card often begin accruing interest at high rates immediately after the money is received. It is best to check on this before leaving the United States.

Credit Cards: Credit cards are becoming more commonly used in Turkey, particularly in supermarkets, upscale restaurants, tourist facilities, and for online travel and entertainment ticket sales. However, cash is more commonly used in bazars (local open air markets) and in souvenir shops where you will want to bargain for purchases.

Traveler's Checks: Traveler's checks are safe, but can be very difficult and inconvenient to cash. As long as you have a record of your traveler's check numbers, you can recover stolen or lost amounts. Be sure to buy your traveler's checks before you leave the United States, and get them in \$20 and \$50 denominations. You will need your passport to cash them. You can also exchange cash for Turkish Lira. There are a lot of exchange offices in the city that offer better exchange rates than the banks.

PACKING

Climate and clothing: Winters in Istanbul are cold, with occasional snow. Cold weather also may begin as early as October. Spring is generally cool with lots of rain. Summers may be quite hot during the day with cool evenings. Therefore, bring clothes suitable for all conditions. Versatility is the key, and a layered approach works well. You'll be surprised at how little is really necessary. For those who enjoy winter sports, bring appropriate clothing. Good skiing is not far from Istanbul! Overexposure to sun and dehydration should be avoided, particularly in the summer. Istanbul has an air pollution problem during the winters. On the days when pollution is bad, students are advised to avoid the central part of the city where pollution is generally worse.

Gifts: Upon visiting someone's home for the first time, e.g., for dinner, you may show courtesy by bringing a modest bouquet of flowers or a box of chocolates. Before leaving the States, consider bringing a small supply of typically-American items that you can give as gifts such as T-shirts, calendars, or a special food from your region.

Electronics: The current in Turkey, as in nearly all of Europe, is 220 Volts, 50 Hz cycle AC. Electric converters and adapter plugs must be used to connect North American equipment. Travel supply shops and some hardware stores in the United States carry them. If you plan to bring any electrical appliance from home, you must also bring a converter and adapter with you because they are difficult to find in Turkey.

If you are buying any new electrical items to bring with you, try to get dual-voltage models so you won't need a converter at all-though you will still need the adapter plug. The adapter should have a plug that fits European electrical outlets. If you use a blow dryer, bring a small, dual-voltage travel model (Ronson and Braun make them) and an adapter plug. The Turkish plug is a standard European plug with two round prongs.

Travel and Arrival

Upon arrival in Istanbul, you should go to your Residence Hall. After checking in, you should visit the international office on the first floor of the Students Activities Building (Öğrenci Faaliyetleri Binası (ÖFB) in Turkish), at South Campus (Güney Kampus in Turkish). The office is open weekdays between 09:00-12:30 and 1:30-5:00. The map at <http://www.map.boun.edu.tr/> can be useful for finding your way around the campuses.

There are two international Airports in Istanbul.

- The Atatürk International Airport - at Yeşilköy: Ataturk International Airport is outside the city center on the European side of the city. Most of the international flights land there.
- The Sabiha Gökçen Airport - at Kurtköy: The Sabiha Gokcen is slightly more distant and is also located at the Asian side of the city.

Havataş and/or Havaş shuttle buses are an inexpensive and convenient way to travel between the Istanbul airports and the city center (the buses drop you off in Taksim Square, which, depending on traffic, is about a 20-40 minute cab ride from the main Boğaziçi campuses). The fare is 10-15TL (plus cab fare from Taksim to campus, approximately 20TL) as compared to a 60TL cab ride directly to campus.

The Academic Program

BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY

Prof. Aptullah Kuran, a graduate of Robert College, became the first Rector of Boğaziçi University upon its establishment in 1974. From that date on, the University entered a new phase of rapid structural and academic expansion and entered the 1990's with four Faculties (Arts and Sciences, Economics and Administrative Sciences, Education, Engineering), six graduate Institutes, School of Foreign Languages, School of Applied Disciplines and numerous research centers in a wide variety of fields.

The historic **South Campus**, where Robert College was originally established, still serves as the nucleus of the University. A historic site harboring the limestone quarry is now adorned by a lovely green "quad."

North Campus comprises the Main Library, the Science and Engineering Laboratories building, the Faculty of Education, men and women's dormitories and the Educational Technology building.

Kandilli Campus is the home of the historic *Kandilli* Observatory (founded in 1910) and the Institute of Earthquake Research. It was incorporated into Boğaziçi University in 1982.

Hisar Campus, which became a part of the University in 1989, is the home of the School of Applied Sciences and Institute of Environmental Sciences and an indoor Olympic swimming pool.

The newly constructed **Uçaksavar Campus** includes a housing complex for the staff, a student dormitory (Superdorm), a cultural center, and a large athletic complex including a stadium and a fully equipped gymnasium.

Kilyos (Saritepe) Campus is situated on the shores of the Black Sea 20 km to the northwest of the South and North campuses.

COURSE INFORMATION

Courses: The language of instruction at Boğaziçi University is English. The predominant language of support staff, the bulletin boards, the services available on the campus, and most of the casual conversation is Turkish. Any student is a potential translator for you. Students are often gracious and well equipped to help.

More information about semester courses can be found at:

<http://www.boun.edu.tr/academics/units.html>

More information about summer courses can be found at:

<http://www.summer.boun.edu.tr/index.php>

The best way to learn whether a particular course is offered when you go is the course schedule. To view the course offerings and schedule for a specific term (fall and spring semesters, summer), go to <https://registration.boun.edu.tr>. Under 'General Services' and then 'Schedule,' you will find the course listings.

Turkish Language courses

The Turkish language sequence at UW-Madison is as follows:

LCA 339, 340, 439, 440, 539

The following courses at Bogazici would be equivalent to the UW-Madison courses

TKF 111 Elementary Turkish 1 - LCA 339

TKF 112 Elementary Turkish 2 - LCA 340

TKF 217 Intermediate Readings in Turkish - LCA 440

TK 316 Advanced Turkish Grammar II - LCA 539

Semester and Academic Year Registration: Enter the online system with your username and password given to you at pre-registration period and select your courses. The registration page is:

<https://registration.boun.edu.tr> where you can also find the course schedules online. You have to choose the respective term to find which courses are offered by different departments.

Since the online system is opened at the same time for all our students, it works on a "first come first serve" basis. If you would like to learn the general quota limitations for specific courses, you can check the online schedule which will be published online prior to the registration period.

The Office of International Relations is responsible for the registration of all the exchange students upon their arrival. The Office provides a series of orientation sessions and will be your contact for any questions related to visa matters and regulations.

The Office guides students to the appropriate academic advisors, who help them select courses relevant to their study program.

Summer Registration: When students have been accepted into the summer program, they will receive an email about how to use the Online Registration System (OBIKAS). You will register for courses before you depart for Istanbul.

Exams: The exam schedule is posted on the university website midway through the semester. However for special and exchange students provisions to set up separate times may be provided.

Equivalents and Course Equivalent Request Form (CERF): Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison “equivalent” course in order for your grades and credits to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Requests through your My Study Abroad account. Detailed information on the UW course equivalent process that you will use through your My Study Abroad account is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

CREDITS

Conversions: Bogazici University uses credit points. One BU credit = one UW-Madison credit. A full study load for one year is equals 24 credits and a full study load for one semester equals 12 credits. Information about credits for individual courses will be listed in the course catalogue.

Limits and Load: UW-Madison students studying abroad in Istanbul are expected to take 30 ECTS credit each semester. Summer students can take no more than 7 credits.

PASS/FAIL/DROP/AUDIT

Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies.

GRADES AND GRADE CONVERSIONS

The following scale will be used to convert your Bogazici University grades to UW-Madison equivalents:

Bogazici	UW-Madison
AA	A
BA	AB
BB	B
CB	BC
CC	C
DC	D
DD	D
FD	F
FF	F

Living Abroad

TURKEY

Turkey has been described as the country where the east meets the west. Turkey's borders include the Anatolian peninsula in Western Asia and part of Thrace in Eastern Europe. Strategically positioned at the crossroads between the eastern and western worlds, and a once convenient route to Africa, Turkey has a rich history involving the exchange of goods, ideas, and culture among different ethnic groups spread across the Eurasian continents.

Anatolia, situated in the Fertile Crescent, is thought to be the site of the agricultural revolution and of one of the first settlements in human history. Continuously inhabited since prehistoric times, it has been the home of many civilizations. To name a few, the Hittites, Phrygians, and Urartians have each left their cultural mark on the land. Anatolia has been important in the progression of Christianity. One of the first churches is found in Antakya, and St. Paul traveled and preached across the country. During the Byzantine period, Constantine's conversion to Christianity brought about the foundation of Constantinople, creating a major turning point for the early Church.

The Turks, whose history goes back some 4,000 years, began appearing in Anatolia before the 10th century. However, it was the defeat of the Byzantine army at Malazgirt in 1071 by the Seljuk Turks (whose empire already included Iran, Iraq, and Syria) that established a Turkish State and Islam as a religion in Anatolia. The Seljuk Anatolian State existed alongside a truncated Byzantine Empire for about 250 years with Konya as its capital for most of that period. During the 12th and early 13th centuries, Konya was an intellectual and artistic center. Its most famous inhabitant was Rumi (Mevlana), the great Sufi thinker and poet whose shrine can be visited in Konya today. As the Seljuk Empire disintegrated, the Ottoman Turks gained control over the Seljuk Empire in Anatolia. They continued to expand westward, eventually conquering Constantinople and bringing an end to the Byzantine Empire.

The Ottoman Empire, one of the largest empires in world history, lasted for over 600 years, finding its defeat in the First World War. The treaty of Sevres signed at the end of the War would have caused the division of modern-day Turkey by the Entente Powers. However, under the leadership of a young general called Mustafa Kemal (later called Ataturk), the Turks fought for and won their independence. The modern Turkish state was founded on October 29, 1923 with Mustafa Kemal as its first president and Ankara as its capital.

ISTANBUL

Spanning two continents and over 3,000 years of history, the city of Istanbul is a microcosm of Turkey, reflecting the diversity and complexity of the nation's ethnic, religious, and cultural identities. Once the seat of the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires, Istanbul is now the cultural and economic capital of the Republic of Turkey as well as its largest city, with a population of over 11 million. Istanbul has seen the rise and fall of great empires and the ongoing transformations wrought by rapid migration, urbanization, and globalization. The CIEE Study Center in Istanbul provides students with many opportunities to experience how the influences of the past, present, and possible futures shape and impact the physical and cultural landscapes of Turkey.

HOUSING

Semester/Academic Year

The “Superdorm” is the only dormitory option for semester exchange and special students and the confirmation of housing request is determined by the availability of rooms. Once you send in your academic application to Boğaziçi Üniversitesi, please also fill in the [Superdorm Application Form](#) and send it as word document attachment to superdorm@boun.edu.tr right away. It is important to apply early to increase your chances of getting a room and of your preferences. Late applicants may have to wait for a room assignment. When the assignment process begins, assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis, based on the date your application is received. All communication on housing issues should be carried out directly with the Superdorm. You are highly recommended to get in contact with the Superdorm administration for the dates and hours you may move in much before your arrival.

Superdorm is established on the campus of “Uçaksavar Culture and Sports Facilities” of Boğaziçi Üniversitesi in the highly upgrade residential area of Istanbul called Etiler. It is about 2,5 kms or a 15-minute walk from the main campus, called “South Campus,” and a 10-minute walk from North Campus, where you are likely to have some classes. The dormitory, consisting of 5-floored 5 blocks under the same roof and built mainly with generous donations from alumni and friends, has a covered area of 22.000 square meters. Superdorm offers coed housing options where you can choose between 2,3, or 4-bedroom suites.

The building has a capacity of 130 suites and a total of 486 rooms available for students’ use. Suites vary in size and price depending on the number of individual rooms in each. Some suites even have an extra storage room for luggage. This feature, along with daily cleaning services, hot-water, central heating, free internet access through the University’s network, laundry, cafeteria and beauty parlor/barber shop and office store makes Superdorm the top choice of students. Heavy fixtures in the suites consist of sofas, a coffee table, a dining table and chairs, a TV table, built-in wardrobe, refrigerator and the kitchen fan. The individual bedrooms are furnished with a twin-bed, a table, an office chair and built-in shelves and cupboards. Each room is wired for telephones.

For the Fall term, assignments will begin around the second week of July of the same year. Assignments for the Spring term will start around the third week of the previous December.

<http://www.superdorm.info>

Summer

Summer students have the option of staying at the Superdorm (see above) or at the Uçaksavar dorm. More information about applying for a room can be found here:

<http://www.summer.boun.edu.tr/outside-accommodation.php>

Optional alternative housing

While we recommend that you consider the Superdorm first, past students have also chosen to live in apartments throughout the city. Some returned students have found that the apartment option is generally less expensive, and gave them a richer and more independent cultural experience. In this case, you will be responsible for finding your own housing. Potential places to search include Craigslist (When entering location on Craigslist, Bogazici University is near Rumeli Hisari, Rumeli Hisarüstü, Etiler, and Beşiktaş) and Bogazici Student Networks you can search for on Facebook. If you are interested in speaking more about housing options with a previous program participant, feel free to contact a

student from the Returned Student Network:

<https://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu/pdf/returnedStudentNetwork.pdf> , for more information.

STUDENT LIFE

Within the University, student life is rich and varied with activities to cater to almost all talents and interests. The University has a tradition of encouraging extra-curricular activities that are consistent with the educational objectives of the institution and in response to the interests of students. All students are encouraged to take part in these activities.

Student activities are organized by various Student Clubs. Students interested in participating in these activities should contact the Office of Student Affairs.

<http://www.boun.edu.tr/activities/clubs.html>

TRANSPORTATION

In Istanbul, public and private transportation offers many opportunities in terms of land transportation including city buses, dolmuş, minibuses and taxis.

As a student in a Turkish university, you will be eligible to apply for a discount student bus card. The website and application can be found at this link under the “Travel Cards” link on the homepage: <http://www.iETT.gov.tr/en/>. Note that, like the residence permit, you will need a student certificate in order to apply.

SAFETY

The local equivalent of the “911” emergency line (for police, fire or ambulance) in Turkey is 155. The emergency number for ambulance assistance only is 112.

Istanbul's overall crime rate remains lower than that of other cities of a comparable size. While the majority of crime is non-violent in nature, both the level of crime and aggressiveness of criminals remains a concern. Criminal incidents tend to be concentrated in areas frequented by tourists such as Taksim Square, Istiklal Caddesi, Sultanahmet, and the Grand Bazaar. It is strongly recommended that you carry only what is needed.

Special Note for Women

Since women do not have the same status or role in Turkey as in the United States, some female students may experience difficulties. Women may experience some harassment on the streets in certain districts of any city and in smaller towns. Men may make comments or follow you along the street; however, touching almost never occurs. Young Turkish women handle such issues by dressing up inconspicuously, never making eye contact and walking purposefully. Foreign women may find the most irritating encounters in tourist areas and from fringe tourist guides. The rule is to be firm in rejecting offers. Throughout Turkey, both foreign men and women will be approached by people of all ages who simply want to speak in English.

COMMUNICATION

Telephone: When making calls, keep in mind time zone differences www.timeanddate.com/worldclock. To make an international call to the United States, dial the access code for the country from which you are calling plus the United States country code (always "1") followed by the appropriate U.S. area code and local number. To call internationally from the United States, dial "011", the country code, city access code (if necessary) and the phone number. Country and city codes can be found online www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/dialing.html. Some of above steps can vary if you are using a calling card.

Remind callers that Turkey is in the Central European Time Zone, 7 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time. When it's 5:00 p.m. in New York, it's midnight in Turkey.

Cell phone: Cell phones are commonly used in Turkey and make keeping in touch with family, friends, and staff easy. However, if you bring a cell phone from the U.S. to Turkey you must register it with a local provider after you enter the country or you risk having the service blocked later (as a precaution against phone theft). You can buy a local service provider once you arrive in Turkey for about \$40. Note that Turkey is on a dual band system (as in Europe). Most students find it easy and inexpensive (\$100-150) to buy a standard cell phone after their arrival in Turkey. Smartphones, however, are much more expensive. It may be cheaper to activate an international service plan with your carrier here rather than purchase a new smart phone abroad.

Mail: Turkish post and telephone offices are easily recognizable by their "PTT" and "Turk Telekom" signs. Major post offices are open from 8:00am to 12am Monday to Saturday and 9:00am to 7:00 pm on Sunday. Small post offices have the same hours as Government offices. i.e. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm; 1:30 pm-5:30 pm (Closed Saturday and Sundays, open daily in tourist areas)

There is a Post Office at the North Campus, next to the bookstore. From there you can buy phone cards, tokens and stamps. It is open from 09: 00 - 16:00. You can send all your mail from here but you **cannot send or receive packages** from the school branch. You need to go a central Post Office (closest located in *Levent and Bebek*). Incoming mail with Boğaziçi University address is delivered to academic departments.

It can be somewhat difficult to find your postal code (the 34337 you see below), but you can always ask one of your Turkish friends which one to use. If you live in Superdorm, this will be your address: (your name)

Bogazici Universitesi
Ucaksavar Kultur ve Spor Tesisleri, Superdorm
Cengiz Topel Caddesi
Etiler 34337, Istanbul / Turkiye

Email: If you have a laptop computer you can take it to Turkey (in fact, considering how expensive Turkish electronics are, we strongly recommend you bring your US laptop). You should have Internet access in your residence hall. Please check on the accommodation website for more details. If you do not have a laptop, there will be computer access at your department and internet access in all libraries. There are also a number of internet cafes where you can go online for a reasonable price.

Skype: Skype is a free, downloadable software application that allows users to make live video and voice calls over the internet. Skype users can also add money to their account and can then use the

service to call land lines and cell phones internationally at very low rates. Additionally, Skype also provides an instant messaging function as well as file sharing.

To create a Skype account, users must download the application from www.skype.com and create a user name and password. Once the application is installed onto their computer, they can search for friends either by first and last name or using their friends' Skype usernames. Once a friend is added to a users contact list, they will be able to see whether that person is available to chat. If two users both have web-enabled video cameras for their computers, they will be able to chat face to face. For users without a web cam, a microphone is all that's required for calls to another computer.

Whatsapp: Whatsapp (<http://www.whatsapp.com/>) is a smartphone app that is similar to the texting platform: you can send/receive texts, links, messages, etc. much like texting. Past students have found it useful for keeping in touch with Turkish friends after they have returned to the US, and if you have a smartphone over in Turkey, this (and similar apps) can be a simple way to keep in touch with your friends and family without spending a lot of money on international text/messaging fees.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

International Academic Programs (IAP) at UW-Madison:

www.studyabroad.wisc.edu

Bogazici University

http://www.boun.edu.tr/index_eng.html

Office of International Relations, Bogazici University

<http://www.intl.boun.edu.tr/?q=node/2>

Summer Term, Bogazici University

<http://www.summer.boun.edu.tr/index.php>

General Orientation Information:

www.worldwide.edu/travel_planner/index.html

(includes topics such as culture shock, international travel, etc.)

U.S. State Department:

<http://travel.state.gov/>

U.S. State Department Students Abroad site:

<http://www.studentsabroad.state.gov/>

Center for Disease Control:

www.cdc.gov/travel/

Current Exchange Rates:

www.x-rates.com

Ay Gazete (Turkish Newspaper):

<http://www.aygazete.com/Anasayfa.php>

Turkish Press (Turkish newspaper in English):

<http://www.turkishpress.com/>

Cumhuriyet (Turkish newspaper in English) :

<http://en.cumhuriyet.com/>

Turkish Tourism:

<http://www.tourismturkey.org/>

Istanbul guide – produced by a past Bogazici University exchange student:

<https://istanbulalti.wordpress.com/2010/09/13/hisarustu/>

Guide to Bogazici – maintained by the most helpful Bogazici student there is (he works in the International Office and knows everything there is to know):

<http://boun101.blogspot.com/>