

# Faculty of Foreign Languages



University of Tirana

Practical Information for Incoming Students

# Table of Contents

<u>Study programs</u>	02
<u>Things to Know Before Your Flight to Tirana</u>	03
<u>Things to Know Before Your Flight to Tirana</u>	04
<u>Useful Information Before Departure</u>	05
<u>Location &amp; Boundaries</u>	06-07
<u>From City Centre to FFL</u>	08
<u>Accommodation</u>	09-10
<u>Arrival to Tirana</u>	11
<u>Cuisine &amp; Restaurants</u>	12
<u>City Buses</u>	13
<u>Discovering Tirana</u>	14
<u>Structure and Functioning of FFL</u>	15



Study programs at FFL are designed and implemented within the framework of Bologna Declaration.

Bachelor Program (BSc) is completed in six semesters (3 academic years)

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Master of Science (MSc) is completed in four semesters (2 academic years).

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Master of Professional Studies (MPS) is completed in two semesters (1 academic year).

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Third (Doctoral Cycle. Duration: a minimum of 3 academic years and up to 5 years depending on the field and progress.

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## STUDENT VISA

You may enter Albania without a visa if:

You are a foreign citizen holding a valid, multiple-entry Schengen visa that has already been used in one of the Schengen states, or you hold a valid residence permit from a Schengen state.

You are a foreign citizen holding a valid, multiple-entry U.S. or U.K. visa that has already been used in the respective country of issuance, or you hold a valid residence permit from the U.S. or the U.K.

Please Note:

- EU citizens can enter Albania using only their ID card.
- Your passport or ID card must be valid for at least three (3) months from the date of entry into Albania.
- For detailed information on visa requirements for foreign citizens, please visit:
- Visa Regime for Foreign Citizens
- All other foreign nationals must apply for a visa before entering Albania.

For information on how to apply, visit:

- [Visa Application Information](#)
- The application portal is e-albania: <https://e-visa.al/apply>
- Contact information for the IRO office of UT: [iro@unitir.edu.al](mailto:iro@unitir.edu.al)

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## RESIDENCE PERMIT

Foreign nationals staying in Albania for more than three (3) months must apply for a residence permit within 30 days of their arrival. Applications must be made in person at the Local Police Directorate of Border and Migration in Tirana.

The International Relations Office at the University of Tirana will assist and facilitate the residence permit application process.

IRO Team at UT

[iro@unitir.edu.al](mailto:iro@unitir.edu.al)

+35542250166

Documents Required for Residence Permit Application

1. Request for Residence Permit form.
2. Residence Permit Application form.
3. Photocopy of Passport or ID card (must be valid)
4. Four (4) passport-sized photos (47mm x 36mm), taken within the last six months.
5. Proof of accommodation in Albania (original notarized document provided by the landlord).
6. Confirmation letter from the home institution verifying participation in the Erasmus+ program.
7. Criminal record certificate issued by the home country, legalized in accordance with the relevant international agreements. (Must be translated and notarized).
8. Travel health insurance covering the entire duration of stay.
9. Letter of invitation from the host institution (provided by the University of Tirana).
10. Erasmus+ grant document (proof of financial support through the Erasmus+ program)

## Climate and Clothing

Tirana has a Mediterranean climate, characterized by mild, rainy winters and hot, sunny summers.

Spring (March, April, May): Generally warm and sunny with occasional rainfall.

Summer (June, July, August): Hot and dry.

Recommended clothing: shorts, skirts, t-shirts, comfortable walking shoes, a bathing suit, sunscreen, and a hat.

Fall (September, October, November): Cool and crisp, with moderate temperatures.

Winter (December, January, February): Cold and rainy; snowfall is rare.

Recommended clothing: warm jacket, sweaters, scarf, waterproof shoes, and an umbrella for rainy days.

Be sure to pack accordingly based on the season of your stay.

## Mobile Network and Communication

Albania has extensive mobile network coverage across almost the entire country. While you can use your home SIM card if international roaming is enabled, please be aware of potentially high roaming charges.

For exchange students, we recommend purchasing an Albanian SIM card for more affordable and convenient communication.

Two major mobile providers in Albania are:

Vodafone Albania – <https://www.vodafone.al>

One Albania – <https://www.one.al>

Rates and packages vary by provider, so we suggest visiting their websites or a nearby store for up-to-date information on prepaid plans and subscriptions. SIM cards and service providers are available at the airport and in stores near student accommodations.

Making International Calls to Albania

- To a mobile number:

Format: +355 (Country Code) + 9-digit cellular number

Example: +355 69X XXX XXX

- To a landline:

Format: +355 (Country Code) + Area Code + Local Number

Example: +355 33 XXX XXX

- Local Calls Within Albania

To a mobile number: Dial the full mobile number directly.

Example: 069 XXX XXXX or 068 XXX XXXX

- To a landline: Dial the area code followed by the number.

Example: 033 XXX XXX

## Electrical Equipment

The standard voltage in Albania is 230 V, and the frequency is 50 Hz. The power plugs and sockets used are Type C and Type F, which are two-pin plugs.

If your device has a different plug type, you will need a plug adapter. These are widely available and can be easily purchased in Tirana or at the airport.

# Useful information before departure

## ALBANIAN CURRENCY

The official currency of Albania is the Lek (plural: Lekë), with the currency code ALL (Albanian Lek).

Banknotes are available in denominations of: 200, 500, 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, and 10,000 Lekë.

Coins (monedha) are available in: 1, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 Lekë.

Although Euros are accepted in some places, we strongly recommend using Albanian Lekë for everyday transactions, as exchange rates in shops may not always be accurate.

Money exchange offices and ATMs are widely available in all cities. Most ATMs accept international credit and debit cards (indicated by logos displayed on the machine).

For transferring money, you can choose between:

Bank transfers

Money transfer services such as Western Union or MoneyGram

## COST OF LIVING

Compared to its neighboring countries, Albania is a highly affordable destination.

Monthly living expenses—including rent, food, local public transportation, books, and other personal items—are estimated at around €500 (approximately 50,000 Lekë). However, actual costs may vary depending on each student's lifestyle and spending habits



## BANK ACCOUNT

International students are allowed to open a bank account at any bank in Albania. Currently, there are 11 licensed banks operating in the country, involving both domestic and foreign capital.

A full list of licensed banks can be found here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_banks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_banks)

Several banks are located near the University and throughout the city. Please note that some banks may charge a maintenance fee for your account.

Bank opening hours are typically:

Monday to Friday: 08:30 – 15:00

Some banks may also open on Saturday mornings

# Location & Boundaries



Albania is located in Southeastern Europe, on the western part of the Balkan Peninsula. It is bordered by:

Greece to the south and southeast, Montenegro to the north, Kosovo to the northeast, North Macedonia to the east, Italy to the west, across the Adriatic and Ionian Seas

Tirana, the capital city, is situated in the center of the country. It is surrounded by hills and mountains, with Mount Dajti rising to the east and a slight valley opening to the northwest toward the Adriatic Sea. Tirana is one of the wettest yet sunniest cities in Europe, with approximately 2,544 hours of sunshine per year.

## Map of Tirana

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/QExpoaCrvmsTUuNU6>

How to Get to Albania

You can travel to Albania by air, land, or sea. Below is key information by mode of transport:

## By Air

The main international gateway to Albania is:

"Mother Teresa" Tirana International Airport (TIA)

Located 17 kilometers from the capital city, Tirana, the airport is compact and easy to navigate. It serves as a hub for 36 international airlines offering flights to and from various European destinations.

Contact Information:

Tel: +355 4 2381 600 | +355 4 2381 545

Email: [info@tirana-airport.com](mailto:info@tirana-airport.com)

Website: [www.tirana-airport.com](http://www.tirana-airport.com)

## Arriving by Land

- Crossing from North Macedonia to Albania

Qafë Thanë – Leads to Librazhd → Elbasan → Rrogozhinë → Lushnje → Fier → Vlorë

Tushemisht – Leads to Pogradec

Bllatë – Leads to Peshkopi → Bulqizë → Burrel

Regular buses operate from Skopje to Tirana, with one-way tickets costing approximately €20.

[Book here](#)

- Crossing from Greece to Albania

Kakavië – Leads to Gjirokastër → Tepelenë → Tirana

Qafë e Muzinës – Leads to Gjirokastër → Sarandë → Vlorë → Tirana

Qafë Botë – Leads to Sarandë → Dhërmi → Vlorë → Tirana

Tre Urat – Connects Konitsa (Greece) with Përmet → Tepelenë → Tirana

Kapshticë – Leads to Korçë

Daily overnight and daytime buses are available from various cities in Greece to Tirana.

- Crossing from Kosovo to Albania

Morina – Connects Gjakovë → Tropojë

Qafë Morinë – Connects Prizren → Kukës → Rrëshen → Laç → Fushë Krujë → Tirane

Qafë Prush – Connects Gjakovë → Has

Regular buses operate from Pristina to Tirana, with one-way tickets costing around €15.

[Book here](#)



- Crossing from Montenegro to Albania

Hani i Hotit – Leads to Shkodër → Lezhë → Tirana

Muriqan – Connects Ulcinj → Shkodër

Vermosh – Connects Kelmend region with Plav and Gusinje (Montenegro)

Regular bus services are available from Herceg Novi, Kotor, Budva, and Podgorica to Albania.

<https://getbybus.com/en/blog/new-bus-route-montenegro-to-albania/>

- Arriving by SEA

You can reach Albania by passenger ferry through its major coastal cities. Several international ferry companies operate regular routes between Albania and neighboring countries.

#### 1. Port of Durrës

Durrës is Albania's largest and busiest seaport, offering ferry connections to several Italian ports including Bari, Ancona, and Trieste.

📍 Address: Rruga “Tregtare”, Lagjja Nr. 1, Durrës

☎ Phone: +355 52 22228

🌐 Website: [www.durresport.al](http://www.durresport.al)

🔗 Online booking: [directferries.com](http://directferries.com)

#### 2. Port of Vlorë

Vlorë is Albania's second-largest port and offers regular ferry connections with the Italian port of Brindisi. This is a popular and well-serviced route operated daily by major ferry companies.

📍 Address: Lagjja “Pavarësia”, Skelë, Vlorë

☎ Phone: +355 33 409 700

🌐 Website: [www.portivlore.com](http://www.portivlore.com)

✉ Email: [info@portivlore.com](mailto:info@portivlore.com)

🔗 Online booking: [ferries-booking.com](http://ferries-booking.com)

#### 3. Port of Sarandë

Located in southern Albania, Sarandë has daily ferry services to the Greek island of Corfu.

Sarris Cruises & Lines operates up to 4 departures per day (approx. 1h 10m trip)

Their Fast Ferry service offers up to 14 weekly departures (trip duration ~35 minutes).

📍 Address: Rruga “Mitat Hoxha”, Sarandë

☎ Phone: +355 85 224 475 / +355 85 225 542

🌐 Website: [porti-sarande.al](http://porti-sarande.al)

🔗 Ferry bookings: [info:finikaslines.com](http://info:finikaslines.com)

- Port of Shëngjin

Shëngjin is a smaller port located in the northwestern part of Albania, near Lezhë. While it is less frequently used for international passenger traffic, it occasionally serves ferry routes during the tourist season and is a growing hub for maritime activity.

📍 Address: Shëngjin, Lezhë District, Albania

☎ Phone: +355 (0)215 21 344

🌐 Website: [www.portishengjin.al](http://www.portishengjin.al)

# From City Centre to FFL

From the Airport to Tirana by Bus

LU-NA LLC operates a 24-hour daily bus service from Tirana International Airport to the city center.

Bus stop in Tirana: Behind the Opera and Ballet Palace (Sheshi Skënderbej)

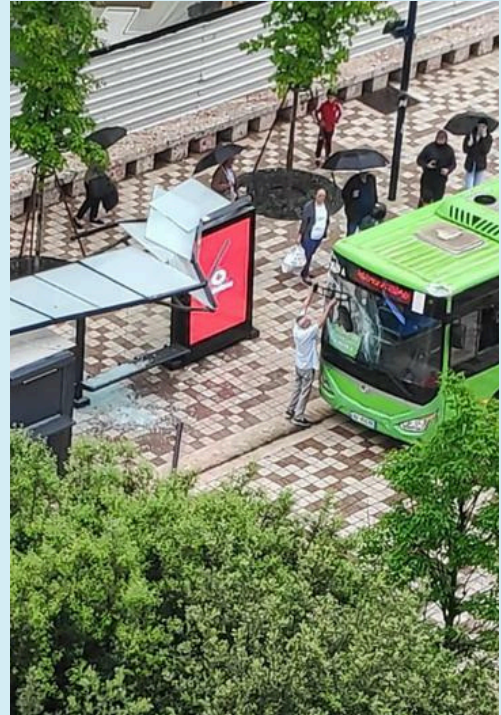
Travel time: Approximately 30 minutes

Fare: 400 Albanian Lek (one-way)

Contact Information:

Mobile: +355 69 298 2128

Email: [info@luna.al](mailto:info@luna.al)



From city centre to FFL by Bus:

The following bus lines made available by the Municipality of Tirana can take you to the Faculty of Foreign languages:

City Centre – TEG every day 9AM (every 20 min.)

Jordan Misja Street - The German Villas

<https://www.openstreetmap.org/relation/7930385>

[https://tirana.al/en/uploads/2023/5/20230523I43056\\_2023\\_05\\_04-urbani-map\\_english.pdf](https://tirana.al/en/uploads/2023/5/20230523I43056_2023_05_04-urbani-map_english.pdf)

From city centre to FFL by TAXI:

The fastest way to reach the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FFL) is by taxi.

The journey from Tirana International Airport to the FFL takes approximately 37-40 minutes, depending on traffic conditions.

Taxi fares vary depending on the company and time of day.

You can use one of the following licensed taxi services in Tirana:

City Taxi, Blue Taxi, Green Taxi, Merr Taxi, Taxi Lux Albania, TIA Taxi



## Landed in TIA? What about now?

### Public dormitories

The dormitory offers warm, fully furnished rooms that include a bed with linens and pillows, a desk, chairs, and a dresser for each resident. Each room has a private shower and toilet. A shared kitchen is available on every floor.

Price: 100 € per month

### Additional Services Include:

Wi-Fi connection in every room and throughout campus facilities

Laundry and ironing services

Parking

24/7 electricity and hot water

Security and surveillance

Medical assistance and nurse on-site

Within the dormitory campus, students will also find:

A library and study room

A colorful park for relaxation

Restaurants and cafeterias

The on-campus restaurants serve a wide variety of high-quality, traditional Albanian meals at affordable prices—around 5 € per meal, including a main dish, salad, and dessert. There are also self-service restaurants where students can customize their meals.

### Dormitory Hours:

Open until 22:00 during winter

Open until 23:00 during summer

If a resident plans to return after hours, they must request prior permission from the dormitory administration. Weekend schedules are more flexible.

### Address:

Rruga Arben Broci, Qyteti Studenti, Tiranë

### Private accomodation

If you are looking to rent a shared flat or a studio apartment in Tirana, be aware that rental prices vary depending on: Location, Number of rooms, Furnishings, Rental season.

Prices typically increase during the summer (peak tourist season) and decrease during the off-season.

### Rental Agencies

Most apartments are offered through agencies, which typically charge a commission fee equal to half or one month's rent.

You can communicate your accommodation preferences in advance and book a place before your arrival.

Keep in mind: Agencies often promote high-end, centrally located apartments

For support in finding affordable options, please contact the International Office staff, who will be happy to assist you.

### Nearby Hotels

If you prefer to stay at a hotel upon arrival, here is the list of hotels located close to the Faculty of Foreign Languages:

#### Iliria Boutique Hotel

<https://www.iliriahoteltirana.com/>

#### Vila Park Hotel

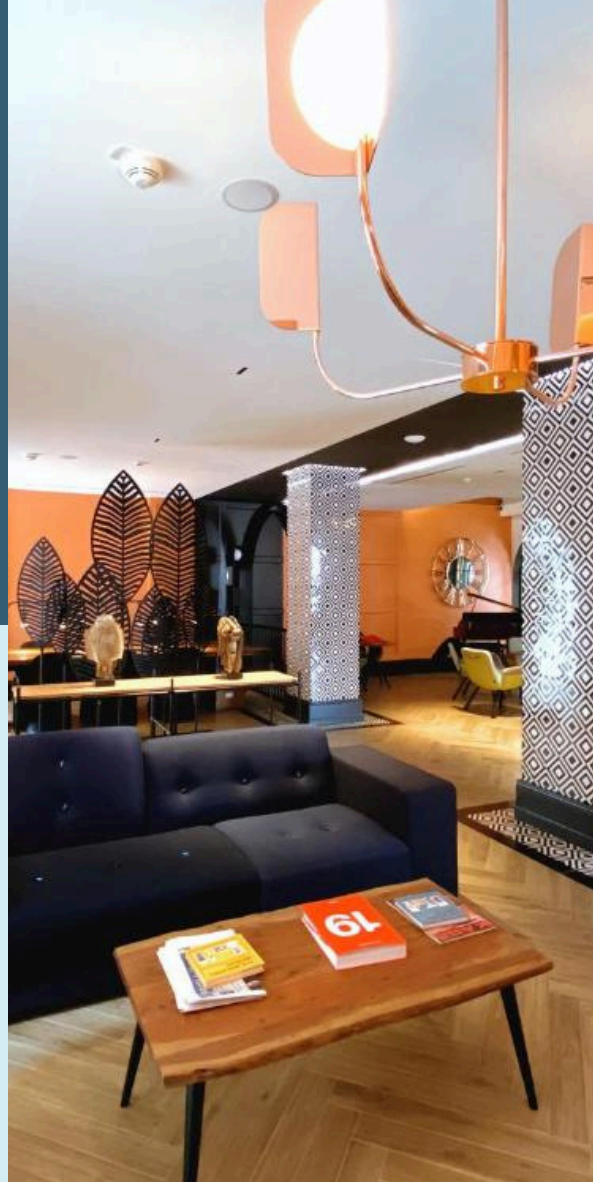
<https://www.booking.com/hotel/al/vila-park-tirana.en-gb.html>

#### Hotel Pik Loti

<https://hotelpikloti.com/?lang=sq>

#### Hotel La Villa

<https://lavilla.al/>



#### New W Hotel

<https://newwhoteltirana.com/>

#### Hotel Elysee

<https://hotelelysee.al/>

#### Hotel Italia

<https://www.booking.com/hotel/al/italia.en-gb.html>

#### Marion Hotel

<https://www.hotelsalbanian.com/marion-hotel/>

#### Hotel Pandora Residence

<https://www.booking.com/hotel/al/pandora-residence.en-gb.html>

#### Hotel Agron

<https://www.booking.com/hotel/al/agron-tirana.en-gb.html>

#### Hotel Arberia

<https://hotelarberia.com/>

#### Hotel Boutique Adelar

<https://hoteladelar.com/>

#### Hotel Elysee

<https://hotelelysee.al/>

# Arrival to Tirana

## Local Customs and Etiquette

Tirana is known for its warmth and hospitality—visitors are welcomed with open arms, and making guests feel at home is a deeply rooted cultural value.

### Greetings:

In Albania, it is common to greet and say goodbye with a kiss on both cheeks, especially between women or between men and women. Among men, a firm handshake is the most typical greeting.

### Gestures:

Be aware that Albanians often nod their head to mean “no” and shake their head side-to-side to mean “yes”—the opposite of what many are used to. This can cause confusion, so it's good to clarify if you're unsure.

### Religion and Beliefs:

Faith is considered a personal and private matter in Albania. People are generally very tolerant, and no one will judge you based on your religious beliefs or background.

### Social Life:

Young people in Tirana usually socialize in cafés, bars, and at parties. Going out for coffee is a major part of the culture—it's not unusual to spend hours chatting over a single cup. Discos and nightlife venues are also popular among the younger generation

### Main Emergency Numbers:

112 Unique Emergency Number

127 Medical Emergency Number

128 Firemen

129 State Police



# Cuisine & Restaurants

The cuisine of Tirana is diverse, delicious, and deeply rooted in Mediterranean, Balkan, and Ottoman culinary traditions. Meals are typically made from fresh and locally sourced ingredients. Albanians take pride in their food, and sharing a meal is a common expression of hospitality.

## Traditional Dishes

- Byreku (Burek)

A savory pie made with thin layers of phyllo dough filled with cheese, spinach, ground meat, or vegetables. Available at bakeries and snack shops all around the city.

- Tavë Kosi

A signature Albanian dish made of lamb baked in a mixture of rice, eggs, and yogurt. Creamy, flavorful, and a must-try for visitors.

- Fërgesë

A hearty dish made with peppers, tomatoes, cottage cheese (gjizë), and sometimes meat. It's served hot and typically eaten with bread.

- Qofte (Albanian Meatballs)

Small, grilled or fried meatballs made of minced meat mixed with herbs and spices. Often served with onions, salad, and bread.

- Specia të Mbushura (Stuffed Peppers)

Bell peppers filled with a savory mixture of rice, herbs, and sometimes meat, then baked in the oven.

- Petulla

Albanian-style fried dough, similar to donuts but usually less sweet, served with honey, cheese, or jam.

- Bakllava

A rich dessert made with layers of phyllo dough, chopped nuts, and honey syrup—perfect for those with a sweet tooth



## Restaurants and Eateries Near the Faculty of Foreign Languages

- Artigiano Vila

A popular Mediterranean and Albanian fusion restaurant known for its fresh pasta, grilled meats, and cozy atmosphere.

📍 Rruga Papa Gjon Pali II, Tirana

- OPA – Greek Street Food

A student favorite offering affordable wraps, gyros, and salads with fast service.

📍 Near Taiwan Center, 10 minutes from FFL

- Era Restaurant (Blloku)

One of Tirana's most iconic traditional Albanian restaurants. Great selection of local dishes and a rustic setting.

📍 Rruga Ismail Qemali, Blloku

- Delicatezë Tradita Shqiptare

Traditional Albanian fast food with authentic taste and affordable prices, ideal for a quick lunch.

📍 Rruga e Kavajës

# City Buses

Buses operate from around 6:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

The standard fare is 40 Lek (approx. €0.40) per trip.

Tickets can be purchased directly on the bus from the ticket conductor.

Bus stops are marked, and routes are displayed on signs or maps at major stops.

Buses are generally safe, though they can be crowded during peak hours (7:30–9:30 AM and 4:30–6:30 PM).



## Useful Bus Lines for Students

- City Centre – TEG Line

Connects downtown Tirana with the eastern part of the city and TEG shopping center. It stops near the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FFL).

- Kinostudio – Kombinat Line

Passes through the city center and can be used to reach several areas, including near student dormitories.

- Unaza (Ring Line)

Circles the city and connects many neighborhoods and major roads.

- Porcelan Line

This bus travels near some popular residential areas and can be used to get close to UT buildings

🗺️ For a complete map of urban bus lines:

[City Bus Map – Municipality of Tirana \(PDF\)](#)

📍 You can also track some buses live on apps like Moovit or Google Maps.

## Student Tips

Always carry small change for bus fare.

Keep your belongings safe, especially in crowded buses.

Be polite and give up your seat to elderly passengers or parents with small children.



# Discovering Tirana



## TOP SIGHTS YOU SHOULDN'T MISS WHILE IN THE CAPITAL:

- National Gallery of Arts – Home to impressive collections of Albanian visual art.
  - Bunk'Art 1 & 2 – Fascinating underground museums offering insight into Albania's communist past.
  - Mount Dajti National Park – Take the Dajti Express cable car for stunning views over Tirana.
  - Skanderbeg Square – The heart of Tirana, surrounded by important landmarks and institutions.
  - Clock Tower of Tirana – A historic symbol with panoramic city views from the top.
  - Et'hem Bey Mosque – A beautifully preserved Ottoman-era mosque.
  - Orthodox Autocephalous Church of Albania – An impressive modern cathedral in the city center.
  - Equestrian Statue of Skanderbeg – Iconic tribute to Albania's national hero.
  - Statue of the Unknown Partisan – A symbol of Albania's WWII resistance.
  - Blloku District – Trendy area once exclusive to the communist elite, now filled with cafés, boutiques, and nightlife.
  - The Pyramid of Tirana – A controversial monument, once a museum, now a cultural hub and event space
  - National History Museum – Located in Skanderbeg Square, easily recognized by its large mosaic facade.
  - House of Leaves Museum – Former surveillance headquarters, now a museum about Albania's secret police
  - Grand Park of Tirana (Parku i Madh) – The city's green oasis, perfect for walks, picnics, and outdoor sports.
  - Opera & Ballet Theatre – Cultural performances hosted in an elegant venue at Skanderbeg Square.
- 
- Cafés and Going Out for a Drink
  - Tirana is known for its vibrant café culture and lively nightlife. Whether you're looking for a quiet coffee, a stylish cocktail, or a local beer, the city offers something for everyone.
  - Cafés: Scattered all over the city, especially in the Blloku and Pazari i Ri areas, you'll find charming coffee shops where locals spend hours socializing over espresso.
  - Bars and Lounges: Head to Blloku or Kodra e Diellit for modern bars, rooftop lounges, and live music venues.
  - Traditional Drinks: Try local specialties like rakia or Albanian wines and craft beers.

# Structure and Functioning of FFL

## CREDITS

The Albanian Credit System is compatible with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

1 (One) semester corresponds to 30 ECTS credits.

1 (One) full academic year corresponds to 60 ECTS credits.

## LIBRARY

Argjiro and Rozafa libraries are open from 8 AM to 4:30 PM. In addition a digital library is also available.

Digital Library of FFL:

<https://biblioteka.fgjh.edu.al/#/app/landing>

## INTERNET ACCESS

The Faculty of Foreign Languages offers wireless networks access to students and staff across the faculty facilities

## TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS

Incoming exchange students will receive ECTS credits for each successfully completed course. A transcript of records will be issued and sent to the International Office of their home institution.

## STUDENT BUDDY

Making new friends can be challenging, especially in a new country and unfamiliar environment. To ease this transition, our faculty will involve Erasmus+ alumni to support incoming exchange students during their first steps of living and studying at the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FFL).

Upon your arrival, student buddies will be assigned to you by the faculty. They will help you get oriented with the faculty facilities, offer guidance on academic and daily life, and support you in adjusting to the city and its culture.



# Thank you!

## Contact us

✉ [drita.rira@unitir.edu.al](mailto:drita.rira@unitir.edu.al)

✉ [iro@unitir.edu.al](mailto:iro@unitir.edu.al)

✉ [info.fgjh@unitir.edu.al](mailto:info.fgjh@unitir.edu.al)

✉ [sekretaria.mesimorefgjh@unitir.edu.al](mailto:sekretaria.mesimorefgjh@unitir.edu.al)

☎ [04 236 9664](tel:042369664)

📍 [Rr. Elbasanit Tirana Albania AL, 1001](#)

📘 Facebook: Fakulteti i Gjuhëve të Huaja i UT-së-Faqja Zyrtare

📷 Instagram: [fakulteti.gjuhevetehuaja.ut](https://www.instagram.com/fakulteti.gjuhevetehuaja.ut)