



İSTANBUL OKAN ÜNİVERSİTESİ

Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences



*The university
Closest to
Business Life !*



444 OKAN
okan.edu.t

A portrait of a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a dark blue or black top. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage and a blue sky.

Irmak
YURTSEVEN

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Hello, I'm Irmak. I am a student at Istanbul Okan University, Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences, Department of Economics and Finance. Although I was interested in the finance sector during high school, I initially chose the geography department. However, I didn't want to become a teacher. Later, I prepared for the university entrance exam again, and this time I made the right choice by selecting the Department of Economics and Finance.

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I added Istanbul Okan University to my list based on what I learned about its education quality and was accepted with a 50% scholarship.

Preparing for the exam again was challenging. However, once I started university, all the effort was worth it. Our department head and all our professors always opened their doors to me and all my classmates. They supported us in every matter. I realized at university how important it is not only to have a highly qualified academic staff but also to be in close communication with them.

In our department, the fundamental rules and principles of modern science are conveyed to us both theoretically and practically, in a way that is adapted to the conditions of our country within a developing and globalizing world. We are being trained to become professional managers who can communicate effectively, possess personal skills, and aim for continuous development with a sense of social responsibility.

Participating in the Erasmus Program improved me in many ways. I joined the student exchange program at the Radom Academy of Economics in Poland. When I took the Erasmus exam, I had no idea what awaited me if I passed. I never imagined I would have the chance to see many cities around the world. It was the most beautiful experience I've ever had. After returning from Erasmus, thanks to the courses I took such as creative drama and life coaching, I learned to look at life from different perspectives.

When I reached my third year, I needed to do an internship. I went to the Career Center at Istanbul Okan University and said that I wanted to intern. The Career Center works so efficiently that within a month, I completed my voluntary internship at the Budget and Performance Department of Halkbank Headquarters and my compulsory internship in the finance department of Omsan Logistics.

Through the OKAN COOPERative Learning – Workplace Training Program implemented by our university, I am currently working in the project finance department at Yıldırım Holding. Thanks to the OKAN COOPERative Learning – Workplace Training Program, I had the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge I gained throughout my education in the workplace before graduating.

Okan graduates have a 1-0 advantage in the finance sector compared to graduates from the same department at other universities, thanks to the OKAN COOPERative Learning - Workplace Training Program.

To my friends preparing for university: don't overthink the exam. What really matters is getting into the department and university you truly want. Don't make a decision without exploring the exchange programs, double major opportunities, and the social life conditions offered by the universities.



StratejiLab



FinansLab

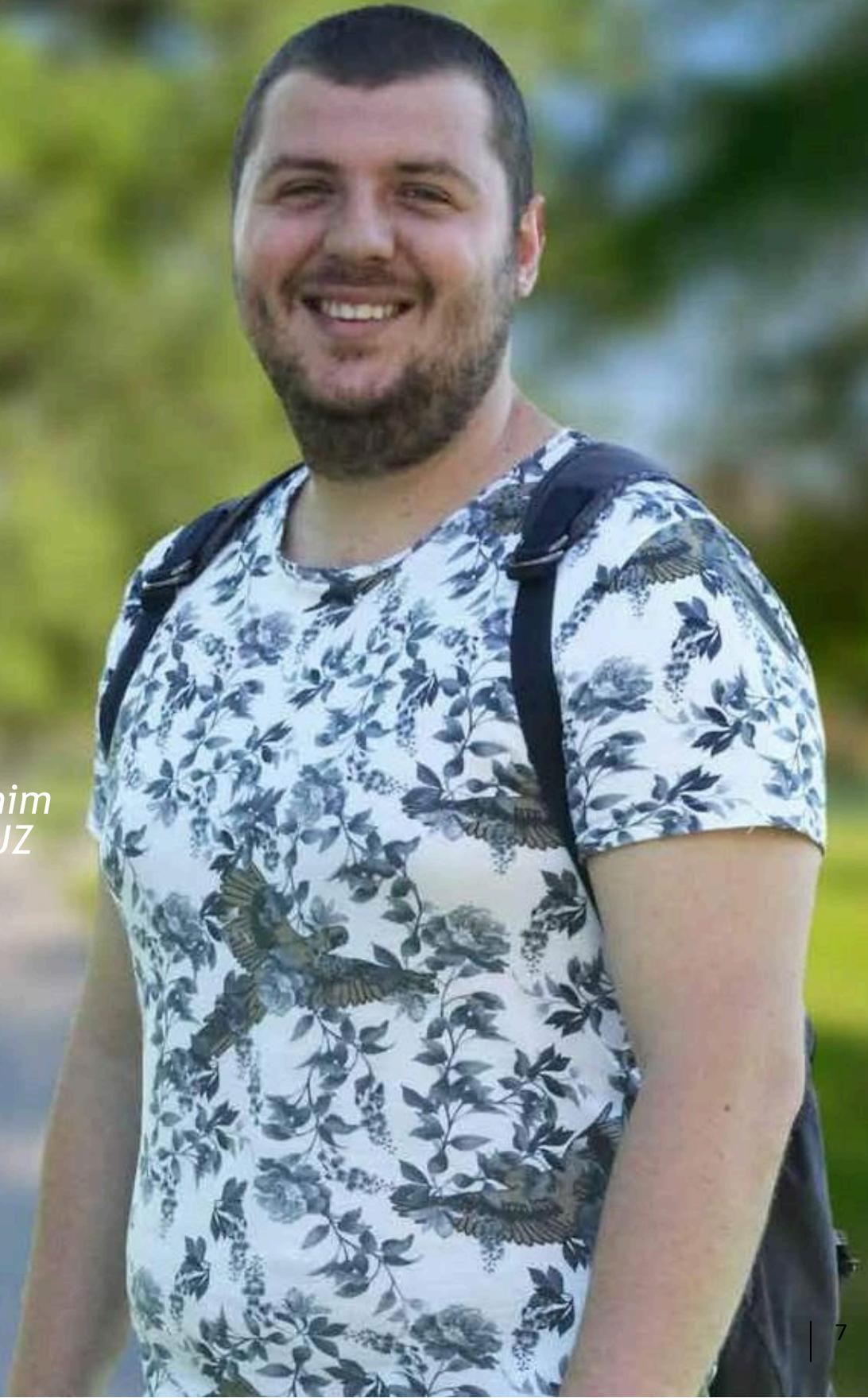


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Hello, I'm İbrahim. I am a student at Istanbul Okan University, Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business Administration. I chose business education because I believed it would give me the opportunity to work in a wide range of fields without being limited to a single area. Additionally, I dream of taking my family's company to the next level and transforming it into a globally recognized business with a different perspective.

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*İbrahim
TOPUZ*



To achieve this dream, I knew I needed to receive a good business education. At a time when many people were saying that business graduates couldn't find jobs, I was aware that employers were actually looking for qualified business graduates. All I had to do was find the right place.



I attended Okan University's Career Festival. At the festival, I had a lot of fun and also had the opportunity to get to know the university. When I compared it with other universities, Istanbul Okan University stood out. It made a difference with both its academic staff and the opportunities it provides after graduation. During the preference period, I visited the university, spoke one-on-one with our professors and the dean, and my thoughts became clear. I was accepted into the Business Administration Department with a 50% scholarship.

I understood much better what the university's motto "the university closest to business life" really means once I started school. Istanbul is the heart of the business world, and our university helps us hear that heartbeat. Our university is the first in Turkey to make the Entrepreneurship course mandatory for all students. In addition to this required course, we can also specialize in entrepreneurship as a sub-major. We even have the chance to bring our ideas to life.

We can receive entrepreneurship mentoring at the Incubation Center. Another important advantage is that our faculty organizes many activities outside of class to prepare us for the business world. For example, this year we had the chance to receive one-on-one mentoring for career planning through the "Business Luncheon" event with HR managers from well-known companies.

The most valuable experience for me was the Branded Course Program. I took the Sales Management course, which was taught in cooperation with TEMSA Construction Equipment, a subsidiary of Sabancı Holding, as part of this program. I took the course for four weeks with our own professors and for another four weeks with company managers. At the end of the course, I received a certificate from the company, and the managers offered me an internship. Honestly, being appreciated at the end of such an amazing experience was a source of pride.

As part of the Happy Life Program, I chose the ballroom dance class. I did salsa and bachata, and had a lot of fun. If this opportunity hadn't been available at the university, I would never have considered it—and through this, I discovered that I actually have a talent for dancing. Above all, my university helped me become a determined individual who knows what they want.

To my friends preparing for university: your life is not just about the exam. Do your best, study regularly, and think carefully when making your choices. Don't make your final decision without visiting Okan University.





Yağmur
CANLI

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Hello, I'm Yağmur. I am a second-year student in the Department of Economics and Finance at Istanbul Okan University. I was accepted to the university with a full scholarship. While making my university preference, I believed that I should choose a profession that best matched my personality, and since I have always been fascinated by the magic of numbers, I chose the Department of Economics and Finance.

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Istanbul Okan University prepares us for professional life even before graduation through the career opportunities provided by its **Career Center**. Located in Istanbul, the heart of the business and finance world, I chose Okan University to receive an education in banking and insurance that combines theory with practice and to benefit from job opportunities before I even graduate.

In our department, we develop fundamental **managerial and leadership skills**. We receive an education centered on **innovation and entrepreneurship**. We graduate as competent individuals with strong communication skills, self-confidence, and the ability to generate innovative solutions—individuals who have truly learned how to learn. Thanks to our experienced and expert academic staff, it becomes much easier for us to acquire these competencies. What’s more, our professors are open to teaching and learning; we can always engage in dialogue and ask any questions we have.

The opportunities offered by Istanbul Okan University are not limited to education alone. The university’s **green campus** also played a major role in my decision to study here, because I didn’t want to go to university in an apartment building. The university I chose had to be a place where I could fully enjoy campus life—and Okan fulfilled that dream with its excellent facilities.

Okan University also offers a **vibrant social life**. Through the **Happy Life Program**, we can take courses in various areas, from art to sports. Numerous concerts, conferences, and events are organized, giving us the chance to grow both culturally and professionally. These events also allow us to meet professionals from the business world and famous figures from the world of entertainment.

As Okan students, we also benefit from the advantages of **minor and double major programs**. We can study another department in addition to our own without paying any extra fees. I’m planning to start a double major in **Law** at the end of this semester.



Ece
PEKGÜLEÇ

Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences

Political Science and
International Relations

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Hello, I'm Ece. I am a student in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences at Istanbul Okan University. Due to my father's job, we lived in Diyarbakır for four years.

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There was an explosion at the prep course I attended. We all deserve to live in a world filled with peace and tranquility. That's when I realized I had to work for peace. That's how my interest in politics and international relations began. Istanbul Okan University, which hosts many esteemed academics, was my only choice. I was accepted into this program with a 100% scholarship.

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When I started university, I expected to take classes from well-known figures in their fields. What I didn't expect was an academic staff that cared about you individually, that listened to your problems, and even tried to help solve them. To be honest, I never felt the absence of my family here.

I decided to pursue a double major. I applied for a double major in the International Trade Department and got accepted. I was also part of OkanTheatre—we put on amazing plays. Besides that, there are many other student clubs. One of them is OkanMUN, which I co-founded. MUN (Model United Nations) can be briefly described as a UN simulation. Each week, we gather to debate specific topics, functioning somewhat like a political thought club.

Beyond all this, I must also mention the **Happy Life** courses, which add a unique color to social life at Okan. These are courses that would normally be quite expensive outside the university, yet here we receive them for free from high-quality instructors. We can choose from a wide variety of options—from the arts, dance, and sports to public speaking, leadership, and management.

I participated in Erasmus in Germany. While I was there, we had an issue with a course and had to switch to another one. I solved it with just one email in a few hours. Many of my friends from other universities struggled for weeks due to their schools' "lack of interest."

To my friends preparing for university: before finalizing your preference list, make sure to **visit the universities** you're considering.

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Hello, I'm Sefa. I am a student in the Department of Logistics Management at the Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences at Istanbul Okan University.

When I was a child, I wanted to become a football player.

I played football for 9 years.

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Muhammed Sefa
YAKUPOĞLU





During the last two years of high school, playing football was no longer enough for me—my dreams extended beyond the sport. I wanted to receive a university education, and I began to imagine myself as a manager in a successful company. I prepared for the exams, and during the preference period, I visited several universities—one of them was Istanbul Okan University. The moment I walked through the door, I felt like I belonged there. I told my father, “This will be my future.”

I wanted a dynamic, hands-on career. So, I started researching the Department of Logistics and Transportation. During the preference period, I visited Okan again to learn more about the program. I was deeply impressed by the professors. The campus itself felt like it was calling to me. Okan became my first choice, and I was accepted with a 50% scholarship.

The **Entrepreneurship Courses** made a tremendous contribution to my personal development. The first class was taught by our Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Bekir Okan. His life story and achievements impressed us all. In other sessions, the CEOs of Denizbank and Turkcell gave lectures. We had the chance to ask questions to top business leaders we would otherwise rarely meet.

One of the most important practices in my department was the **Branded Course Program**. In this program, professional executives from leading international companies visit our school and explain their operational processes using real-world examples. This prepares us with applied knowledge and helps us adapt to the industry much more quickly.

Another important opportunity is the **OKAN COOPerative Learning–Workplace Training Program**. In this program, I spend the entire 8th semester working full-time at a partner company, without attending school, and it counts as four courses. I’m both working and learning—who knows, maybe I’ll even receive a job offer at the end. I’m also using my summer efficiently by working as an operations assistant at a logistics company, gaining both experience and income.

To my friends preparing for university: first, get to know yourself. Identify your own strengths and capabilities, and make your choices accordingly.





İpek
ERASLAN

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Hello, I'm İpek. I am a student in the International Trade Department at the Faculty of Business and Administrative Sciences at Istanbul Okan University. While I was researching opportunities abroad to learn languages, the staff at an agency noticed my curiosity for discovering different parts of the world and my passion for learning languages, and they recommended the International Trade Department to me.

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Working abroad rather than staying in a constant office environment is a unique opportunity for someone like me with a traveler’s spirit.

I was already very familiar with Okan University since my older brother studied Industrial Engineering here. The International Trade Department is known for its strong academic staff with deep industry connections—especially our legendary professor Ayşegül Topçuoğlu. On top of that, the second foreign language options offered at Okan made it the right choice for me. After the results were announced, I was thrilled to receive a congratulatory call from Professor Ayşenur. That warm gesture was just the beginning—since then, I’ve always had close and sincere communication with all my professors.

After being accepted to the university, I went to Argentina on a long-term exchange program. When I returned, I skipped the preparatory year and started directly from the first year. Thanks to our instructors, who come straight from the heart of the trade industry, we didn’t just listen to lectures—we also gained insight from their real-world experience.

One of the most valuable opportunities our university offers is the **double major program**. I’m currently doing a double major in the **Economics and Finance Department**.

The university also gave me the chance to learn new languages. I took Russian for two semesters. Despite the challenging alphabet, I made significant progress.

Our Dean directed me to an internship at Mondelez International. There, I learned about the operational processes in the foreign trade department. I participated in many projects at the university. With my classmates from the department, we joined the **Trade Master Investment League**, where 114 teams from different schools competed—and three of our teams made it into the top 10. The team I was part of placed seventh. We are proud of what we achieved.

To my friends preparing for university: Don’t question how successful you’ve been so far. Start planning what you’ll do from now on.

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“BEING AN OKAN

Being an Okan Student first and foremost means being a good person; we are prepared for life as free individuals with values, aware of our responsibilities to both our country and the world.

*In today's world, knowing English is essential. If we wish, we have the opportunity to learn English at **Okan International University in Miami.***

Through the **Entrepreneurship Courses**, which were offered for the first time in Turkey at our university, we learn how top industry leaders achieved their success.

Thanks to the **OKAN COOPERative Learning–Workplace Training Program**, unlike standard internship practices, our university—partnered with hundreds of companies—places us in appropriate firms so that we can spend one full academic term gaining practical experience.

In this way, we lay the foundations of our careers **before entering professional life.** To graduate, it's not enough to succeed only in our academic courses—we also need to succeed in the **Career and Life Program.**

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In today's world, where knowing only English is no longer enough, we have the opportunity to learn a second language such as **Chinese, Russian, or Arabic.**





*Thanks to the **Happy Life Program**, we have the opportunity to improve ourselves in a wide range of areas— from tango to table tennis, swimming to chess.*

*Our university encourages us to pursue **double major and minor programs**, and does not charge any additional fees for these options.*

*Our **scholarships are non-refundable and uninterrupted**, ensuring continuous support throughout our education.*



A World-Class Green Campus



We spend a large part of our daily lives on campus, which is why campus facilities are extremely important for students.

Our main campus, Tuzla Campus, is built on an area of 160,000 square meters. On our vibrant green campus, which is alive 24/7, we can lie on the grass, be mesmerized by the colors of dozens of different flowers, watch the swans on the lake, and even pick fruit from the trees.





We offer various accommodation options in our modern dormitory buildings on campus, which can house 1,500 students. Our campus includes an indoor sports hall, a swimming pool, a fitness center, a squash court, pilates and aerobics studios, tennis courts, a mini football field, and basketball courts. Additionally, the campus cafeteria, restaurants, and cafes provide food options suitable for every budget. We live on a campus where all needs are considered—from markets to hair salons. Thanks to our game and cinema rooms, we also enjoy fun times.

One of the most important pillars of a university is its library. With thousands of printed and digital publications, our library allows us to conduct more qualified research and complete assignments more effectively. We can join any student club that interests us, or even start our own.

Our campus is only five minutes away from Sabiha Gökçen Airport. In a city like Istanbul, where traffic is a major problem, we benefit from all the opportunities the city has to offer while staying away from its chaos. Istanbul offers many unique opportunities for university education. Here, we not only study at a university in Istanbul—we also study Istanbul itself.

As students of Istanbul Okan University, we graduate not only with a diploma, but also as socially active individuals with intellectual depth, in addition to professional expertise. Here, we gain a culture.





— İSTANBUL —

ISTANBUL OKAN UNIVERSITY

*The university
Closest to Business Life !*

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