

Faruk Hamzabegovic
Ulica branilaca grada BB
77240 Bosanska Krupa, Bosnia and Herzegovina
(+387)63 793 290
faruk.hamzabegovic@edu.fit.ba

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Dear Sir or Madame,

I would like to apply for the exchange programme at VU University Amsterdam in the Computer Science department. My name is Faruk, I am 21 years old and currently a second year student at the Faculty of Informational Technologies. I am a very versatile person, but I always give my 110% and strive to be the best which is proven by me being named the valedictorian in my primary school and also in the high school. Although I devoted some of my time to school, I also participated in a lot of extracurricular activities. I started to play basketball in my local club "KK Bratstvo" and discovered that I was very talented for it, and a few years later, I was named the best junior basketball player of my town. I also played in the local volleyball club named "OK Krusnica", and later played in the cantons' team starting line-up as a setter. That year I was named the best junior volleyball player of my town. I also participated in many volleyball camps in Serbia. In my free time, I played table tennis and I was a guitarist in a band, and volunteered at local Red Cross in Bosanska Krupa.

I would like to go on an exchange for the whole academic 2015/2016 year. I think that it would expand my knowledge, but also contribute to my personal development. In my previous education, I never had the opportunity to study abroad. Wanting to study at your university, I searched the web and got familiar with your academic offer. My focuses were the subjects in the fields of AI and Intelligent Systems, because I would like to continue my education in those fields of study, but I do not have the opportunity to study these subjects in my home institution. That way, I can have the knowledge and skills, which I could not have in my home institution. In addition, I applied because, with my participation in this programme, I will acquire knowledge not just in IT, but also in life.

I believe to be a good candidate for the exchange programme. With my engagement in sports and school activities, I realized that I am very competitive, but also communicative and good at working in a team. I am also very devoted to everything I love doing, and my goal is to be good, if not the best in the things/fields that I love. While volunteering in Red Cross, I realized that many people do not have the basic stuff to live what increased my will to help everyone who needs assistance. In addition, I am eager to meet new people and get to know new cultures.

The main reason I applied to your exchange programme is your academic offer, and to study subjects that I always wanted to study, but never had the chance. The other reason is that I've never had the opportunity to go to Netherlands or to meet and talk to people from Netherlands. While working on various projects and activities (like acting in a play sponsored by Goethe-Institute and attending many volleyball camps) I got the chance to meet new people from different countries (England, Germany, Sweden, France, Italy, Switzerland, etc.) and their culture and language. With this programme, I would like to get to know your culture, visit your cultural places like Oude Kerk, Dam Square, Begijnhof, Magere Brug, and learn Dutch. I think that, by attending your University, I will make new friends/acquaintances and have the opportunity to share my experience and knowledge with your students, and vice versa.

Thank you for your consideration.

Faruk H.

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