2017 - 2018

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MASTER PROGRAM - APEP

&

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PhD PROGRAM

www.todaie.edu.tr
Public Administration Institute for Turkey and the Middle East (TODAIE) is founded in accordance with the technical assistance agreement signed between the Republic of Turkey and the United Nations in 1952. Celebrating its 65th anniversary, TODAIE has gained the reputation of being one of the most influential and prestigious institutes of the public administration not only in Turkey, but also in the geography of Middle East, the Balkans, and the Caucasus. Incorporating the education, research and publishing activities in the field of public administration, TODAIE is not only an academic institution providing theoretical knowledge and conducting research, but it is also a share point of the bureaucratic experience.

Graduate programs of the Institute are the only ones in Turkey which have been accredited by the European Association for Public Administration Accreditation. Amme İdaresi Dergisi (Journal of Public Administration), one of the six journals published by TODAIE, has been indexed by the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI).

The research activities being conducted by the Institute in various scopes provide an essential guideline for public administration.

Today, TODAIE has gained the status of a regional center for public administration research and education. In this respect, Public Administration Research and Training Center for Caucasus was established in 2014 in cooperation with the Academy of Public Administration (Azerbaijan), aiming to provide training in the field of public administration. Moreover, International Advanced Public Executive Master Program (APEP) in which medium language is English formed for public officials of foreign countries.

On behalf of TODAIE, we would be honoured to see you among us as the senior administrators of the future.

Prof. Dr. Onur Ender ASLAN
General Director
2- FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Public officials face complex problems every day. They are expected to develop fast, satisfactory and appropriate solutions for public interest. Education and training programs in TODAIE aim to provide students with skills and abilities so that they can tackle these problems with innovative and multidimensional approaches.

Educational programs provided by TODAIE covers public administration area as well as it embraces other related fields; political science, international relations, local governments, urbanization, law, finance and business.

Our faculty is composed of experienced academics who know the present conditions, needs and demands of public officials. The diverse background of the faculty staff and the high number of courses offered in the graduate programs distinguish us from other higher education institutions.

Education and training tradition of our institute extends over 60 years. However we constantly strive to improve the quality of our programs, enabling us to provide the best public administration education that the public officials of the modern world require.

The academic environment in TODAIE is enriched by its students who are the public officials of various Turkish and foreign public institutions. Students find opportunities to share their knowledge, information and experience with each other in classes as well as in out-of-class activities. This is another unique feature of TODAIE graduate programs.

We invite future leaders of civil service to join our programs.

Prof. Dr. A. Argun AKDOĞAN
Director of Education and Training Department

www.todaie.edu.tr
3.1. About TODAIE

Public Administration Institute for Turkey and the Middle East (TODAIE) is established in accordance with the technical aid agreement made between the Republic of Turkey and the United Nations in 1952. As the institute celebrates its 65th anniversary, it has gained the status one of the most powerful and respectable public administration institutes of not only in Turkey but also in the Middle East, The Balkans and Caucasia regions.

General purpose of the institution is to conduct activities for the development of public administration in accordance with contemporary thoughts and approaches, educate public officials for administration and help to train young scholars in the field of public administration. TODAIE realizes these goals via three main fields of activity:

- Education and Training
- Research and Research Grants
- Collection and Publication

TODAIE has five centers that carry out activities to furnish education, research, publishing and documentation services in their fields. These are:

- Local Governments Center
- Continuous Education Center
- Foreign Affairs Center
- Human Rights, Citizenship and Migration Management Center
- Caucasian Research and Education Center (Baku)

TODAIE has been the national representative of International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) based in Brussels since 1992; and a member of International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA). The institute aims to share its national experience and benefits from other countries experiences in international platforms.
3- DISCOVER TODAIE

TODAIE Public Administration Master program is accredited by European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA) since 2009.

3.2. Life at TODAIE
TODAIE is located at a very privileged spot of the Ankara. It is very close to several other central locations. It is surrounded by several transportation networks including metro, bus and minibus. TODAIE has its own Guest House, near to its institutional building, with 88 bed capacity.

TODAIE Library holds more than 36,000 books and approximately 8,000 periodicals in its collection. It is the only library of expertise in the field of public administration in Turkey. It is possible to scan the library catalogue from the web page of TODAIE.

The library, serves all users between 9:30-17:30 during the weekdays with no break.

Alongside its seminar rooms, classrooms, and the student lounge where students can gather, read, study, and relax. The Institute has a Conference Hall where large number of audience can attend.

The TODAIE cafeteria serves three meals a day including breakfast, lunch and dinner.

3.3. Academic and Research Environment
Currently TODAIE consists of 14 professors, 6 associate professors, 4 assistant professors, 5 lecturers, and 9 research assistants.

The fact that our master programs are merely open to public official keeps the contents of the courses focused solely on public administration. The discussions during the courses are enriched by the knowledge and experiences of students coming from diverse public institutions.

Master programs for Turkish speaking students include Public Administration, Local Governments, Administration of Justice, Administration of Education, Administration of Law Enforcement, Administration of Migration, Disaster Management, Energy Management.
We also offer PhD Program in Political Science and Public Administration. TODAIE Public Administration Master programs were second time accredited by European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA) in September 2016. Our programs attract high number of applicants from public institutions from Turkey and foreign countries.

As a research and education oriented institution TODAIE has published 397 books in the fields of public administration.

**Periodicals:**

Amme İdaresi Dergisi (TODAIE’s Review of Public Administration) is one of the 6 academic journals published by TODAIE. It is included in the SSCI database. TODAIE also publishes State Agency Directory which is the main resource of Turkey’s public organizations updated regularly.

Other periodicals are:
- Yearbook of Human Rights (in Turkish)
- Yearbook of Human Rights (in English)
- Journal of Contemporary Local Governments (in Turkish)
- Turkish Public Administration Annual (in English)

**Academic Centers:**

There are 5 academic centers operating to support education, research, international cooperation, publishing and documentation activities.

- **Foreign Affairs Center:**
  It coordinates international administrative activities and cooperation issues such as training, publishing, conducting joint researches with foreign institutes in accordance with signed MoU’s.
- **Local Governments Center:**
  It provides in-service training for those working in local governments units and centers to conduct application-oriented research for the improvement of the local government system.
- **Continuous Education Center:**
  It organizes and plans various seminars, and short-term training projects for in-service training.
3- DISCOVER TODAIE

• Human Rights, Citizenship and Migration Management Center: It contributes to enhancement of public administration in the field of human rights and citizenship issues.

TODAIE and The Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan have established Caucasia Research and Education Centre (KAEM). Training programs in KAEM are launched in January 26, 2015 in Baku.

3.4. Events and Activities
• Study visits
• International Academic Meetings
• Wednesday Conferences

Several Conferences, Seminars and Training Programs were organized. Some include:
• Seminar with rectors and senior managers from Azerbaijan on Administration of Higher Education
• Seminar on the Latest Developments in Human Rights
• Speech on the “Public Administration Reform in Macedonia” by Deputy Minister of Macedonia for Information Society and Administration
• Capacity Development Training Program for The Public Executives, Azerbaijan
• Trade Unionism and Social Policy Certificate Program conducted in collaboration with SESRIC and MEMUR-SEN

3.5. Memorandum of Understandings:
TODAIE has signed protocols with several countries.

Some countries that MoUs have been signed include Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, China, France, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mongolia, Poland, Sudan, Tunisia and Ukraine.

3.6. Life in Ankara and Turkey

As the capital city of Turkey, Ankara is where a public officials would like to get a higher education. Since it is the home of the Turkish Parliament, ministries, and foreign embassies. Ankara is also home to a lot of universities, festivals, museums, and social activities. It is also close to many touristic sites both natural and historical.

https://goturkey.com/en
https://goturkey.com/en/city/detail/ankara
http://www.ankara.bel.tr/en
http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Tourism-g298656-Ankara-Vacations.html

www.todaie.edu.tr
4.1. International Public Administration Master Program (APEP)

A UNIQUE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM THAT ONLY ACCEPTS PUBLIC OFFICIALS

International Public Administration Master Program (APEP) offered in English language is serves around 25 public officials each year from various countries. The student body is selected among the applicants who have the potential to become a senior public executive. Students expected to have a sufficient level of English to be able to pursue the program (a TOEFL score of 550 PBT or 80 IBT IELTS 6 will be a reference point for the sufficient level).

APEP Courses:

There are three compulsory courses and fifteen optional courses in total. APEP students must take these two compulsory courses and must complete nine other optional courses successfully.

The list of courses to be offered as part of APEP program is as follows (courses may change in the 2017-2018 academic year):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Research Methods in Public Administration</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sutay YAVUZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Local Government</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Ruşen KELEŞ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nuran SAVAŞKAN AKDOĞAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Public Local Administration</td>
<td>Lecturer Dr. Filiz DEMİRCİ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Analysis of Public Policies</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ali Murat BERKER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Issues and Policy</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Kıvılcım ERTAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Terrorism and the State</td>
<td>Dr. Recep DEMİR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Burak TANGÖR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Information Systems</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Türksel KAYA BENSGHİR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Politics of Globalisation and Nation-State</td>
<td>Dr. Recep DEMİR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Public Management</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hasan Engin ŞENER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration Theory</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yılmaz ÜSTÜNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Policy Theory</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Argun AKDOĞAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Argun AKDOĞAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sutay YAVUZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Government</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Gencay ŞAYLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish Lesson</td>
<td>Mesut DURSUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Development and Transition</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Özgür SARI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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4- ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

THESIS PROGRAM
Students should take 9 courses / 27 credits, a seminar and write a thesis to complete the program.

NON-THESIS (DISSERTATION) PROGRAM
Students need to take 11 courses / 33 credits and to write term project to successfully complete the program.

Required course credits may be reorganized by the decision of the Executive Board. Students are required to participate to conferences and seminars conducted in TODAIE.

4.2. PhD in Political Science and Public Administration
Department of Public Administration and Political Science aims to equip students with necessary skills for carrying out independent research in the area of “Administrative Sciences”, interpreting facts and phenomena through scientific perspective, and taking steps to develop new synthesis.

Each course hour is one credit. The student has to take at least 8 courses which are distributed equally between semesters. The student has to take at least 24 credits of courses.

In every semester one of these courses can be selected from other higher education Institutions in Turkey or from other programs of TODAIE with the suggestion of the Program Council and the decision of the Executive Council.

The Program should be completed in maximum 12 semester. Students are expected to pass the PhD qualification examination and then submit their theses. PhD diploma is submitted to the student whose thesis is accepted as successful.

Required course credits may be increased by the Executive Board decision. Students are also required to participate in conferences and seminars conducted in English.

The list of courses to be offered as part of PhD program is as follows (courses may change in the 2017-2018 academic year):
4.3. Academic Calendar

The students will select their Autumn Semester courses on 18 September 2017 following the students affairs announcements from TODAIE website.

Academic Calendar for APEP:
The International Advanced Public Executive Master Program (APEP) will take place between:
- 18 September 2017 and 18 May 2018 for the thesis program
- 18 September 2017 and 29 June 2018 for non-thesis program

Admitted students are expected to be in Ankara before the programs start.

Fall Semester: 18 September 2017 - 29 December 2017 (14 weeks)
Summer Semester: 07 May 2018 - 29 June 2018 (7 weeks)

Academic Calendar for the PhD Program:
The students will select Autumn Semester courses on 18 September 2017.

4.4. Medium of Instruction

The language of instruction in both APEP and PhD Program is English. The students need to have a sufficient level of English to pursue the programs (a TOEFL score of 550 PBT or 80 IBT and 6 IELTS will be a reference point for the sufficient level)

4.5. Turkish Language Courses

Turkish language courses are obligatory for all international students unless they know Turkish.

www.todaie.edu.tr
5- APPLICATION

5.1. Who can apply?
The Programs are only open to public officials. You need to have a bachelor (BA) degree (only those who were born no earlier than 01.01.1982) to be eligible for the program.

Additional requirements for the PhD Program:
To be eligible to take the entrance examination for the PhD program, the candidates must have:
- Proof of degree: Graduate Diploma
- Transcripts

5.2. Application dates
The deadline to apply for TODAIE scholarships is 17 July 2017. For Turkey Scholarships check the following website: https://www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/en/english-home

5.3 Registration
Stamped and signed copies of the original documents are accepted. Following documents are required for registration:

For APEP:
- 6 biometric photos
- High School Diploma
- Undergraduate diploma
- Transcripts and Cumulative GPA
- An official document declaring the leave of absence permission for to the participant by his/her employer organization
- Document to prove Foreign Language score

For the PhD Program:
- 6 biometric photos
- High School Diploma
- Undergraduate diploma
- Graduate diploma
- Transcripts and Cumulative GPA
- Document to prove Foreign Language score
- An official document declaring the leave of absence permission for to the participant by his/her employer organization

5.4. Tuition fee, costs and scholarships
There is no tuition fee for the programs. There are two types of scholarship; Türkiye and TODAIE - Enderun Scholarship Programme.

TODAIE Enderun Scholarship for APEP:
Throughout the nine-month training period, each student will be allocated a single room in the TODAIE guesthouse; dining fees will be covered for meals in the cafeteria including breakfast, lunch and dinner.
A monthly stipend of 850 TL at minimum will be paid (This amount may change for 2017-2018 academic year).
Round trip airfare (return tickets included) will be covered as well.

TODAIE Enderun Scholarship for PhD Program:
Throughout the nine-month training period, each student will be allocated a single room in the TODAIE guesthouse, dining fees will be covered for meals in the cafeteria including breakfast, lunch and dinner.
A monthly stipend of 1200 TL at minimum will be paid (This amount may change for 2017-2018 academic year).
Round trip airfare will be covered as well.

How to apply for TODAIE Enderun scholarships?
For APEP and PhD Program, the candidates should fill in the electronic application form at TODAIE website and send the filled form with the scanned versions of the indicated documents to todim@todaie.edu.tr e-mail address before the deadline.
5- APPLICATION
6- PREPARING FOR TODAIE

6.1. Useful information

Student visa:
You will need a “student visa” to enter Turkey. You must definitely refrain from coming to Turkey with a tourist visa. Newly admitted graduate students are required to obtain their student visas by presenting their acceptance letters to the nearest Turkish Embassy. A student visa is usually valid for one month. Therefore, after their arrival to Turkey students must register to TODAIE within one month.

To get a student visa, you need an acceptance letter, a passport valid for at least two years, proof of sufficient financial resources for the period of your education in Turkey (bank statement, scholarship document, etc.) and the visa fee. Consulates may require additional documents.

Residence Permit:
In order to get a residence permit, students should submit the following documents to the Directorate General of Migration Management

1. The Residence Permit Application Form
2. A valid long-term passport and the student visa and their copies
3. Proof of sufficient financial resources during education (bank account, scholarship etc.)
4. The fee for Residence Permit
5. 4 Photos

Directorate General of Migration Management might require additional documents.

General Health Insurance (GHI)

Students who are covered by GHI may apply to state and university hospitals with their Foreign National Number as long as they have paid their premium. No payment is required at state and university hospitals. Therefore, it is recommended that all international students register for GHI. The patient should paid 20% of the prescribed medication. Coverage of expenses for eye glasses etc. is in accordance with the Directive for Health Applications.

Students have to pay a balance if they choose to go to a private hospital. This contribution may be different at each hospital.

In order to register for GHI, international students must apply to the Social Security City Directorate within 3 months after they are registered to the Directorate of National Police in Ankara. After registration to the GHI, foreign students should pay the GHI premium to the bank and they become insured. Students have to pay the premium annually. GHI should be annually renewed as long as their education continues. The yearly premium amount is determined by Social Security Institution. Every year there is an increment in the premium amount after January. Students are responsible for being aware of and pay this amount.

The premium may be deposited in the relevant accounts at Vakıflar Bank, Ziraat Bank and Halk Bank by stating the Foreign National Identity Number.

When the students finishes his/her studies and returns to his/her country, he/she is reimbursed the premium for the remaining months unless he/she never uses any medical service from GHI. To give an example, assuming that the student registered for the GHI on October 2016 and paid (assumingly) 600 TL, he or she is assured for until October 2017. Assuming that the student turns back to his/her country at the end June, he/she is entitled to get back the premium of three months.

*Further information will be provided to the admitted students before their arrival.

6.2. Accommodation

TODAIE offers accommodation at student guesthouse for Enderun Scholarship holders without any payment. Additionally
6- PREPARING FOR TODAIE

there meals a day will be offered free of charge in TODAIE facilities.

6.3. How to get to TODAIE?
TODAIE is at a very central district of Ankara close to major state buildings and the city’s main square Kızılay, and other central districts such as Bahçelievler. The closest metro station is Necatibey the second stop in the Kızılay-Çayyolu subway lane. It takes 2 minutes on foot to arrive TODAIE after getting off at the Necatibey metro station.

From Kızılay – the city center – to TODAIE, it takes 15 minutes on foot and 5 minutes by car or bus. From the airport, you can take Belkoair buses to go to the city center. It costs 11 TL.

From the bus station (AŞTİ), you can take the metro or you can prefer taxi. Taxi costs approximately 25 TL from the bus station. Taxi cost approximately 10 TL from Kızılay to TODAIE.

7- INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE (ISO)

In order to ensure easy transition of the students, International Student Office (ISO) provides assistance and guidance to international students through all phases of their academic and social conduct. In addition, ISO informs students on procedural matters such as application process, course selection and accommodation opportunities. With orientation programs, ISO offers ongoing help to all international students.

We will always be happy to host you at TODAIE and hope you all have a memorable time here to remember and share with your family and friends for many more years ahead.

Welcome to TODAIE!

The Office of International Students

www.todaie.edu.tr
8- INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

8.1. Things to Do for Students

Obligatory
1. Inform TODAIE before two days of your departure the date of your arrival.
2. Submit the letter given by your institution and a copy of your passport to the Student Affairs Center as soon as arrival.
3. Go to Directorate General of Migration Management with the required documents. Please don’t throw away the receipt of payment to get the residence permit as you will take a reimbursement from TODAIE upon submitting your receipt in two weeks’time.
4. Determining which courses to be enrolled in by going to the International Student Office before the starting date of the courses.
5. Opening an account at Ziraat Bank after obtaining the residence permit. Then, you should give the account number and a copy of passport to the Social Affairs Center in order to receive your scholarship.
6. Going to Ankara Social Security Institution with the necessary documents to get the health insurance within the first month.
7. Obtaining EGO Card to use public transportation with tickets at reduced rate by going to the underpass of Kızılay Metro Station with one photo, 5 TL and the document issued by the Student Affairs to the Directorate General of Ego.
8. Obtaining user card from the National Library by taking TODAIE student ID card from the International Student Office.
9. Obtaining photocopy card from the TODAIE Publications Sales Office at the ground floor of TODAIE to make photocopies at library, and asking for help from the librarians if photocopy is made for the first time.

Optional
10. For those guests who want to stay in the dormitory, a petition must be submitted.
11. Ironing should be made in the space allocated for it in the hallways in the dormitory. Irons should be put back to their places if they are taken into the rooms.
12. One main dish, one side dish, one plate of salad, one dessert and one drink can be taken during meals in the TODAIE Cafeteria.
13. To organize social events and give presentations, students should go to the Office of Director of Student Affairs.
14. Students can borrow up to 5 books from TODAIE Library.

8.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Students

1. Inform the Directorate of Social Affairs with a petition when you leave Turkey at least 2 week ago
2. Being a candidate for the Student Council and participating in elections.
3. Using Student Lounge for social needs such as reviewing daily newspapers, watching TV, using the printer and the computers.
4. Giving the laundry to the cleaners only once a week.
5. Rooms are cleaned 3 times a week and the bed linens are changed once a week.
6. To use the Sports Center TODAIE security may be informed.
7. To use the TODAIE busses, students can apply with a petition.
8. Any problems related to the rooms and the dormitory should be reported to Social Affairs.
9. In case of any health problems, students should directly go to see the doctor or nurse in TODAIE.
Gjulnear Saliji, Macedonia
Expert, Macedonia Ministry of Internal Affairs (Graduated in 2016 from APEP master’s program)

I am a state officer in Ministry of Internal affairs in Republic of Macedonia. Last year, I reached knowledge of an agreement signed between my country and Turkey. There was an opportunity for Macedonian civil servants to have a master study about the Public Administration in TODAIE, which was opened by the United Nations. First I consulted with my family than I decide to come here and have my master studies.

There was no limit to the amount of my uneasiness. While I was preparing my bag to come here, there happened terrorist attack in Ankara, that face me with the questions that I couldn’t answer. But my family’s support ensured my decision and I came to Ankara. In my mind, there was a procedural training and return back to my country. After arriving in TODAIE my ideas began to flourish. The high quality of services offered to the students at dormitory, the employee’s solution seeker behavior and the most important the excellence of the professors. These things totally changed my ideas and my attitude about this institution.

In a short time, I started to feel rejuvenated myself. Suddenly I found myself reading the articles and far away from daily depression. By the pleasure that reading and learning gave to me, everyday I feel more comfortable here and I don’t want to end this training year. I am very happy to be here. I am an APEP student and I am studying together with friends from different cultures and different countries. I have some close friends from Afghanistan, Tunisian, Ukrainian, Moldovan, Kyrgyz, Georgian and specially “our gardaş” Azerbijanis. We dissolve our preconceptions, and we are enjoying the positive side of being here.

All students here are proven and certain persons who have received responsibilities. Life does not serve us anything so be prepared. We decide what we want to establish. Than we prepare our petitions and we deliver it to the Board of Management, than they accept our petitions and give us a positive response. By this way we find the opportunity to visit different regions of Turkey. Every Thursday we have visit to different Turkish institutions, we see how they work and how are their structures, and we can compare with our own country to see the positive and the negative sides of these institutions. We are organizing social activities at the weekends to have fun and to have good memories of this beautiful year.

I would like to say something to the students who want to come here or who had just started. In the educational system of TODAIE, there are so much reading of the articles and many many homeworks. Finish your homeworks before the time and make plans to evaluate the remaining free time, than drop your petition to the administrative staff and have fun on this year.

I am thankful and grateful to Turkish Nation and to The Republic of Turkey for the hospitality shown to us!
My Learning Experience at Todaie

Being one of the beneficiaries of Turkish scholarship in Todaie, it’s highly unlikely to find anyone who has anything negative to say about such a loving and professional institution of higher learning. Indeed it’s an institution of great difference and where there is unity in diversity. The highlight of the institution is the level of expertise and motivation the academic staff and workers portray. The level of efficiency and competency is second to none compared to other learning institutions.

With the ultimate objective of increasing my knowledge in the field of public administration and putting theory into practice, where else would you rather be to improve your skills and techniques other than Todaie, it has been my home far away from home since Sept 2016 and am on track towards completing my thesis program in 2018. All that I give praise and thanks to the availability of excellent facilities, hospitality and accommodation provided to us by the institution. The workers and academic staff have always been friendly and made it easier on our side to settle down comfortably. They put our interests and welfare above everything else. There is just something special about the Turkish people and how warmly hearted and open minded they are. We experienced this first hand from day one when we arrived in Todaie.

The other interesting feature is that we have been able to visit a number of places and also improved our level of cultural diversification due to the number of foreign students available. We can say ‘the world is represented’ in Todaie in the sense that students from Europe, Africa, Asia and even Latin America are well accommodated within the institution. As per now we have visited Beypazari, Gordion, Konya, Ankara castle, museums and many more to come depending on time availability. We also visited some public institutions such as the ministry of foreign affairs, national bureau of statistics and TIKA.

All this was done to make our learning experience more interesting and give us first-hand experience of how management is conducted in government departments across Turkey. We were given opportunities to ask senior civil servants academic questions and their responses were both satisfactory and informative.

I would like to take this golden opportunity to thank the Turkish government and the entire academic staff of Todaie for granting us this chance to study. Indeed it is a prestigious institution with a difference and where all civil servants alike can reap the fruits of their labour.