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NEVER BEFORE

№ 42



Special issue dedicated to the University Teacher's Day

The special issue of «Never Before» is devoted to the professional holiday of university teachers which is celebrated on November, 19th. On the eve of this holiday more than 1200 first year students of science departments wrote their impressions about their first month at our University. Today we publish some of them.



My first month at university was a real adventure, full of new impressions and emotions. I enrolled in the pharmaceutical department, and each day I become more convinced that I have made the right choice. The first days were filled with excitement and a slight fear of new challenges. I encountered new people, places, and, of course, an academic workload.

The professors here are simply wonderful! Their professionalism and passion for the subject are inspiring. The chemistry lectures, in particular, stood out to me—they were not only informative but also very engaging. The professor always found a way to connect theory with practice, which helped me better absorb the material. I even started to feel like a part of this amazing science.

And the microscopy classes in botany are simply mesmerizing! Observing plant cells feels like diving into another world. Each time I discover something new and amazing. We studied not only plants but also their structures, which greatly helps in understanding biological processes.

During breaks, I often pop into the cafeteria, where I absolutely adore the chocolate bars—they become my saviors at tough moments. A tasty treat, and I'm ready for classes again! I must also mention that there's always a pleasant smell of fresh pastries, and the atmosphere is friendly. Unexpectedly, I discovered that the cafeteria is a great place to take a nap between classes. It's so cozy and quiet

that a couple of times I was able to doze off while sitting at a table.

I also enjoy chatting with the security guard at the entrance. She is very sweet and always smiles, which brightens my morning. Every time I pass by, I greet her, and it has become our little tradition. Sometimes she shares funny stories about students, which lifts my spirits.

Overall, my first month has been fantastic! I love everything, and I study with great pleasure. Sometimes I think about how wonderful it is to be here—in a world of knowledge and new opportunities. This is just the beginning, and I eagerly await what the next months will bring.

Varvara Bondarenko,
Department of Pharmaceutics

My first academic month at the university was an unforgettable and exciting time for me. I was a little nervous at first. The new atmosphere, unfamiliar faces and huge buildings seemed frightening. However, already at the first lesson I realized that all the students here are just like me – they are also excited and strive to find their place in this big world. I noticed how many people smile and exchange glances, which helped me feel a little



more comfortable. The first thing that I noticed was the friendly atmosphere. Strangers willingly showed where this or that classroom was, explained where to go, redirected to the right place when I came to the wrong one.

During the month I met a lot of interesting people. We quickly became friends at classes and seminars. Every morning I was looking forward to meeting my classmates, discussing homework and sharing my impressions of the lectures. I especially remember the

party of acquaintance, where we played games and took the first steps towards creating a friendly atmosphere. These moments helped me understand that the university is not only about studying, but also about new connections that can become an important part of life.

The study load turned out to be quite high, but I tried to organize my time. At first it was difficult, but I realized that it is important to find a balance between studies and personal life, to be able to properly manage free time. I started using the diary so as not to forget about important dates and events. It helped me feel more confident and control my studies.

In addition to studying, I also began to participate in various university events. This gave me the opportunity to develop my hobbies and find new friends outside the classrooms.

In general, the first month at the university was not only a time of adaptation for me, but also a period of self-knowledge. Despite all the difficulties, I really like student life, and I do not regret that I chose this particular department. Every day brings something new: new knowledge, new acquaintances, new challenges. And I am looking forward to the next months, full of new knowledge and unforgettable moments!!!

Mariya Gonchar,
*Department of Geography,
Geocology and Tourism*

In August I entered the best university in Voronezh and my university journey began.

On my first day at university I had 4 classes. Mathematics is taught by an excellent teacher, Elizaveta Lvovna Sanina. She is on the same wavelength with the students and fully understands them. I think it is because of age, but at the same time, she explains coolly and helps students understand the material. The next lesson was taught by another cool teacher Oleg Genadievich Korolkov. He told us very interestingly about student life and told us a lot of other interesting things, he seemed to me to be a very smart and experienced programmer who teaches analytical geometry.

The next day we had a lecture in mathematical analysis, which was

given probably by the most charming teacher Maria Igorevna Bykova. I simply don't have the words to describe how cool she is.

Then we had an English lesson. Before the lesson I was anxious



because I had a very mediocre level of English. English is taught by Lyudmila Aleksandrovna Krivenko, an excellent, democratic teacher, who has her own approach that students really like. She is a very cool teacher and wants us not just to know the language, but to love it.

In the following days, there were discrete mathematics, linear algebra, programming, application software packages. These subjects are also taught by great professionals in their field.

As for my classmates, they all are great people who will always help. I was surprised how responsive and smart they are.

This month I also received my first scholarship, and I am very happy about it.

In summary, I want to say that the first month of studying at the university was awesome and I really liked it. There were a lot of pleasant and funny moments. I will always remember the first month of my studies.

Nikolay Denisov,
*Department of Applied Mathematics,
Informatics and Mechanics*

The first month of my first year at Voronezh State University was a real discovery for me. This time was memorable not only for new knowledge, but also for a lot of bright emotions and acquaintances. At the beginning of my student journey, I had some fear of the new life. I was not used to being among a large number of people, especially strangers. I was

worried about how I would study, whether I would find new friends, whether I would be able to adapt to a new way of life. However, with time all these fears dissipated. I gradually settled down in a new world, met interesting people, found common topics for conversation. Studying turned out to be not as difficult as I thought, and teachers were always ready to help and explain unclear points. From the first days I felt the atmosphere of friendliness and support reigning in our team. My classmates turned out to be absolutely amazing people: we quickly found a common language, exchanged impressions and experiences. Every break was filled with discussions about books we had read, favorite movies and plans for the future.

The teachers impressed me with their professionalism and passion. Their eagerness to impart knowledge and inspire students was evident from the first lectures. Especially memorable was the history seminar, where we discussed various cultural and historical phenomena in an engaging way.



There were also some funny situations. At the first physical education class we organized an impromptu tug-of-war competition, which caused a lot of laughter and positive emotions. These moments brought our group together, and at the end of the month we became not only classmates, but also friends.

The first month at university filled me with hope for a bright and interesting student future. I am looking forward to new acquaintances and adventures in this amazing life!

Elizaveta Polyakova,
*Department of Medicine
and Biology*

My First Month at the University

One month ago the Voronezh State University opened its doors to me. I entered the Faculty of Computer Science, majoring in Software Engineering.

At our faculty we have a lot of entertaining and informative disciplines, which are taught by interested teachers. Lectures and practical lessons are very helpful and I like them very much. One of the most interesting subjects for me is mathematical analysis. We study different areas of mathematics there, for example: Sets. This discipline makes the brain work and improves logical thinking. My favorite subjects are also English, Programming and History.

I also joined our faculty's Students Active where I showed my abilities in theatrical art. Thanks to our English teacher Marina Anatolyevna Strelnikova we also managed to visit the exhibition of Voronezh artists Irina and Alexander Voroshilins. There we were able to see the beautiful creations of fine and applied arts.



During this month, I started integrating into student life. It is very different from what it was at school. Here you are given more freedom but at the same time you need more discipline to get the necessary knowledge for your future profession. In general, I really like studying at Voronezh State University!

Sofia Makeeva,
Computer Science Department

My first month at the university was a real challenge for me. I remember how on the first day, full of excitement, I entered the walls of the university. I found out that Alexander Yuryevich Zavrazhnev will be giving a lecture in inorganic chemistry. His passion for the subject immediately captured me. He skillfully explained complex concepts, and I realized that I had a chance to learn something really interesting. At practical classes in inorganic chemistry it was Andrey Viktorovich Kosyakov who supervised us. His approach to teaching was unusual: he didn't just explain how to make experiments, but also inspired us to do independent research.



Mathematics, which was taught by Faina Valentinovna Golovaneva, became an equally important part of my education. She always finds a way to make lessons enjoyable.

Lectures in history are conducted by Victoria Mikhailovna Brezgunova. Her fascinating account of the events of the past immediately captured my attention. I realized that history is not just dates and facts. Practical classes in history are taught by Marina Vladimirovna Kiselyova. She always encourages us to discuss topics and share opinions, which makes her classes very interesting. At physical education classes Vladimir Arkadevich Chernyshev awakened our love for sports. Vyacheslav Aleksandrovich Krysanov, a computer science teacher, opened up the world of technology to us. Svetlana Mikhailovna Medvedeva conducts classes in ecology, inspiring us to take care of nature. Ekaterina Igorevna Klimenko opened the doors to new opportunities in English, and Evgenia Ivanovna Khoroshilova taught us the basics of live safety.

Each of the teachers has left their mark in my heart, and I am looking forward to what the next month of study will bring me.

Andrey Radzyavichyus,
Department of Chemistry

The beginning of my first year at Voronezh State University as a student of the Faculty of Geology was an unforgettable and exciting event. As an 18-year-old girl who had just graduated from high school, I was looking forward to starting a new chapter in my life. I had so many expectations, hopes, and even a little apprehension about what university life would be like. My first month was filled with studying, making new friends and gradually getting used to the rhythm of student life.



One of the first things I noticed right away was how different the university was from the school. At the university, classes are much more difficult, and the pace of learning is faster. There are no teachers here to check if you've done your homework; now it's up to me. I have to take responsibility for managing my time, preparing for lectures, and meeting deadlines. It was a difficult process, but I overcame it.

I am completely fascinated by geology. Studying the history of the Earth, its structure and the processes that shape our planet is like exploring a hidden world full of secrets that are waiting to be revealed. I like lectures, especially such as mineralogy and geology.

Although the workload can be overwhelming at times, I like it because

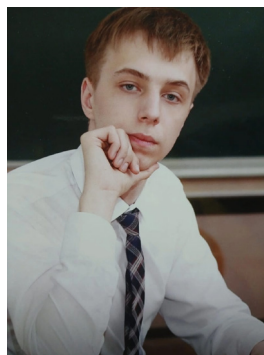
I'm passionate about geology. It's also great to be surrounded by people who share my interests. I've made new friends who are as enthusiastic about this subject as I am, and we help each other stay motivated and focused.

Overall, my first month at university was an incredible journey full of learning, growth and discovery. Although it wasn't easy, it paid off, and I can't wait to find out what awaits me in the rest of the year!

Vera Novgorodtseva,
Department of Geology

My first month of studying at the university was unforgettable time, full of new impressions, discoveries and experience. The walls of the VSU have become warm and dear to me. From the very beginning I was full of motivation and desire to learn. I wanted to learn as much as possible about the chosen speciality and apply the acquired knowledge in practice.

During the first weeks of my studies I met my group mates. We were spending a lot of time together discussing different educational issues and personal life experience. I really



love the people who surround me, because they are very kind, helpful and responsible.

Lectures and seminars were very interesting and informative. Professors are very experienced and they explain to us very complicated topics in simple words. I like our teachers of Mathematical Analysis Oleg Mikhailovich Penkin and Maya Borisovna Davydova and that of Analytical Geometry Sergey Alexandrovich Shabrov.

VSU gives me an opportunity for self-development, learning and meeting new friends. It is a very nice and bright place where you want to return. I want to say thank you to my parents who supported me in my decision to enter VSU. I know that I will have a lot of scientific and personal challenges ahead of me, but I am ready for them. I am sure, my first month at the university is a starting and turning point for my bright, successful future.

Artem Dovzhikov,
Department of Mathematics

During my first month of studying in Voronezh State University a lot of exciting events related to both the educational process and extracurricular activities of the university have happened.

On September 1, I went to VSU with pride that I was able to enter it. That day I got to know my classmates. They turned out to be very friendly and sociable guys. It was with such positive emotions that I plunged into the learning process. At the first classes we were introduced to the teachers, and I immediately realized that it would not be difficult to maintain warm relations with them. And I was not mistaken. For example, Leonid Arkadievich Minin, a lecturer in mathematical analysis, turned out to be a very sociable and witty man. Teaching the material according to the curriculum, he manages to joke with us and maintain a cozy atmosphere in the classroom. Also, Yuri Eduardovich



Korchagin, head of the Chair of Radiophysics, presents the material at lectures in a very clear and original way. In general, the first month of study turned out to be much more interesting and easier than it seemed.

But, of course, having told about the first month of study, I can't fail to mention its brightest event – the initiation into freshmen. Thanks to it I realized that people studying at the Faculty of Physics are people who can support you at any difficult time.

From all of the above we can conclude that VSU is not just a university, it is a place where you can feel at home: not to worry about anything and be sure that you will be supported by both teachers and students.

Egor Pavlenkov,
Department of Physics

After 11 years of school and the Unified State Exam I enrolled in my dream university – VSU. I major in Medical Cybernetics and there are only nine students in our group. Fortunately, we quickly became friends. During this month, I have already attended all the subjects of the first semester. Almost all of them are very enjoyable, as are the professors themselves, who mostly are truly intelligent people and very pleasant personalities.

As I live alone, the issue of food is very important to me. Therefore, it was wonderful to learn about our university canteen. The food there is very tasty and healthy. I also managed to attend the Faculty's Scientific Council. There we were told about VSU's scientific activities and cooperation with other universities, which was very interesting.

The last thing that stood out to me this month was the initiation ceremony. All first year students



of our department were taken to a recreation center. There we spent the whole day participating in quests, chatting and getting to know other freshmen, playing the guitar, and dancing under the setting sun's rays.

This is how my first month at VSU turned out. At the moment, I am genuinely happy that I enrolled here. I have already fallen in love with this city and this place, so I believe that these six years of my life will be really bright.

Ruslan Suleymanov,
Department of Medicine and Biology

When I entered the university, I was happy, because I had done a lot to become a student of the best university in Voronezh.

I noticed and felt the special atmosphere of the university. The university itself is very beautiful and cozy. I like warm colors of the walls in the corridors and classrooms. People here are very friendly and welcoming; they will always help you in difficult situations. The teachers are also very kind and understanding. There is no aggression or hatred here. I am delighted how cool people here look. It really inspires me!



I made good friends with the students of my group. I love them very much and enjoy their company. Thanks to them, I fell in love with the place where I study even more. I like to study and spend free time with them. We often eat in the cafeteria or a café together. Each of them is an interesting personality. Just in a month, these students have become my friends, whom I adore!

I also have some favorite subjects. They are Botany and English. I really like using a microscope and studying plants. I have always loved English and learning it is quite easy for me. I like to learn new things, so I'm happy to study these and other subjects at the university.

So, my life has changed a lot this month. I experienced a variety of emotions, made new friends, fell in love with this university and realized that my fears were in vain. Trying new things is not scary at all when there are people around who are ready to support you and help you.

Victoria Paschenko,
Department of Pharmaceuticals