

Master data

Last name: [REDACTED]	Date of birth: [REDACTED]
Program: Erasmus (SMS)	Study field: International Business Administration
Home institution: FRANKFU04	Host institution: HELSINK39
Academic year: 2016/2017	Stay from: 01.08.2016
Stay until: 31.12.2016	Email: [REDACTED]

Services rendered by the Frankfurt University

<p>a) Service of the International Office</p> <p>b) Service of the Department (Fachbereich)</p> <p>c) Please comment: What was good? How can the International Office / the Department improve their services in regard to the exchange programme?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sehr zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> unzufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> sehr unzufrieden</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sehr zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> unzufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> sehr unzufrieden</p> <p>I don't have any suggestions for improvement. All my mails were answered within one day or often within a few hours and the information events in advance have been well organized and structured so that I had no open questions when I left for Helsinki.</p>
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Personal and linguistic preparation

<p>a) How well were you prepared linguistically for your exchange stay?</p> <p>b) What was your language level in the working language?</p> <p>c) Did you take any preparatory language classes?</p> <p>d) Did the partner university provide language classes?</p> <p>e) How well were you able to follow classes linguistically at the partner institution?</p> <p>f) Please comment: Which language did you use? / Did you use, learn, or improve any other languages? / How did you communicate with your fellow students?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sehr gut <input type="checkbox"/> gut <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A2 <input type="checkbox"/> B1 <input type="checkbox"/> B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C1 <input type="checkbox"/> C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Muttersprachler</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs an der FRA-UAS <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs im Zielland</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs <input type="checkbox"/> Ja beide Arten <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sehr gut <input type="checkbox"/> gut <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p>My lectures were held in English since I was in the International Business programme. I communicated with fellow students through English and I enrolled for one Swedish course to learn the basics.</p>
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Accommodation

a) Did the host university arrange for accommodation?

Ja in einem Wohnheim Ja eine privat vermietete Unterkunft Nein die Möglichkeit bestand nicht

b) How high were your overall monthly costs for accommodation (in Euro)?

400

c) How would you describe the quality of your accommodation?

sehr gut gut schlecht sehr schlecht

d) How well was the accommodation situated? How long did it take you on average to reach the partner university (in minutes)?

My accommodation could not be situated any better. It took me 2 minutes by foot to get to my partner university.

e) Which web sites, forums, facebookpages, contacts, etc. can you recommend for looking for accommodation?

There is no need of any website, because the receiving institution decides who lives in which residence and provides the student with the according information.

f) Please comment: Where have you been accommodated (name of dormitory, location, part of town, etc.)? How would you describe the surroundings of your accommodation (shopping facilities, distance to the city center, nightlife, etc.)?

Majstranden Shopping facilities are located 2 min by foot from the accomodation, to the city center it takes 15min by bus, a bit longer by tram and the nightlife is okay if you go out with friends. The surrounding of majstranden is very green and the sea is nearby.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

a) Was an orientation program organized for incoming exchange students?

Yes No

b) Were you informed about organizational issues such as visa, insurances, class registration, setting up of e-mail accounts, etc.?

Ja sehr ausführlich Ja eher oberflächlich No

c) Did the host university offer activities for exchange students throughout the semester?

Yes No

d) Judging from your experience, which is the best arrival time?

I would arrive 5 to 7 day before the introduction days from school start. That is what I did. Since it was August we had the opportunity to do a lot outside and to get to know each other during good weather.

e) Please comment: How did you organize your arrival? / Was the extent of the orientation program sufficient? Were all important questions answered? What did you have to find out yourself? / How fast were you able to get in contact with the domestic students? / How were the services for exchange students?

My tutor picked me up at the airport Helsinki Vantaa. The extent of the orientation program was sufficient and all questions were answered. The services for exchange students were really good because the tutors had been engaged and we could ask if we had questions. Apart from group work and with the tutors the international students spent most of the time together without locals.

Living Abroad

a) Did you open a bank account abroad?

Ja das war notwendig Ja das war praktischer No

b) Compared to Frankfurt, how high was the cost of living abroad?

Höher mehr als 200% Höher ca. 200% Höher ca. 150% Ähnlich wie in Frankfurt Geringer ca. 75% Geringer ca. 50% Geringer weniger als 50%

c) Did the host university provide discounted/free public transportation?

Yes No

d) Have you received AuslandsBAFöG?

Yes No

f) Which supermarkets, stores, forums can you recommend to lower expenses?

Lidl

f) Please comment: What additional expenses did you have during your semester abroad? / How far were you able to travel with your semester ticket? / How was your student life off-campus? / How were the mensas/ student cafeterias? What types of meals were served? How much did the meals cost? / How were the libraries? Was their use free? / Did the university provide computer workplaces/ computer pools? Was Wi-Fi available on-campus? / Were you able to use study rooms? Were you able to rent separate rooms for studying? / Did the university provide a sports program? Was this free of charge?

The semester ticket covers the city center of Helsinki, but you cannot travel with it to the airport. Student life off-campus was active, because the group of exchange students was very kind. In the mensa the cheapest dish was 2,60€ and usually it was tasty. The library was small and if I needed a book all of them were rented out. To be honest I just wanted one book, but this one was not available. WiFi and Computer pools were available, as well as study rooms. In some of them you had to be quiet. There is a little gym which costs 20€ a month.

Studying at the Host University

a) How satisfied were you with classes at the host university?

Sehr zufrieden zufrieden unzufrieden sehr unzufrieden

b) How would you describe the academic standard of classes compared to Frankfurt?

Sehr viel anspruchsvoller Etwas anspruchsvoller Ähnlich wie in Frankfurt Etwas einfacher Sehr viel einfacher

c) Did you experience any difference in teaching methods/ class structure? / Which were the difference regarding your expectations and your experiences at the partner university? What surprised you, what should newly arriving students know? / How were the student services? / Was the fact, that you were an exchange student taken into account (by professors or other staff)? If so, how? / How were difficulties, which you or other exchange students may have met, handled by the partner university?

We had many assignments instead of exams, I just had two exams. One semester is distributed in 2 periods, where you have different courses. I expected the level to be higher. It was never taken into account that I am an exchange student, but there also never appeared a problem.

Final Remarks

a) How satisfied were you with your stay abroad?

Sehr zufrieden zufrieden unzufrieden sehr unzufrieden

b) Which skills were you able to develop during your stay abroad?

My English skills, openness, independence and the ability to help me out of various difficult situations as well as my talent for organizing.

c) Given the same circumstances, would you repeat your stay abroad?

Yes No

d) Please comment: What should future exchange students know/ do/ avoid? / How would you overall rate your exchange experience? / In what ways have you benefitted academically, personally, linguistically for your future career?

You have more leisure time than in Frankfurt so you can travel a lot. I have been in Tallinn, Stockholm, Sankt Petersburg, Lappland and Oslo and saw different places around Helsinki. The semester abroad taught me a lot about the behaviour in international surroundings and how different nations act.

Additional page:

Please complete the following sentence: My exchange semester will remain unforgettable because...

I received good grades, travelled a lot, got to know many lovely people and found friends living all over the world.

Upload Pictures

A picture is worth a thousand words: Here you have the opportunity to upload up to 5 photos (jpeg). You must have taken the photos yourself and agree that the International Office uses them for advertising purposes (on the website, in brochures, flyers, by name of photographer).

Foto für Erfahrungsbericht

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