

Personal Report

Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, SoSe 2022, 1 Semester FB 4 – Social Work: transnational - Bachelor

Language

Which language did you use? How did you communicate with your fellow students?

English: communication was easy - professional English could have improved more - the teachers struggled with English sometimes due to that some things got explained in Dutch - learned to understand it and classmates translated in English.

How well were you able to follow classes linguistically at the partner institution? Did the partner university provide language classes?

I could follow classes well. The university provided a crash language course as well as classes during the semester.

Accommodation

Did the host university arrange for accommodation? How would you describe the quality of your accommodation?

Yes, they provided rooms in a dormitory.

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

550€

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

The location was great because it was directly next to the university.

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

I can recommend martplaats.

Where have you been accommodated (name of dormitory, location, part of town, etc.)?

I lived in the student housing THE HIVE. Everything was close and reachable by bike.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

In the beginning / before uni starts - to arrive and connect before everything starts.

How did you organize your arrival? 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?

I sent an email with information about my arriving time, picked up the key and joined the Erasmus students program. There I got to know people and then quickly do to classes.

Living Abroad

Compared to Frankfurt, how high was the cost of living abroad? What additional expenses did you have during your semester abroad?

About 150% higher. I can recommend the cheap supermarkets Jumbo, Aldi, Lidl and market. Also, get the Ov chip-card for exchange students (Train ticket). Additional expenses I had: Eating outside, buying drinks for party, traveling in the Netherlands (Train is so expensive).

Studying at the Host University

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

Less challenging.

Did you experience any difference in teaching methods/ class structure? Which were the difference regarding your expectations and your experiences at the partner university?

More interactive - development of real interventions and products- working with company (addressing an issue of their organisation), working more indepently and the teachers have been more understanding if more time or support is needed- developed solutions with the students- been able to make decisions without involving the examination office.

Final Remarks

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?

Get the Ov chip-card for exchange students (Tain ticket) + group tickets -> regular tickets are so expensive. A smaller city is nicer because it is not as touristy as others are.