

## Master data

Last name: [REDACTED]	Date of birth: [REDACTED]
Program: <b>Erasmus (SMS)</b>	Study field: <b>Soziale Arbeit</b>
Home institution: <b>FRANKFU04</b>	Host institution: <b>HULL01</b>
Academic year: <b>2016/2017</b>	Stay from: <b>20.09.2016</b>
Stay until: <b>19.01.2017</b>	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 type="checkbox"/> Sehr zufrieden   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> zufrieden   <input type="checkbox"/> unzufrieden   <input type="checkbox"/> sehr unzufrieden</p> <p><b>There was always someone available to ask any questions. The preparation meeting before the departure gave a good overview on the process of the whole program and especially the presentations of the ex Erasmus students were entertaining and reduced my fears. There's nothing to complain about!</b></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 type="checkbox"/> sehr gut   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gut   <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht   <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A2   <input type="checkbox"/> B1   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B2   <input type="checkbox"/> C1   <input type="checkbox"/> C2   <input type="checkbox"/> Muttersprachler</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters   <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs an der FRA-UAS   <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs im Zielland <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs   <input type="checkbox"/> Ja beide Arten   <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sehr gut   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gut   <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht   <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p><b>I only used English and sometimes German when talking to my German friend. I stayed with an English/German host family (organised myself).</b></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)?  
**360**

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)?  
**It took me 15 minutes by bus to get to Uni, 35 minutes on foot. Not so close to University.**

e) Which web sites, forums, facebookpages, contacts, etc. can you recommend for looking for accommodation?  
**spareroom, gumtree, web site of the University**

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.)?  
**My accommodation was right in the middle between the city centre and the University of Hull (each 10-15 minutes by bus), in Park Avenue, a really nice area next to a park. There was one small supermarket, a 10-15 minutes walk away whereas bigger ones like Lidl and Aldi took me 25 minutes to reach. The best option for me was to rent a bike at University (only 30 pounds for 3 months!). The nightlife in Hull is quite good; they have not much to offer in the city centre but nearby University..a lot of students are out almost the whole week. Next to my street on the main road you could find a lot of pubs and bars as well!**

## 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?  
**The University of Hull offers a shuttle service from Manchester to Hull two weeks before the start of the teaching period. It's a good opportunity to meet other exchange students and you have enough time to discover the place at first...**

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?  
**I flew from Frankfurt via Brussels to Manchester and was then picked up by some students of the University (unfortunetely, there's not even a payable direct flight from Ffm to Manchester). / Yes, the orientation program was very detailed, stretched across one week. They explained all the process of the registration etc and there was always time to ask questions. I just had some struggles while organising my timetable, especially because I studied to different subjects abroad - I had to run from building to building finding out which person was my contact person at each time. / To be honest, I didn't really have contact with domestic students in University, it was hard to get in touch with them during lectures. It was easier through the flatshare of my German friend. / The services were really good, there were a lot of welcome programs and guidances on campus.**

## 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?

**Aldi, Lidl, Asda**

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?

**Only expenses for private events: the train transport is quite expensive. / I didn't have a semester ticket and it's expensive too, even there are some discounts for students. It's only for Hull and only for a particular bus service. / It was good. I travelled a lot with other Erasmus students. / I couldn't find any mensa on campus. They just have a supermarket, several cafés with some hot meals and a restaurant and there're all serving a lot of expensive (fast) food, unfortunately. It was between 4 and 6 pounds. / The library was very good, big and modern and for free. / There were a lot of computers you could use on campus, you could even borrow laptops. And yes, there was wi-fi available. / There were study rooms which you had to pre-book. But I didn't use it because even without there were enough places to study (in groups too). / The Uni had sports societies, team sports and a fitness centre. All sports cost something, but it's affordable.**

## 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?

**The professors seemed to be more interactive and creative in their teaching methods. The classes are smaller or similar to FH-classes. / I expected a higher academic standard than it was in the end. They were really strict regarding the attendance during lectures, I always had to sign a form. You should always attend lectures, the professor knew me after a few sessions. / The services were quite good. / Yes, I had the feeling that my status as an exchange student made a difference. One professor privileged me, another wasn't welcome at all and gave me a low mark because of my lack of knowledge about the University's standards. It seems to depend whether a lecturer is open-minded towards internationals or not. / They always tried to help and even got in touch with organisations off campus (like accommodation agencies) if necessary.**

## 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 language skills (in group works, during presentations and while writing essays). I feel more self-confident to get in touch with other people using another language now. Furthermore the program showed me that I can live in another country as independently as in my home country.**

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?

**Plan your exchange as early as you can. It was a very good way for me to register on a platform like spareroom to find an accommodation in Hull. In this regard, you should think about how you wanna live during your semester abroad; host family (more quiet place), flatshare with locals or in a student accommodation where it's most likely that you'll have a lot of other international students around you. If you rent an apartment via an agency, be aware that you don't have to pay the whole rent in advance (they are trying to trick foreigners!) and that the apartment is probably not in a very good condition. / It was a very good experience I wouldn't want to miss! / Academic English texts don't seem like a big competition anymore (for my master in Germany). I think the participation on the Erasmus program shows that I'm able to cope with new situations.**

## Additional page:

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

**...because of the exciting and funny lectures with the possibility to try new subjects. ...because of the great people I met who are now my friends. ...because of the many journeys we made and the events we attended.**

## 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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