

Personal Report

Universität Ljubljana, WiSe 2021/22, 1 Semester FB 4 - Soziale Arbeit: transnational - Bachelor

Language

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

I spoke mostly 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 the lessons well with my English level (C1). I wanted to take the Slovenian course first, but it was too expensive for me (and it was also online, which was not worth the money). My English did not get better or worse.

Accommodation

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

Yes in a dormitory. The quality of it was not really good.

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

180€

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

The Accomodation was very close to the faculty. It was around 15 minutes walk. There were 2 other dormitories which the University offered, but they would have been 30 minutes by bus at least.

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

Ask the International Office of the University. Mainly facebook.

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

Dorm D in Bezigrad. There is a Lidl 5 minutes away. Buses very close by. City center around 10 minutes by bus and thats where the nightlife is :)

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

The best arrival time is 2 weeks before it starts. If you start in the summer semester come earlier :) and enjoy the beautiful city. For the winter semester the best way to get a bit of sun is coming in August or September.

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 did not organize much since I was not sure how long I might be able to stay due to Covid and Lockdown measures. Its best to have an accommodation which is not binding and to not book a return ticket yet. The best way to gather information is when you arrive because you can contact people in person. (ESN, Student network, neighbours, other exchange students).

Living Abroad

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

My additional expenses were mainly travel, with ESN and going out to eat or have a drink. The University provides a sports program but I think it costs monthly (did not use it so I dont know). The workplaces and libraries are free or pretty cheap monthly. There is a bike system where you can use bikes per hour. (only for 3 euros).

How far were you able to travel with your semester ticket? How were the libraries? Was their use free? Did the university provide computer workplaces/ computer pools? Was Wi-Fi available on-campus? Did the university provide a sports program? Was this free of charge?

There was a semester ticket from the University but some rides you had to pay for.

Studying at the Host University

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

Easier.

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

I think we were graded more fairly because we were exchange students but the classes were still somewhat challenging. I was a bit disappointed with the lectures, especially because they were held online after a month and were not organized properly.

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?

I think my main skill was to not compare my experience to other experiences. Live your life and know your boundaries. If you do not want to go out as much as others it does not mean that your experience is less nice. Overall I would rate it like a 6,5/10. It was a nice experience and I was able to see places during Covid especially since Slovenia had very high cases throughout my stay. I would repeat it only if there is not a pandemic, because it is very limiting and the worry will stay throughout your exchange (unless you do not care about it). Being able to live abroad for a semester and experience a different culture and mindset is always beneficial!