Personal Report

**The Hague University of Professional Education, WiSe 2021/22, 1 Semester
FB3 – International Finance - Bachelor**

Language

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

English.

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

I could very well follow the classes. The university provided language classes during the semester.

Accommodation

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

Yes, they provided private dormitories and the quality was good.

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)?

10 minutes by tram and 20 minutes by feet

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

DUWO but the university refers to their partners when aplying

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

The Hague, street Bazaarlan. The location is situated in the most beautiful part of the Hague, although it isn't the closest possibility to live nearby the university it is definitely worth it. The accommodation is very close to the city center, 5 minutes by foot and 1 minute by tram. In the city center you will find everything from shops to cafes and restaurants. Nearby the Bazaarlan street you will find local resturants and cozy cafes, whicgh are only known to the local community.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

Beginning of April/end of April

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 everything by myself the organization of the university was horrible the only thing I knew before was when the semester starts. I got in contact with local students very fast and the services for exchange students were alright, we had some programs where we were introduced to the university and the courses.

Living Abroad

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

It about 150% higher than the costs in Frankfurt. I can recommend the supermarkets Jumbo, Aldi

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?

Food made up the largest part of my expenditure. The semester ticket is great you load it up with money and it will always charge the distances of your trip therefore, you could also use the card for going to close cities like Amsterdam, Rotterdam, etc. My student life was awesome i got to know many people but due to covid most of the gatherings happened in the student accommodations. The food in the Mensa was good and they also provided meat alternative meals for vegetarians and vegans. But it was quite expensive, in Frankfurt I normally paid around 2-3€ and in the Hague i paid normally 5-7€, which made it easier to get food outside the university. The library was great for studying providing various sockets and different computer workplaces. The university itself provided computer workplaces outside

the library, there was Wi-Fi available on the whole campus, there were common rooms for studying or simply for hanging out, study rooms could be rented or used when free. Gym, sport classes…

Studying at the Host University

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

A bit 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?

The teaching methods were very different one had to do more things during the semester instead of having one big exam at the end of it. In 7 weeks i had 16 assignments, 3 essays, 3 presentations, and 3 exams. The workload was a lot more but the contents were much easier. I expected it to be easier but i didn't expect it to have much bigger workload. Newly arriving students should clarify the workloads of their courses of interest before they apply for a course. I thought i did that but it seems the best way to do this is to send the specific professor an email regarding this issue. Exchange students had a few programs for introducing them to the university and the different procedures. As the organization wasn't really existing, the professors calmed us down because they had as much information as we had (nothing). Nobody knew when things are starting or where to go as well as the online applications (which then were made by one of their system managers for us, which was great).

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 improved my communication skills and the skill to adapt to new people and new environments. Future exchange students should expect a no organization of the university and that things change everyday for example one week before arrival they sent us an email saying all courses will be present but as the first day started they were saying most of the courses will be online. As well as many courses changed mid semester which caused so much confusion and the need for planning things differently. I learned a lot about different cultures and about sustainability especially about the circular economy but those credits go to the course minor i attended. My semester abroad will remain unforgettable because I met so many wonderful people and the Hague is a beautiful city especially if you are interested in Art.