

## Personal Report

### Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, WiSe 2021/22, 1 Semester FB3 – International Finance - Bachelor

#### Language

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

I studied and communicated in English. I could also improve my English skills due to the semester abroad

**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 dormitories and the quality was very 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)?**

It took 25 min.

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

SSH website.

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

Hatta Building Burgemeester Oudlaan 326-342, 3062 PA Rotterdam, Nederlande. Nice and modern rooms. Kitchen was old fashioned and pools equiped. Hatta building is located right at the Erasmus Campus. Unfortunetly RBS has several different locations. Our classes took place in a location in 25m biking distance.

**Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation**

**Which is the best arrival time?**

End of August.

**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?**

There was a orientation program organized, however I didnt get the emails for that. However, I came intouch with my roomated very quickly. Before my mobility FRAUAS introduced us with other exchange students who were going to Rotterdam. So it was pretty easy to get to know people in the beginning.

**Living Abroad**

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

It was higher than the costs in Frankfurt. I can recommend the supermarkets Aldi and Lidl.

**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?**

No student ticket available. Also no caffeterias. (Small resturants on campus. Meal price between 5-8€) Not comparable with German Cafeterias, which are way more affordable. Libaries and Technical Equipment was better than in Frankfurt.

**Studying at the Host University**

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

Way more 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?**

Much more project. Closer contact to "coaches" (teachers). Program was not that well organized and sometimes very stressful. Much more stressful than expected.

**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?**

No difference treating of exchange students.

### **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 was very pleased with my exchange experience. I improved my English skills and developed personally in many areas. Rotterdam and the Netherlands in general is a nice place to do your semester abroad. The people are very openminded, friendly, diverse, and young especially in Rotterdam. Dutch people speak english very well so there is no need to learn Dutch. However my programm "Circular Economy and Innovation" at RBS was way more work than expected. Ususally I work 20h in Germany and can do 30ects. In Rotterdam the work load was much higher and was difficult to fulfill, although I didnt worked. Classes were on a very good educational level. If you are willing to work very hard, I can recommend RBS and my programm. If you are looking for a chill exchange semester that gives you a lot of time to travel and meet people I can not recommend RBS and especially the programm "Circular Economy". However some other programmes seemed to be more relaxed. My exchange semester will remain unforgettable because, I learned as person and as professional. I also meet amazing people, which I want to stay in contact with. Also party culture in Rotterdam is quite nice.