

Personal Report

Lahti University of Applied Sciences, WS 2018/19, 1 Semester Business Information Systems, Fachbereich 2, Frankfurt

Language

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

The lecture language was English and pretty much everyone could speak it. In the beginning there was a Finnish survival course (optional)

Accommodation

Did the host university arrange for accommodation?

Yes, in a dormitory.

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

351,39€

How would you describe the quality of your accommodation?

Good.

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

By bike 5 min / walking ~15-20 / bus (not recommended)

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

The host university will provide an accommodation; I recommend Mukkula and not City Center.

Where have you been accommodated (name of dormitory, location, part of town, etc.)? And how would you describe the surroundings of your accommodation (shopping facilities, distance to the city center, nightlife, etc.?)

Mukkula - Student apartment. About 90 Students in one big Apartment complex, 3 people per apartment (each own room). One super market is like 10 min by foot or not even 5 min by bike. Others are in the city center (most went by bus in about 10 min)

Nightlife = Mugi - Wednesday Beer 1€

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

I arrived about 4 days before the orientation program, worked well.

How did you organize your arrival? Was the extent of the orientation program sufficient? What activities can you recommend? 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?

You get tutors assigned to you, so try to get in contact with them as soon as possible

Living Abroad

Compared to Frankfurt, how high was the cost of living abroad?

Similar to Frankfurt.

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?

There is no semester ticket, but you can get a student discount if traveling by train (but you need a student ID for it)

In summer I recommend going by bike, (winter also possible) - you can get a bike for 30€ at the university LAMKO (student organization) for one semester

The Mensa was my straw of life. 2, 60€ for a good meal each day (salad+bread+drinks+meal)

Studying at the Host University

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

A little 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? 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?

It was sometimes boring because it was not that demanding and informative, but it works.

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?

Go to Mugi on Wednesday, shop in Lidl, eat in the Mensa, and don't forget to book the sauna at Sunday night.