

Personal Report

Istanbul Technical Report, Summersemester 2019, 1 Semester Computer Sciences, Fachbereich 2, Frankfurt

Language

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

I used to speak in English but also used Turkish which I speak fluently. I communicated with other Students in Turkish.

Accommodation

Did the host university arrange for accommodation?

No.

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

200€

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)?

It took me about 60 minutes.

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

I did not use it often but for accommodation students of the Istanbul Technical University often use the ITÜ Aktüel page on Facebook.

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.?)

I accommodated in Bahcelievler. It was near to the Metro and Metrobus Station. Here in Bahcelievler you have everything like Shopping mall etc.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

Earlier.

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?

I arrived 4 weeks later than the Semester started. So I couldn't join to the Orientation week. But after I arrived the International Office here helped me by everything. After I was here I did not had any Problems by finding contacts. I habituate really fast.

Living Abroad

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

Higher, it cost about 150%

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?

The charging of my "Semester Ticket" was an unnecessary and highly cost. I could travel everywhere with it. My Student life off the Campus was better than in the campus because I have a lot Friends here in Istanbul. The Cafeterias, Mensas were clean and everyday something new was served. The use of the library was free and it was also really clean and silent. We had Wi-Fi at the Campus but Connection was not the best. I was able to study in all Rooms which were not locked. The most of the Rooms were not locked and you just walked in and learned there. The University provided Sport programs etc. but I did not join to them so I do not know if they were free of charge.

Studying at the Host University

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

Much 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? 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 only thing which surprised me was the attendance list. Most professors individually check if you came or not. But in general, the teaching method were nearly the same. Also difficult for me was to find my way on campus because it was a huge campus. So I had problems the first weeks to accustom. But in general all the students and professors were really nice and helpful to me.

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 would rate my exchange as Standard. I had a lot of fun here but also it was really hard to me. To the future Exchange students I can only say that they should be good organized. The rest will come spontaneous. I cannot say do this and avoid this because it depends on the circumstances. But the Exchange program taught me a lot and I take important decisions here.