

Master data

Last name: ██████████	Date of birth: ██████████
Program: Erasmus (SMS)	Study field: International Finance
Home institution: FRANKFU04	Host institution: VALENCI01
Academic year: 2016/2017	Stay from: 07.09.2016
Stay until: 26.01.2017	Email: ██████████

Services rendered by the Frankfurt University

<p>a) Service of the International Office</p> <p>b) Service of the Department (Fachbereich)</p> <p>c) Please comment: What was good? How can the International Office / the Department improve their services in regard to the exchange programme?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sehr zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> unzufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> sehr unzufrieden</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sehr zufrieden <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> zufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> unzufrieden <input type="checkbox"/> sehr unzufrieden</p> <p>The staff of the International Office was very helpful. They instructed me what I need to do for the application and gave me advice when I was in trouble.</p>
--	--

Personal and linguistic preparation

<p>a) How well were you prepared linguistically for your exchange stay?</p> <p>b) What was your language level in the working language?</p> <p>c) Did you take any preparatory language classes?</p> <p>d) Did the partner university provide language classes?</p> <p>e) How well were you able to follow classes linguistically at the partner institution?</p> <p>f) Please comment: Which language did you use? / Did you use, learn, or improve any other languages? / How did you communicate with your fellow students?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> sehr gut <input type="checkbox"/> gut <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A2 <input type="checkbox"/> B1 <input type="checkbox"/> B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C1 <input type="checkbox"/> C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Muttersprachler</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs an der FRA-UAS <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs im Zielland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ja während des Semesters <input type="checkbox"/> Ja einen Intensivkurs <input type="checkbox"/> Ja beide Arten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sehr gut <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gut <input type="checkbox"/> schlecht <input type="checkbox"/> sehr schlecht</p> <p>All of my classes were in English. I took part in a Spanish class before going to Valencia, which was quite useful because Spanish people did not speak English very well. The majority of students in classes in English were Erasmus students; therefore, there was no difficulty in communicating with them in English.</p>
--	---

Accommodation

a) Did the host university arrange for accommodation?
 Ja in einem Wohnheim Ja eine privat vermietete Unterkunft Nein die Möglichkeit bestand nicht

b) How high were your overall monthly costs for accommodation (in Euro)?
250 Euro/month

c) How would you describe the quality of your accommodation?
 sehr gut gut schlecht sehr schlecht

d) How well was the accommodation situated? How long did it take you on average to reach the partner university (in minutes)?
My apartment was quite near to the campus, about 20 minutes walking. There was a bus line directly from my apartment to the campus; however, I preferred walking than taking a bus.

e) Which web sites, forums, facebookpages, contacts, etc. can you recommend for looking for accommodation?
<https://www.uniplaces.com> <https://www.idealista.com>

f) Please comment: Where have you been accommodated (name of dormitory, location, part of town, etc.)? How would you describe the surroundings of your accommodation (shopping facilities, distance to the city center, nightlife, etc.)?
My apartment was on the Blasco Ibanez Avenue. Almost Erasmus student decided for a room around this avenue. It is very near the campus. The atmosphere was great, and there are plenty markets, restaurants, cafeterias and tapas bars in the neighborhood.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

a) Was an orientation program organized for incoming exchange students?
 Yes No

b) Were you informed about organizational issues such as visa, insurances, class registration, setting up of e-mail accounts, etc.?
 Ja sehr ausführlich Ja eher oberflächlich No

c) Did the host university offer activities for exchange students throughout the semester?
 Yes No

d) Judging from your experience, which is the best arrival time?
I think 3-4 days before the date of welcoming session would be ok if the students already got a accommodation. If not, they should come about 1 week before to llok for a room directly in Valencia.

e) Please comment: How did you organize your arrival? / Was the extent of the orientation program sufficient? 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 booked a round-trip ticket on Lufthansa website and a room on <https://www.uniplaces.com>. After landing in Valencia, I went straight to the agency to sign a lease contract and receive the keys. They gave me a map and showed me how I should go to the apartment. On the welcoming day, I was informed about the University of Valencia, about the subjects that I would learn during the exchange semester. The tutors were very helpful. They helped the incoming connect with each other and answer all the questions. If they were not sure about something either, they would contact the professors or university staff to get us the answers. The Spanish students were friendly. I made friends with a Spanish classmate. She helped a lot with the Spanish documents or when I wanted to borrow books or have lunch in the cafeteria for the first time, as the librarians and staff in the cafeterias could not speak English and my Spanish was not enough to understand them.

Living Abroad

a) Did you open a bank account abroad?

Ja das war notwendig Ja das war praktischer No

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

Höher mehr als 200% Höher ca. 200% Höher ca. 150% Ähnlich wie in Frankfurt Geringer ca. 75% Geringer ca. 50% Geringer weniger als 50%

c) Did the host university provide discounted/free public transportation?

Yes No

d) Have you received AuslandsBAFöG?

Yes No

f) Which supermarkets, stores, forums can you recommend to lower expenses?

Mercadona market and Consum market.

f) Please comment: 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?

Besides expenses for accommodation and essential things such as food and drinks, I had to pay extra for transportation, additional health insurance and visa. There was no ticket for public transportations included in the student ID card. However, students could go visit the museums with it for free every Sunday. There were three cafeterias in the campus with reasonable meal for students. Some public cafeterias outside the campus also offered cheap but delicious food. Normally, it cost 3.5 Euro to have a paella. The library was big with plenty space and rooms for students to study. Wi-Fi was always available in the campus. However, we could borrow textbooks for only 1 week and then extent the borrowing period if no one reserved them, which was different as we could normally keep books for 1 month. The sport center of the university had various options for student such as Salsa, Flamenco and soccer. Almost all of them were free.

Studying at the Host University

a) How satisfied were you with classes at the host university?

Sehr zufrieden zufrieden unzufrieden sehr unzufrieden

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

Sehr viel anspruchsvoller Etwas anspruchsvoller Ähnlich wie in Frankfurt Etwas einfacher Sehr viel einfacher

c) 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?

There were homework and periodical tests, which was quite different from studying in Germany. The majority of students in the classes in English were Erasmus students. However, the professors treated everyone fairly in lectures. They were very friendly and willing to spend as much time as we needed to help us understand problems.

Final Remarks

a) How satisfied were you with your stay abroad?

Sehr zufrieden zufrieden unzufrieden sehr unzufrieden

b) Which skills were you able to develop during your stay abroad?

Group-working with students from different countries and presentation in English.

c) Given the same circumstances, would you repeat your stay abroad?

Yes No

d) Please comment: 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?

Students should prepare for the application as soon as possible and do some research about the country and the university. Non-EU students must pay special attention to the visa and student permit, as they need to to be able to stay for studying in another EU-country other than Germany. After the exchange semester, I feel that I become more independent and more self-confident communicating in English. I also learnt a lot more about my major and its practices in Spain.

Additional page:

Please complete the following sentence: My exchange semester will remain unforgettable because...

it was as chance for me to make new friends, get to know a a wonderful culture and cuisine in Valencia, and deepen my knowledge in my major.

Upload Pictures

A picture is worth a thousand words: Here you have the opportunity to upload up to 5 photos (jpeg). You must have taken the photos yourself and agree that the International Office uses them for advertising purposes (on the website, in brochures, flyers, by name of photographer).

DSC_3213.jpg

Foto für Erfahrungsbericht

15726403_10208041959948178_7846864400499807115_n.jpg

Foto für Erfahrungsbericht

DSC_2668.jpg

Foto für Erfahrungsbericht

Foto für Erfahrungsbericht