

**ERASMUS+ student report on the academic mobility**

About the student	
First and last name:	Sina Hoffmann
Study program (Major):	International Business
Level of studies (Bachelor or Master):	Bachelor
Study semester spent abroad:	1 st 2 nd 3 rd 4 th <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 th 6 th 7 th 8 th
Date of the report:	

Basic information on the mobility period	
Semester:	winter
Mobility period:	from: 01/10/2024 until: 22/12/2024

STUDIES	
Which courses did you attend?	<i>Business Finance</i> <i>Psychology</i> <i>Management</i>
Describe the general teaching system. How much and in what way does it differ from the system you nurture at your faculty? How important is such a different experience to you in terms of education?	I had one on one classes or consultations with each of the professors. It differs a lot from the German system I am used to as I usually have classes in big groups and have a mix of listening to the professors and doing case studies/ group work or projects. I worked on a lot by myself in Serbia and got a lot more opportunities to ask about more specific things than in Germany – so my knowledge within the lessons had a chance to be deeper. I also attended one class with Serbian students which was very similar to our German courses. I think the different experiences are incredibly valuable, as they taught me different forms of organising myself and handling topics.
What was the language of instruction? Was the foreign language an obstacle to acquiring knowledge and taking the exam? How much has this mobility influenced the improvement of your language skills?	The language of instruction was English. The foreign language was no obstacle. As half of my courses in Germany are already in English, the mobility did not influence my English skills a lot. I did however improve my skills in terms of paraphrasing.
COURSES	
How often did you have classes?	One class once a week, one every two weeks and the other one I did not have regularly, as I worked on a project myself.
How much of the knowledge were you familiar with before the mobility? How much of the acquired knowledge is completely new to you?	I was familiar with the basics of management and finance before. Psychology was completely new, some aspects from the other courses were new s well.
What are the specific acquired skills and teaching characteristics that you would share with your professors and fellow students? Why?	Understanding the basics of psychology, it is helpful in nearly every aspect of life and simply incredibly interesting.
How much is the acquired knowledge useful for continuation	I'd say that everything I learned is useful, both for my studies and for my career. I can use all of the acquired knowledge for various topoics, such as HR and Controlling.



of your studies and in practice? Explain.	
EXAMS	
Have you passed the exams at all the courses you attended? Explain.	Yes, I passed all the exams.
How difficult was it for you to pass the exams? Why?	It wasn't too difficult to pass them, the amount that was taught was just more than in my home university.
Are you satisfied with the grades and acquired knowledge? Why?	Yes, I am. As explained above, I can use nearly everything in my company and my university.

LIFE

ACCOMMODATION	I was accommodated in a Serbian language school, which can be described as a dormitory/ shared living with other students/pupils.
What kind of accommodation did you stay in? Describe in detail.	
Are you generally satisfied with the accommodation? Specify positive and negative aspects.	Overall, it fulfilled my needs and was affordable. It was close to the centre, and there were some nice people who lived there. In general, everyone was really nice and tried to be helpful but only few spoke English. I shared a room and my roommate did not speak any English, nor did my other roommates speak it which took some getting used to. Additionally, I paid more than the other tenants due to the short length of my stay, which I did not know before. The landlord seemed a bit offended when I asked about it. Additionally, I was not comfortable with the facility manager just walking into the apartment and room whenever he wanted to.
Would you stay in the same type of accommodation? Why?	No, I would not. I would want my own room and more privacy. I think that you could get something more suitable for a higher but similar price.
How much did it cost on a monthly basis?	200 € / month
FINANCIAL ASPECT	
How much money did you receive as the <i>Erasmus+</i> grant?	900 €
Was the amount of money enough for the life expenses?	Yes, definitely
Did you have to add your personal money?	No
SOCIAL LIFE	
Describe how you spent your free time.	I travelled around quite a bit, went on a lot of walks and started swimming as a new hobby. I went out with friends, went to kafanas and did quite a few trips to Belgrade, where I met a few friends at the beginning of my stay.
Did you meet a lot of new people? Describe the experience.	Yes, I really met a lot of people, everybody was very open, hospitable and overall just incredibly.
Did you travel to other places? Describe.	Yes, although not as much as I originally planned. To the Eastern Serbia, Novi Sad, Belgrade, Bosnia, Croatia.
CULTURAL ASPECT	
Describe your experience and your attitudes to new surroundings, language, lifestyle, traditions and people's mentality.	I had a such a nice and good experience! It can be very different from Germany, and it takes time to get used to people not being able to understand you (language wise) but if you just try everything out and stay curious, you'll have a great experience ☺ With time, the language barrier got better.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ACADEMIC EXCHANGE (MOBILITY)

PERSONAL IMPORTANCE



Would you take part in the mobility of this kind again? Why?	Yes, I would! It really somewhat challenging, but I gained so many new experiences, friendships and just knowledge in general. I can really recommend it to everyone.
Could this experience open a new door for you in the future?	Yes, especially since I study International Business and am focused on different cultures, this experience could open a new door in the future.
Describe the importance of the experience for your personal development. How has it changed you?	It was very important to me. I learned that you are responsible for yourself and can handle everything as long as you stay open and just try it out. It also taught me that the people around you are such an important thing to have a good time.
POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE FOR OTHER STUDENTS	
Would you recommend this experience to your fellow students? Why?	Yes, definitely. It is very different from the usual Erasmus experience, which is the reason why it was so special. You can really experience the culture in a way that you will not be able to with other opportunities.
What do those who apply for the experience need to be prepared for? What are potential downsides?	A different currency and a language barrier. Just find out a bit about the country and culture before you go – but you will really experience it when you are there☺

YOUR ERASMUS+ EXPERIENCE IN ONE SENTENCE

What is your message for future Erasmus+ exchange students?	Just try it and have fun with it !
ANYTHING ELSE TO SHARE?	
What did we forget to ask you?	-