

**ERASMUS+ student report on the academic mobility****About the student****Pascal Leyens**Business Administration (master– 3<sup>rd</sup> semester)**Basic information on the mobility period**

Semester:

Winter (28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 - 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023)**STUDIES**

Which courses did you attend?

*Personal Finance*  
*Training and Development*  
*Web Technologies*  
*Corporate Finance*

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?

In my home university I am just a number, whereas in Serbia you have a closer relation to your professor.  
The level is lower than in Germany, however, it seems that professors in Serbia are more willing to teach. In Germany the saying “survival of the fittest” describes it pretty well.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?

English

No, not at all (mistakes are allowed)

Not so much since I was more focused on Serbian than on English. Sometimes I had the feeling my English got even worse :D

**COURSES**

How often did you have classes?

Two times per week (language classes) and consultations upon the agreement with professors

How much of the knowledge were you familiar with before the mobility?  
How much of the acquired knowledge is completely new to you?

≈ 15 %

≈ 85 %

What are the specific acquired skills and teaching characteristics that you would share with your professors and fellow students? Why?

Sorry, no clue. I am just a poor little student who wants to find a pleasant job in the future. I do not care much about academics.

How much is the acquired knowledge useful for continuation of your studies and in practice? Explain.

For future modules, not really since every module covers a new topic. Regarding the practice, we all know that practice and theory are two different pairs of shoes, so let us be realistic - we learn our jobs on the job and not in the lecture hall.

**EXAMS**

Have you passed the exams at all the courses you attended? Explain.

I have. What to explain? I smashed it 😊

How difficult was it for you to pass the exams? Why?

The risk of failure was close to zero, but one had to invest a good amount of time to get a good grade.

Are you satisfied with the grades and acquired knowledge? Why?

I am. Usually that is the case when you get good grades.



**LIFE**

<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>	Dormitory, consisted of one private room and a shared bathroom and kitchen among three people.
What kind of accommodation did you stay in? Describe in detail.	
Are you generally satisfied with the accommodation? Specify positive and negative aspects.	You have everything what you need. Despite having the cleaning lady, it was a little bit dirty at times, but that can be neglected.
Would you stay in the same type of accommodation? Why?	I would because of socialising.
How much did it cost on a monthly basis?	220 €
<b>FINANCIAL ASPECT</b>	490 € per month, however, just 80 % of the overall sum right at the beginning. I have not gotten the remaining 20 % yet.
How much money did you receive as the <i>Erasmus+</i> grant?	
Was the amount of money enough for the life expenses?	Yes, if you do not include traveling and especially Croatia.
Did you have to add your personal money?	Yes, I paid the rent in total out of private money, for example. I used the Erasmus scholarship mostly for food and visiting some sights.
<b>SOCIAL LIFE</b>	Traveling, party, gorgeous women and board games.
Describe how you spent your free time.	
Did you meet a lot of new people? Describe the experience.	I did and it was a great experience. I know for sure the contact with many of them will vanish, however, I will give my best to touch base with those who became important to me.
Did you travel to other places? Describe.	Zagreb, Sarajevo, Visoko, Mostar, Dubrovnik, Sofia, Prishtina, Nis, Novi Sad, Belgrade, Kotor, Budva, Bar, Tivat, Perast, Herceg Novi
<b>CULTURAL ASPECT</b>	The culture is not comparable to any culture I have seen so far. Overall, the lifestyle is humbler than in Germany. People's mentality is more laidback. Tradition plays a huge role. You can also see that money is a constant issue for many people. But in which country is it not?
Describe your experience and your attitudes to new surroundings, language, lifestyle, traditions and people's mentality.	

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ACADEMIC EXCHANGE (MOBILITY)**

<b>PERSONAL IMPORTANCE</b>	Over and over again, as it is not comparable to going somewhere as a tourist.
Would you take part in the mobility of this kind again? Why?	
Could this experience open a new door for you in the future?	Yes, to live abroad.
Describe the importance of the experience for your personal development. How has it changed you?	It has changed me a lot (for the better). It is a unique experience that nobody should miss. I am really sorry for those who will never have such an opportunity.
<b>POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE FOR OTHER STUDENTS</b>	If you are seeking for a typical Erasmus experience, then go to plain vanilla destinations like Italy or Spain.
Would you recommend this experience to your fellow students? Why?	If you want something unique and if you are ready for a deep dive into the Serbian culture, I highly recommend it.
What do those who apply for the experience need to be prepared for? What are potential downsides?	Patriotism, folk music, much make-up, trash, bad air in the winter but lovely people.  Low level of English in Valjevo.



**YOUR ERASMUS+ EXPERIENCE IN ONE SENTENCE**

What is your message for future Erasmus+ exchange students?

Do not try to beat me. The place of the best exchange student ever is already taken.

**ANYTHING ELSE TO SHARE?**

What did we forget to ask you?

If I fell in love with the country or somebody.