

Travel Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

What was your semester abroad like?

I agree to the publication of the report and attached photos (there are no third parties rights to these photos) Yes

New outgoing students sometimes ask us for a way to contact former outgoings. Are we allowed to pass on your contact details in case of inquiries? Yes

Academic year 2022/2023

Start semester Herbst/Fall 2022/23

Duration in semesters 1

Study program at EUF BA International Management - BWL

Subject 1 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 2 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 3 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Host country Spain

Host university Esic Business and Marketing School

YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

How did you prepare for the semester abroad? What should be organized in advance?

The most important thing is to look for apartments, because so many Erasmus students are coming to Valencia and it is pretty hard to find something good and affordable. Further I refreshed up my Spanish skills. Of course an insurance should be made and I would recommend everybody to get a credit card, debit cards do not work everywhere. Everything else can be managed from here.

Where did you live and how did you find your accommodation (self-organized/provided by host university, dormitory/private etc.)?

I lived in an apartment with four other people, a friend from my home university and me searched for one together. It was between Blasco Ibañez and Cabañal, which is especially nice in summer because it is only 10 minutes to the beach. I found it via Idealista, I would recommend to always contact the people directly, if the mail or phone number is given. The apartment was okay, but the daily life with my roommates did not work really well.

Did you participate in events for exchange students? How did you establish social contacts in other ways?	Yes, I definitely would recommend everybody to take part on Erasmus events in the beginning. The trips to nice places in the area around are affordable and everybody is trying to connect, so establishing social contacts was pretty easy. The party for Erasmus students were really crowded in the beginning, but also fun in some kind of way. The App Bumble can also be used in friends mode, I met there two really nice girls!
How satisfied were you with the host university (facilities, staff etc.) and the course offer (workload etc.)?	The system in Spain differs a lot from Germany. The courses are not so difficult, but the workload is a lot higher, we had to reach in papers are made presentations every week. I only did four courses and it was the same work like seven in Flensburg. The staff is really good, the courses were much more personal, everybody knows your name after some time. The university itself was not that nice, we had no campus or something similar and the cafeteria offered not that good food.
Did you learn the local language? How important was the language for your stay?	Yes, I improved my Spanish a lot, I couldn't barely say anything when I came. Although all of my lectures were in English, the everyday life helps a lot. Additionally I did an Spanish course two times a week for the level A2, the teacher was super nice and we always were only between 3 and 5 students.
What intercultural experiences/skills have marked your stay?	I met mostly dutch and German people, I felt like these are the majority of Erasmus students here. But I also had contact to French and Spanish students, so you meet a lot of international students here!
Which perspectives on your host country/home country have changed - and why?	I learned especially in the beginning to do everything on my own and not be afraid of getting to know new people. The everyday life in Spain is a lot different than in Germany, it took some time to get along with that. Also the courses felt more practically here, what I liked. I definitely want to do an internship to improve in these aspects.
How was your everyday life (leisure, shopping, transportation, inclusion etc.)?	I always had lessons in the mornings and in the evenings, three times a week until 21:30. This was annoying, but in Spain it is okay, because the everyday life plays a lot in the evenings anyways. Grocery shopping is really easy, everywhere are stores, some of them are really opened everyday. There is a system called Valenbisi, where you can pay once 30 euros and use the app then for a year. The bikes are all around the city, I used it to get to friends or the gym. I also got a metro and bus card, the 10times cards were fine for me, you can use them for bus and metro at once and cost around 6 euros. Valencia is a nice city for students, you can go out every single day and the city is alive every night. In the summer we were almost every day at the beach, but also in December or January the weather is still good!
How did you manage financially? How much did you spend on visa (if applicable), travel, accommodation (per month), living expenses, leisure activities, other expenses (books etc.)?	All in all I spend a lot of money in these 5 months, but I also traveled a lot. The trains and planes are really cheap, why I went to Ibiza, Mallorca, Barcelona and Madrid. My apartment was 400 euros a month, what was the average here. Food is cheaper than in Germany, but the groceries got also more expensive currently. When you go out for dinner, look for the non-touristic places, these are really really cheap. For university I didn't need anything additional.
What was your best/worst experience? Is there anything else you would like to share?	My best experience here were my trips and all in all the possibilities this city offers. We had a lot of great nights in the club and lots of nice beach days. I experienced a lot of fireworks, I don't know why but these happen here all the time. The worst part is the workload of the university and the late lecture times, it took a lot of days during the semester and spending time with friends in the evening were not often possible.
Would you recommend a semester abroad at your host university? For what reasons?	Yes, I really liked the city, it offers everything you could need for a nice semester abroad. Although it is one of the biggest cities in Spain, it is quite cheap and has a good location to visit other places. Anyways the studying rather felt like going back to school, as we were always only between 20 and 30 people and we also got tasks like homework and had to do lots of group work. But in the end I would say, I learned in this semester the most, compared to all semesters before.

PHOTOS

In this section, you may upload some photos that represent your stay abroad. When selecting the photos, please bear in mind that the pictures will be visible online if you have given us the permission to publish your report.

Photo (1) file_63c52f75bb2b4-img_9886.jpg

Photo (2) file_63c5362e264b5-img_8859.jpg

Photo (3) file_63c53644a9a76-img_8777.jpg

Photo (4) file_63c536623d547-img_8756.jpg

Photo (5)

Photo (6)

Here you have the possibility to enter descriptions/explanations for the photos

You can see the university from outside, the beach, the city center and our favorite beach club.



07.10.22













