

Erfahrungsbericht Auslandssemester

ALLGEMEINE DATEN ZUM AUSLANDSSEMESTER

Wie war es?

Ich bin mit der Veröffentlichung des Berichts sowie der beigefügten Fotos (es bestehen keine Rechte Dritter an den Fotos) einverstanden	Ja
Neue Outgoing-Studierende fragen manchmal nach einer Kontaktmöglichkeit zu ehemaligen Outgoings. Dürfen wir Ihre Kontaktdaten bei Anfragen weitergeben?	Ja
Austauschplatz (diese Angaben werden im Falle einer Veröffentlichung des Berichts ausgeblendet)	
Akademisches Jahr	2022/2023
Semester	Herbst/Fall 2022/23
Dauer in Semestern	1
Studiengang an der EUF	BA International Management - BWL
Fach 1 (nur Lehramt-Studierende)	
Fach 2 (nur Lehramt-Studierende)	
Fach 3 (nur Lehramt-Studierende)	
Gastland	Spanien
Gasthochschule	Universidad de Zaragoza

IHRE PERSÖNLICHEN ERFAHRUNGEN

**Wie haben Sie sich auf das Auslandssemester vorbereitet?
Was sollte bereits im Voraus organisiert werden?**

When I started to prepare my semester abroad I read multiple reports by other students and watched a few YouTube videos where people talked about their experiences. I would definitely recommend checking the temperatures in the months during the stay. Zaragoza is in the northern part of Spain, so when I arrived in September it was still 30°C but it changed drastically in November, when it was 7°C all of a sudden. I recommend joining the Erasmus WhatsApp group as early as possible because most information about events or apartments that are free is sent in there.

Wie haben Sie gewohnt und wie sind Sie an Ihre Unterkunft gekommen (selbst gesucht/von Gasthochschule organisiert, Wohnheim/privat etc.)?

I lived in a room in a shared apartment that I found on the app idealista. The App was recommended in multiple reports by other students. I contacted the landlord and signed a contract with him. Before that I asked him about the other roommates in the apartment and he told me that they are Erasmus students as well and that they are also studying at the university. It turned out that this was not the case. They were all Spanish, in their 30s and working in regular jobs. I could not connect with them that well and had the feeling that friends of mine who were living with other Erasmus students together had better experiences in their apartments. The Erasmus organization also always has a WhatsApp group chat that you should look for (for Zaragoza you can google happy Erasmus Zaragoza and send an application to join via their website). Many people from the previous year send links to apartments into the group chats that always looked a lot nicer than the ones on the App idealista where I was looking for one.

Haben Sie Angebote für Incomings genutzt? Wie haben Sie sich anderweitig sozial vernetzt?

The Erasmus organization in the city organized a welcome week where there was an event every single night. I tried to participate in most of them because it was a good opportunity to meet new people. They also organized trips on the weekends that you could join where you also met many new people. The links to book the trips were always sent into the WhatsApp group chats and shared on their Instagram.

Waren Sie zufrieden mit der Gastuniversität (Räumlichkeiten, Ansprechpartner*innen, etc.) und dem Kursangebot (Workload etc.)?

The university itself was very nice and clean and all of my professors were always very engaged, friendly and helpful. They were always checking up on us and were helping us immediately when we had troubles. I really enjoyed going to the classes and also enjoyed studying afterwards in the faculty's library. Most students went there because it has a very nice atmosphere and was always the best place to study. I was also pleased with the course offer and the courses that I ended up taking. Another thing that I also enjoyed was the possibility that you could decide on working in a group project during the semester that would make up a certain percentage of your final grade in addition to the final exam.

Haben Sie die Landessprache gelernt bzw. wie wichtig war diese Ihrer Ansicht nach für Ihren Aufenthalt?

I had all of my courses in English because I feared that I would not be able to keep up in the Spanish classes. Therefore my Spanish did not improve that much unfortunately. Most people I was spending time with were Erasmus students as well so we all only spoke in English most of the time. Most locals from Zaragoza do not speak English, therefore it is definitely very helpful to be able to communicate with them in Spanish to a certain degree.

Welche interkulturellen Begegnungen/Kompetenzen haben Ihren Aufenthalt geprägt?

The cultural festivities in Zaragoza were definitely one of the highlights of my stay. The Pilar festival was held in October and is one week where the whole city is celebrating. There is a parade all day long where people wear traditional clothes, dance and play music. In the end everyone brings flowers to the church square and celebrates. In the evening there were concerts every night and everyone was out on the streets celebrating. It is a big part of the local culture and was amazing to attend.

Welche Perspektiven auf Ihr Gastland/Herkunftsland haben sich verändert - und warum?

After living in Zaragoza for almost 6 months I definitely appreciate the medical care and certain living standards in Germany more. Apart from that I did not experience anything that changed my view about living in Germany compared to living in Spain.

Wie sah Ihr Alltag vor Ort aus? (Freizeit, Einkaufen, Fortbewegung, Inklusion, ...)

In my everyday life I usually walked to university and went drinking coffee with friends afterwards. I recommend joining the Erasmus activities on the weekends to see more outside of the city as well.

Wie sind Sie finanziell ausgekommen? Wie hoch waren Ihre Ausgaben für Visum (falls zutreffend), Reise, Unterkunft (pro Monat), Lebenshaltung, Freizeit, weitere Kosten (z.B. Bücher)?

For traveling to Zaragoza I first had to fly to Madrid (you can also go to Barcelona) and then take the train or bus to Zaragoza. The bus leaves at Terminal 4 at the airport, which was directly where I landed therefor it was very easy for me. I spent around 200€ from the Erasmus money on the tickets for my arrival. I had already saved money in advance for my semester abroad and got the first payment of the Erasmus money before the departure. During my stay I realized quickly that the money we received as the first Erasmus payment was not enough. I talked with other students from Germany and found out that most of them received way more money for each month than we did. Most of them received 2.000-3.000€ for the first payment in the beginning. We received ca. 1.100€. It was always expensive to attend the Erasmus trips and to attend the organized events. I was able to afford to attend one trip to Valencia which cost around 230€ for the whole time we stayed there. There was almost a trip every second weekend to different regions and cities in Spain. They also offered the day trips that were organized every weekend starting at 30€, which also added up quickly. I tried to attend as many trips as possible and recommend saving as much money in advance for them as possible, because the share of the first Erasmus payment that I received is definitely not enough for 5 months. The living expenses are the same as in Germany, except for hygiene products which are way more expensive.

Was war Ihre beste, was Ihre schlechteste Erfahrung? Gibt es sonst noch etwas, das Sie gern mitteilen möchten?

I only had one bad experience during my stay with my landlord. He told me that I have to pay him extra money because I used the heater too much. It is important to know that in many buildings in Spain the heating only works from 1pm until 11pm and the costs are already included in the rent. I only found out that he tried to scam me because I told my roommates about it. They helped me to confront him and get my money back. I heard similar stories from other friends, therefor it is very important that you rent a room with a reliable agency or landlord. One of my best experiences was definitely the festival del Pilar and the trips to different cities like Valencia, San Sebastián or Madrid.

Fazit: Würden Sie ein Auslandssemester an Ihrer Gastuniversität empfehlen? Aus welchen Gründen?

I would definitely recommend people to spend their semester abroad in Zaragoza. There were events organized every week and we always had a lot of fun. The city is also very nice and I felt safe most of the time. Zaragoza is located between Madrid and Barcelona so you can visit both cities during your stay. It is also close to Bilbao and San Sebastián which are both two beautiful cities that you should definitely visit. The university was very nice as well and the professors were all extremely engaged and kind. I had an amazing time during my semester abroad in Zaragoza in which I met wonderful people and made so many great memories.

IHRE FOTOS

Abschließend können Sie an dieser Stelle Fotos hochladen, die Ihren Auslandsaufenthalt gut repräsentieren. Bitte bedenken Sie bei der Fotoauswahl, dass die Bilder im Internet einsehbar sind, wenn Sie uns die Erlaubnis zur Veröffentlichung des Erfahrungsberichts gegeben haben.

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