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Degree Program at TAU: BA in Management & Communication

Host University: WU- Vienna University of Economics and Business

Exchange Term: September- January, 2020 (13/9/19-30/1/20)

Exchange Experience

About Vienna

Vienna is one of the most beautiful cities I have ever visited. Vienna is located in the center of Europe, which makes it very easy to travel around.

About the Host University

WU is one of the leading universities in business and economics in Europe. The university attracts students from all over the world and offers students various courses with international emphasis.

Courses and Professors

The university offers close to 200 international courses taught in English. The bachelor's exchange program includes courses in economics, international management, marketing and even business law. Course registration begins at a certain time and is based on free spots. Course spots are taken within seconds of the enrollment opening, so it is important to pay attention to the schedule, prepare a list of courses and some alternative options. There are 2 types of courses - PI and LV. Most of the exchange students study PI courses. I didn't take any LV courses which are more technical and mainly teach economics and accounting. I took 4 international marketing and management courses, which were very interesting and enriched my knowledge of different cultures around the world. During the courses, I had the opportunity to hear students from all over the world speak about the work environment and culture in their countries. I would

recommend taking 4-5 courses. During the Exchange semester, I loved having time to travel and make new friends.

Accommodation

A popular accommodation option is OeAD's houses, which cost between 345 to 700 Euros per month. I lived in the GreenHouse at sonenallee (422 Euro) for the first two months, but I didn't enjoy how very far away from the city center it was. I asked to move to a different accommodation and after two months there was one room available at Molkoeirestrasse (495 Euro), which was a 10 minute walk from the campus and about a 10 minute metro ride to the city center. The main advantage of the dormitory is the socializing, as it's really easy to make friends. The disadvantage is that there are several rules you have to follow, and the apartment isn't well-equipped (there's no oven, you can't make noise between 10pm to 5am etc.). If you can, I would recommend renting a flat with housemates, which can be much cheaper, in a better location which might feel more like "home" and not like a dormitory. If you choose to rent an apartment, don't worry about the difficulty in making friends, as there are so many other opportunities to meet people, and everyone will probably want to come to your place anyway, as the OeAD apartments are very small.

Visa

Non-European citizens must have a Visa D for any period between 90-180 days. For more than 180 days you should apply for resident permit. I applied for Visa D, and the process was quick and easy. The whole process is through the Austrian embassy in Ramat-Gan.

Transportation

Vienna has one of the best public transportation systems in the world. You pay 78 Euros for 5 months, and it includes all the public transportation in the city. I was impressed by the transportation in Vienna, you can go anywhere in minutes by metro.

Insurance and Health Services

Insurance is privately arranged and I bought a PassportCard insurance policy. You get a credit card that can be used where needed. It is important to say that many places in Vienna do not receive credit cards, especially Visa. So when I had to go to the doctor, I had a lot of bureaucracy with the insurance company.

Living Expenses

Monthly: Rent is about 495 Euros, Public transportation is 78 Euros, groceries are about 100 Euros, and cell phone service is 10 Euros. Additional expenses depend on you how much you want to travel, shop and eat outside.

I received the Erasmus scholarship with a total amount of €3760. I received around 80% of the scholarship at the beginning of the semester in September, and the rest towards the end of the semester, in late December. The scholarship helps a lot, but unfortunately it's not enough for the entire semester, and it mostly covers the accommodation grocery costs, so you should be prepared to bring money "from home" (around €3,500- 4000).

Night Life

There are many clubs and bars in Vienna. On weekends we always went out with students from the exchange program and met new people. Vienna nightlife is fun and always has new productions and cool parties.

Tips

Make friends and travel a lot. Join the Facebook student group at WU. Check the courses and course requirements before enrolling.

General Experience

I really enjoyed the experience as a student in Vienna. I recommend meeting friends from day one and initiating meetings with people. All students wish to know each other and connect. Please take into consideration that most students might be younger than you are, as their ages ranged from 19-21.

Photos



