

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
ERASMUS Report 2015/16

Personal Information	
Surname, First name:	Kshirsagar, Ramni
Study programme at FAU:	International Information System (IIS)
Host university:	KARL-FRANZENS-UNIVERSITÄT GRAZ
Host country:	Austria
Study programme at host university:	Master's programme; Business Administration
Duration in semester (WS, SS or whole year):	SS16
May the report be published?	(Delete what is NOT applicable) YES
If yes, may name and e-mail be published?	(Delete what is NOT applicable) ONLY name

1. Preparation (organization, application at the host university)

I applied through the last minute places for going abroad at fortunately got a place in Karl Franzens University of Graz. Once nominated for the place you will receive an email from the host university to fill online application form with an access code. This has to be also signed by your coordinator at home university (mostly Herr Jörg Reisner in WiSo). Once successfully submitted you will receive an acceptance and visa letter from Uni Graz. Additionally you have to register and fill online application for ERASMUS, the link to which will be sent to you be Frau Yvonne Wöhner from international office FAU.

2. Arrival / Visa (flight, train)

Once you receive the visa letter from KFU Graz, non EU students should use it to apply for visa. Non-EU student staying in Graz for more than 6 months also need residence permit. EU students do not need visa however, they need to be registered in case of staying longer than 3 months. The link below gives you a detailed information about the prerequisites of staying in Graz based on your duration of stay and home country.

<http://international.uni-graz.at/en/stud/incoming/nominiert/vorbereitung-aufenthalt/>

3. Accommodation (student residence hall, private apartment)

To ensure a place in the student dormitory one should apply as soon as possible for accommodation. Here: http://www.housing.oead.ac.at/index_e.asp you can find detailed link about the housing offers. Tip: There are many Facebook group for ERASMUS students in Graz, join them as you can find many housing offers there.

4. Study at the host university (Courses / Language Courses / Timetable)

During the orientation week students were assigned a course coordinator based on your selected program. There was a separate session with your course coordinator where he will explain in details about course registration, types of courses available, exam registration and final accreditation. Your course coordinator is the first contact person in case you have any questions regarding courses. Once you receive your matriculation number you get access to uni-graz portal https://online.uni-graz.at/kfu_online/webnav.ini. It is an excellent portal to get all the information about everything you can possibly need during your stay in Graz. You can also browse other courses you want to take.

5. Support service at the host university (International Office, Department)

Friendly people at the International office at Uni-Graz <http://international.uni-graz.at/en> will make your abroad semester a wonderful experience. During the orientation week organized by them they will give you all the helpful information. They are also responsible for signing all the necessary documents for ERASMUS.

6. Facilities at the host university (library, computer pool, etc.)

Uni-Graz has a good library facility which students can use once they activate their student card. CIP pools are available in the library and also the building of economics department. In order to access Wi-Fi, VPN and other internet facilities students can go to Info point in the economics building (Universitätsstraße 15/AE 8010 Graz).

7. Spare time activities (sight seeking, bank, mobile phone, jobs)

During your orientation week you will be informed about the bank account options. Usually there are many banks who provide attractive offers to student. In some cases your German bank account is also valid to be used in Austria, one should speak about it in advance with his/her bank before leaving.

There are many touristic spots in Graz for sight seeking. The famous Clock tower and Schlossberg is the landmark for city Graz. Apart from it there are Kunsthaus, Mur Island etc. Official website of city Graz provides you with detailed information: <https://www.graztourismus.at/en/see-and-do/sightseeing/sights>

8. Finances (cost of living, grant)

The cost of accommodation varies from 150 Euros to 500 Euros depending upon the type of accommodation. University residences are relatively affordable and hence are in high demand. The cost of living i.e. food etc. are higher than Germany.

9. Conclusion (best and worse experience)

In my experience Graz is a wonderful city to choose as an exchange semester destination. There are 3 universities in Graz and hence high number of exchange students come to Graz. I got a chance to meet lot of people from around the world. Many student organizations create events for student get-together. As a student you should attend these events to get the best out of your abroad experience.

Best experience: Enroll in the Buddy program offered by international office in Uni-Graz. In my experience this was the best thing I did as the buddy assigned to me helped me a lot during my stay in Graz.

Worst experience: None. But just an inconvenient experience was that there are not many courses related to informatics which are offered in English. Which makes it difficult to choose courses. Also, the exams are in German.

10. Important contact persons and links

- a. Important contact person: (may vary with time)
- I. International Office coordinator Uni-Graz :
Frau Hoffmann, Anja, ([anja.hoffmann\(at\)uni-graz.at](mailto:anja.hoffmann(at)uni-graz.at))
 - II. International Office coordinator WISO Uni-Erlangen
Jörg Reisner, M.A. Tel.: 0911-5302-626. E-Mail: joerg.reisner@fau.de
 - III. Contact Central office of International Affairs
 - Frau Yvonne Wöhner, +49 9131 85 65164,
yvonne.woehner@fau.de
 - Margot Geiger, +49 9131 8565174, E-Mail: margot.geiger@fau.de
- b. Important Links:
- IV. Austrian Consulate General in Munich, Germany
Address - ismaninger strasse 136, 81675 münchen germany
Telephone - (+49) 89 998 15 0
Email - muenchen-gk@bmeia.gv.at
Website - www.bmeia.gv.at/botschaft/gk-muenchen.html
 - V. Uni Graz Portal: https://online.uni-graz.at/kfu_online/webnav.ini