

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

Persönliche Angaben	
Name, Vorname:	Yana Romanovich
Studiengang an der FAU:	International Information Systems
Gastuniversität:	Szkoła Główna Handlowa w Warszawie
Gastland:	Poland
Studiengang an der Gastuniversität:	Economics
Aufenthaltszeitraum (WS, SS oder Jahr):	WS
Darf der Bericht veröffentlicht werden?	(Nicht zutreffendes löschen) JA
Wenn JA, dürfen Name und E-Mail veröffentlicht werden?	(Nicht zutreffendes löschen) Nur Name

Hello, I would like to share my experience of spending one semester in Warsaw, Poland. As long as I'm doing master program in International Information Systems at FAU, we have to spend at least one semester abroad. I chose Warsaw school of economics, because the program in this university and the city itself were very interesting for me.

Preparations were very easy. Before the process had started we received all necessary information from international office. First I applied in our university, and then I received confirmation and list of instructions, which were easy to follow.

In order to begin the enrolment process at the university, it was necessary to complete your data in online application:

- fill out the Application Form for Admission as an Exchange Student
- fill out the Accommodation Form (if you decide to apply for SGH's hall of residence)
- upload:
 1. a passport-sized photograph
 2. a copy of your national ID or passport
 3. a proof of international insurance (if you do not yet have an insurance policy, you can send it via e-mail as soon as you obtain it)

Once your on-line registration is completed, you need to send 2 printouts of the application to Warsaw School of economics with two your photos and copy of ID or passport.

If you have EU citizenship or residence permit, you don't need to obtain Polish visa. I didn't need a visa, because I have German residence permit. The same situation is with health insurance. If you already have it, you don't need to by extra.

There are several possibilities to get to Warsaw from Nürnberg: plane from München, train and several buses. I took the bus from Ecolines. The trip was around 14 hours. Warsaw School of Economics offers a room in dormitory near the main university's building for the good price. And it is almost a city center with many shops around! As for me, I lived in private apartment with other students, just because a friend of mine has been living there. I was occupying a free room, while other student was abroad.

In general study process was organized in a good manner, with right balance of studying and living (we had time for everything: traveling, tourism, shopping, and other activities). It reminded me a classical version of study program with mixed lectures and exercises in small groups (up to 20 people). University offered a language courses for all foreign students as a usual lectures for free. There were different languages: first of all Polish, than English, German, Italian, Spanish and Russian. The only one problem for me was the amount of ECTS for each course. Normaly in Warsaw School of Economics they are counted as 3-, 4,5-ECTS courses, and it was difficult for me to collect all necessary credits.

International office was always in contact with students, it provide all necessary information on the university's home page with list of responsible persons and their contacts. The office is placed in the main building, where the majority of lectures is given. So, it was easy to reach international office staff. All issues were resolvable via personal meetings or e-mails. There were several organizations which were engaged in carrying out on student's leisure with offside events.

University has a large library in a separate building near the main corpus. If it was necessary, all foreign students were allowed to take books there. I didn't take courses where we would use computers; therefore I couldn't measure the quality of computers. But there were rooms with free computer access for all students. Free wi-wi was available in all buildings.

Warsaw is a large city with many different possibilities to spend free time with advantage and pleasure: old city, parks, museums, clubs and bars. Mostly there are presented almost all world cuisines, not in city center only, but in other districts as well. Warsaw is situated in the middle of Poland, it was easy to get to different cities from there. We were in Gdansk, Krakow, Lodz, Wrocław, and Prague and it was not expensive, due to cheaper living standards compare to other EU countries.

University provides favorable mobile tariff by Play for all foreign students. Initially there are 10 Zloty on account. For me it was enough for one month.

Everyone is allowed to find job if he want to. University has programs with global companies, such as Loreal, Deutshe bank etc, where students can take a part.

Mobility grant was calculated for the time period set in my agreement. In average my grant has to make around 800 euro. It doesn't cover all period of mobility. The minimal cost of residence with minimal set of adventures is around 500 euro. Local products have a good quality and low price. The most expensive were renting a flat and travelling.

For me the best thing was learning process. It was in small groups, very interactive and applicable into practice materials. If studying is a preferable part of mobility, this university is worth your attention.

The worst thing was transport and parking situation. So, it is better to leave your car at home. The city is very large, so it is easy to get lost, but public transport is available in all districts almost 24 hours. I would recommend to go to Warsaw in summer semester, because the weather in winter doesn't dispose to long walks. It was almost always raining with huge wind.

Buddy programs works in Warsaw University. So, if student need a help, he has personal contact with local student. I was offered a buddy before I came, so she helped me a lot to get in touch with all I need.

Here are some links regarding studying and living in Warsaw:

<http://administracja.sgh.waw.pl/en/dpm/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://oferta.sgh.waw.pl/en/master/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.um.warszawa.pl/en>

<http://www.townofwarsaw.com/departments/warsaw-police>

<http://www.inyourpocket.com/warsaw/bars-pubs-clubs/nightclubs>

<http://www.warsawtour.pl/>

I hope my report helped to make a decision.