

## Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg Erasmus Experience Report

Persönliche Angaben	
Surname, First name:	<b>Ammari, Nazeeh</b>
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Host University:	Corvinus university of Budapest
Host Country:	Hungary
Study programme at host university:	MSc. Business Administration
Duration in semester	SS
Darf der Bericht veröffentlicht werden?	( <b>Nicht</b> zutreffendes löschen) JA
Wenn JA, dürfen Name und E-Mail veröffentlicht werden?	( <b>Nicht</b> zutreffendes löschen) Beides JA

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

The organization & application at the host university were very organized. I received emails constantly from the program coordinator with useful information regarding every step of the application process.

The welcome event held on the first day of my abroad semester provided information about everything I needed to know.

### 2. Arrival / Visa (flight, train)

I took a direct bus from Nürnberg to Budapest, which took about 10 hours and wasn't comfortable. I recommend taking the train from Munich to Keleti for a more comfortable trip.

Regarding the visa, I applied for a residence permit during the first month of my stay. The procedure is simple and I didn't have any difficulties getting my visa here.

### 3. Accommodation (student residence hall, private apartment)

I had a classmate who did the same exchange in Budapest one semester before, so I directly arranged with him and the landlord to take the same room in a shared flat. It's a 10 minute walk from the university and the quality of the household items and overall apartment was average. The price was 260 euros and after meeting locals in Budapest they told me that I was paying too

much for that flat. However I'm happy with my decision because I did not have to go through the hassle of finding a place to stay and I spent most of my time outside.

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

The courses were relatively easy in comparison to my courses in Nürnberg. But I liked the fact that they were very interactive and encouraged the students to work together. The courses provided an environment which made it much easier to interact with other students and build connections at the university than my home university in Nürnberg.

However, most of the courses had mostly international students. Which sort of felt like living in the erasmus bubble and not meeting many local students. I consider this a drawback since it was one of my main interests to be a part of the local student community at the host university.

I took four courses during my stay: Project Management, Business Enterprise — Start Up to SME, Business Games, New Product Management.

The project management course was my favorite since we had a real world seminar to apply the theoretical part which we studied.

The new product management course offered a lot of interesting and useful content. I found the other two courses to be of not much value in comparison to my courses at FAU.

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

The international office was very supportive at the host university. They provided very clear instructions and were very helpful whenever I needed information about anything. The tandem partner program was also useful, I met with my tandem partner a couple of times during the semester and she was initiative and helpful in all aspects.

#### **6. Facilities of the host university (library, computer rooms, etc.)**

The facilities of the host university were well equipped. The library offers a good environment to study with a good internet connection and plenty of resources.

#### **7. Spare time activities (sight seeing)**

The city offers so much to see and do. My favorite spot is the gallert hill on the other side of the freedom bridge. Watching the sunrise from there is truly one of my most memorable experiences in Budapest.

By taking a simple walk along the danube you will be fascinated by the beauty of this city.

The nightlife is also vibrant with plenty of bars and clubs and musical events that fit all tastes. It is also worth visiting other cities

in Hungary and the surrounding countries. The ESN plans many trips to the neighbouring countries during the semester. I highly recommend meeting locals because they know many non-touristy places which will show you the real culture and life of Hungary.

**8. Finances (living cost, mobile phone, jobs)**

Budapest is a low cost city in comparison to most European capitals. I could easily live on a smaller budget in Budapest while going out many times during the week. Overall the monthly cost of living is around 700 euros per month for a moderate student life.

I bought a Vodafone student SIM card for 10 euros/month. This card covers 2 Gb of data and a limited number of messages and minutes. I did not need to charge it more than once per month during my stay.

**9. Conclusion (best and worst experience).**

I do not recall any bad experiences from my semester abroad. I definitely had some of the most memorable experiences of my life in this amazing city. I am happy that I made the choice to live in Budapest for 6 months. I will probably come back to Budapest one day and spend a couple of months here since it's my favorite city in Europe after this experience.

**10. Important contact persons and links.**

None.