



Fachbereich Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften Nürnberg FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

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Angaben zum Auslandsaufenthalt	
Studiengang an der WiSo:	M. Sc. Economics
Gastuniversität:	University of Turku
Gastland:	Finland
Studiengang an der Gastuniversität:	Economics and Management
Aufenthaltszeitraum (Semester und Jahr):	2022 SS
Darf der Bericht veröffentlicht werden?*	JA

*Veröffentlichung unter: <http://ib.wiso.fau.de/outgo/partneruniversitaeten/>

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Themenbereiche:

1. Bewerbung und Auswahlverfahren an der FAU

In general, the application process is quite smooth. You have to make some effort when choosing your target universities and writing the motivation letter, but these won't be painful if you are truly passionate of going abroad. Since there are relatively more places in Turku, you often have a good chance of being accepted.

The interview was also very relaxing, it takes place in a small group and everyone has time to answer some basic questions and is involved.

2. Bewerbung / Anmeldung an der Gastuniversität

The application in Turku seems to be more of a formality, but note that you should prepare a language certificate which is valid at the time of application (in case that the one you used to apply for FAU has already expired). When the application starts, you will get an e-mail from their international office. There will be an online form to fill out and send back together with some other required documents (which can be found on UTU's website).

3. Vorbereitung auf das Auslandsstudium

As mentioned above, you need an English certificate. Apart from taking English tests again, if you have taken an English course at FAU, you may ask your lecturer to sign a language evaluation form provided by UTU which can be found from their website.

4. Anreise / Visum

I took the flight alone from Munich to Helsinki. Then I took the train from Helsinki airport to Turku. The train tickets would be cheaper if you buy well in advance. Buses such as Onnibus is another possible way to get from Helsinki to Turku.

If you are an EU citizen, you don't need an extra visa. But if you are not one, like me, it would be useful to check the Finnish Immigration Office's website "EnterFinland" for the requirements.

5. Unterkunftsmöglichkeiten (Wohnheim, privat)

The TYS – Turku Student Village Foundation provides accommodation for exchange students. I stayed in the Student Village West, where you have a



room

with private bathroom and usually share the kitchen with 11 other exchange students. The rent was more expensive than the other options at around 370€ (or more), but the location was great (close to a bus station, 10 minutes' walk to the TSE, 20 minutes to the city center) and there is always something going on.

Another option would be Student Village East or Itakajo where they offer shared apartments. These locations are a little bit further away from the University and the City center but the rent is also lower. Detailed information could be found on TYS's website.

6. Einschreibung an der Gastuniversität

I received email from UTU before my departure regarding the enrollment. You just need to fill out a form. But things may change after the pandemic, not sure whether this will change.

7. Fachliche und administrative Betreuung an der Gastuniversität (International Office, Fachstudienberater, Buddy-Programme, studentische Initiativen, etc.)

The on-site support was good, you could always get in touch with the International Office if you have any problem. Each student is also assigned a tutor who more or less looks after you. My tutor was always available for questions and also helped me a lot in the first days.

8. Lehrveranstaltungen / Stundenplan an der Gastuniversität

The details of the courses available for exchange students are already listed on the university's website. You can already check through it before your departure for the information such as registration time period. Course that has been offered in the previous year would probably have the same schedule for the present year.

9. Sprachkurse an der Gastuniversität (kostenlos, kostenpflichtig)

Free language courses are offered by the university. I took the Finnish beginner's course level one. The teacher was super nice. There were also student assistants to help. If you want, there are of course courses of other languages.

10. Ausstattung der Gastuniversität (Bibliothek, Computerräume, etc.)

TSE has its own library and computer labs, for the library you need a card which you can get there or order online. The staff is very nice and helps you even with frequent requests. You can also use the other libraries and computer labs at the University of Turku. At the beginning you get a printing credit of 300 credits.

There are also several cafeterias where you can have a good lunch for 2,70€ if you have paid the Student Union fee.

11. Freizeitangebote



I would definitely recommend to participate in ESN actions, which you can get information from their Instagram account. The travel organization Timetravels always has good offers for students, you can travel on your own or ask your friends if they also want to go.

Gym and various courses were available for 40€/semester.

12. Stadt (Sehenswürdigkeiten, Feste, Museen, etc.)

Turku is a pretty city with a river called the Aura. You even have the chance to see the northern light in the city until March. If you are staying until the summer you can look forward to the 1st of May, there is in all of Finland "Vappu", student holiday with a big parade and picnic.

13. Alltag (Geld-Abheben, Handy, Jobben)

In Turku (or basically every city in Finland), you are able to pay any amount, except for some ESN activities, with card. You may check with your bank to see if they charge service fees but I guess normally they don't.

My German SIM card worked well in Finland. As long as you have a SIM card which would work in the EU area, it should be no problem to use it in Finland.

14. Finanzielles (Lebenshaltungskosten, Stipendien)

The living cost is higher than in Germany since everything would be more expensive in Finland. But the 2,70€ meal in the student cafeteria would save you a huge amount of money if you eat there every day. I only received the Erasmus scholarship from FAU and I'm not sure whether UTU provides students with funds, but I guess probably not.

15. Wichtige Ansprechpartner und Links

<https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/exchange-studies>

<https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/orientation>

<https://www.vr.fi/en> (train)

<https://tys.fi/exchange-students/housing-options> (accommodation)

16. Fazit (beste und schlechteste Erfahrung)

The best thing is this exchange itself. You can really meet people from many different countries and cultural backgrounds. Totally worth it.

The worst thing might be the endless winter in Finland. Be prepared for walking in the snow and on the ice for more than 3 months!

17. Sonstiges

If you get a room in the Student Village, it can be useful to take a WLAN router or a LAN cable with you. There is a connection in every room. Theoretically, you also have access to the university WLAN eduroam, but this does not work in every room or fails more often.



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Vielen Dank für Ihre Unterstützung!