



Fachbereich Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften Nürnberg FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

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| Angaben zum Auslandsaufenthalt | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Studiengang an der WiSo: | International Business Studies |
| Gastuniversität: | Universitas Indonesia |
| Gastland: | Indonesia |
| Studiengang an der Gastuniversität: | Economics and Management |
| Aufenthaltszeitraum (Semester und Jahr): | WS23/24 |
| Darf der Bericht veröffentlicht werden?* | JA |

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

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1. Application Exchange University

The application process was a bit rushed since the exchange university supplied the information about the documents needed only around two to three weeks before they needed to be submitted. Be prepared because in addition to some other documents you will need a certificate of your English level as well as letters of recommendation and statements of your bank account. Another thing to take note of is that communication with the international office of the Universitas Indonesia might be a bit difficult due to the large amount of exchange students coming in comparison to the number of staff members.

2. Arrival / Visa

You will be told to only book the flight ticket once you have gotten a visa. This is to ensure that you don't enter the country with a tourist visa. Since you will get your visa only very shortly before the date you have to arrive in Indonesia and tickets can get very expensive, I recommend buying the flight ticket as soon as you get the information on when to arrive and buy a flexible ticket instead in case you don't receive the visa soon enough.

Once you arrive there are several visa steps you will still have to complete (going to multiple offices, etc.) but your buddy will help you with that.

I recommend you, to buy a few days of tourist data because getting your imei registered can take multiple days and without any data daily life will be quite difficult. In case you have a new phone keep in mind that to get your imei registered you will have to pay a high fee if your phone exceeds a certain value. To calculate the value of your phone by checking how much it currently sells for in Indonesia.

3. Accommodation

As an exchange student you don't have access to university housing, but the university will supply you with recommendations on where to stay. During my exchange semester most students stayed at either Margonda Residence 2 or Taman Melati. If you want the cheaper option, go with Margonda Residence 2 but if you prefer being closer to the campus choose Taman Melati. My recommendation would be Taman Melati since they also help you with a step in your visa application and have a rooftop café as well as a common area for people to hang out with (Taman Melati is a bit more expensive than Margonda Residence though).

The university will supply you with the contact information of the apartments and you will have to write them on WhatsApp. If they have an opening and you only have to confirm you want the apartment. It's a very straightforward and uncomplicated process.

4. Assistance / Buddy

As mentioned before especially in the beginning when the international office is busy with the visa process it can be hard to get a fast response but there is the buddy club to help you instead. Before the beginning of the exchange, you will get an email from



the buddy club with your assigned buddy. Your assigned buddy will help you with random questions as well as the visa process and any problems you might encounter during your exchange. The buddy club also organizes some events for you to meet other exchange students and learn about the Indonesian culture.

5. Lectures

Attendance is mandatory. You will only be allowed to miss around 2-3 lectures depending on the course before failing the course automatically. You might also have guest lectures as well as exercise classes that will be held in Indonesian. Each class only has a relatively small number of students and communication about classes is done either via WhatsApp or Line. So be sure to download both apps in case you need them. Keep in mind that you will have midterm exams and a lot of assignments during the semester. If you choose courses in the management area, be prepared to hold a lot of presentations.

6. Language Classes

The university offers free Indonesian language classes which you will be informed of in the first weeks of the semester. Taking this class in addition to some basic Bahasa Indonesia skills will also get you a small number of credits. But I'm not sure if you can get them accredited at the FAU.

7. Activities

During your stay the buddy club will organize events. The international office also organized a trip to Bandung which is a big city in Indonesia (expenses paid by the university). In Depok the city you will stay in there aren't a lot of things to do but in Jakarta (around 1 hour travel time) you will find more activities such as good restaurants, malls, etc.

8. Everyday life

If you receive a scholarship for the Universitas Indonesia, they will take you to get a bank account made. This is very useful as the UI Shine scholarship is worth 20.000.000 Indonesian Rupiah and you won't have to pay every time you withdraw money. This will also enable you to pay via a QR code which is very common. During my exchange semester we received the scholarship more than a month after the semester began so keep this in mind when you plan your financial matters. Because of the student visa you are also forbidden to work there.

Food can be very cheap (around 1€) but if you get foreign food prices can get be similar or a bit cheaper than German prices. If you are vegetarian or even vegan living in Depok will be a bit inconvenient as there are very few options available.

Very few people in Depok speak English so you will have to either learn Bahasa Indonesia or download a translation app.

9. Apps to download



These are some apps you should definitely download to make your life more comfortable:

- Grab (transportation, food delivery)
- Gojek (transportation, food delivery)
- WhatsApp and Line (communication university)
- Telkomsel (mobile data)
- Google translate (download Indonesian!)
- Klook (traveling)
- Traveloka (traveling in Indonesia)

10. Conclusion

All in all, I think studying in Indonesia allows you to experience a completely new lifestyle, culture and gives you the opportunity to meet the incredibly nice Indonesian people. But it should be kept in mind that studying at Universitas Indonesia can be very challenging because of organization and language issues.