

Erfahrungsbericht über einen Auslandsaufenthalt im Rahmen eines Austauschprogramms (Studium)

Gastland: Vereinigtes Königreich
Gastinstitution: University of Hull

1. Für welches Austausch- oder Förderprogramm fertigen Sie diesen

Erfahrungsbericht an?

Erasmus (Europa oder Übersee)

2. Vorbereitung (Planung, Organisation und Bewerbung bei der Gasteinrichtung)

The application process at my home university was the first step, after which the selection was forwarded to the host university. Once this was completed, the University of Hull contacted me directly and provided all relevant information regarding my stay. The university offered a lot of support during the pre-arrival process, including detailed guides about what to bring and how to prepare. I received regular emails containing all necessary information and reminders about important deadlines. The enrollment process was very straightforward, with the first stage completed online and the second part taking place during the welcoming week. Choosing modules was also very easy due to the comprehensive and clearly structured module handbook.

3. An- und Einreise (Visum, Flug/Bahn/Bus)

As an EU citizen, I did not need a visa to enter the UK, but only an ETA. The ETA could be easily applied for via the UK government website or app and cost around GBP 17, which is approximately EUR 20. I arrived in Hull the weekend before the welcoming week in mid-September. I flew from Munich to Manchester and then took the train to Hull Paragon Interchange, the main railway station in Hull. For travelling by train in and around Hull, I highly recommend the 16–25 Railcard, and for bookings the Trainline app is very convenient. To get from the railway station to the university, I used either Uber or Bus 45, which usually departs from bay 23, and the EY Buses app offers the best prices, especially the 20-trip Hull University fare.

4. Unterkunft (Wohnheim/Privat)

The University of Hull offers the opportunity to apply for on-campus accommodation, and as an exchange student, a place is guaranteed. Although the on-campus accommodation is quite expensive, I would strongly recommend it to anyone staying only for a few months. Almost every exchange student lives in these accommodations, which makes meeting people and making friends much easier at the beginning. There are different room types available, such as shared bathrooms, en-suite rooms, or single apartments. I lived in an en-suite room in a five-person flat, where everyone had their own bathroom and only the kitchen and living area were shared, which I really enjoyed. The accommodations also offer lounges, study areas, and laundry rooms, although each wash and dry cycle has to be paid for and is relatively expensive. Additionally, it is possible to order a parcel with essentials like kitchen utensils and bedding before arrival, which will be stored at the reception.

5. Fachlicher Aufenthalt an der Gasteinrichtung (Lehrveranstaltungen, Praktikumsinhalte und -aufgaben, Sprachkurse, Stundenplan, Prüfungen, Abschlussarbeit)

At the University of Hull, exchange students can choose up to three courses per trimester. Each course usually consists of 20 credits, which corresponds to 10 ECTS, resulting in a total of 30 ECTS for three courses, a normal workload compared to Germany. For the Hull University Business School, a special module handbook for exchange students is published a few months before the trimester starts. This handbook includes a broad range of courses for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Most modules do not end with a written exam but focus mainly on presentations and assignments. Presentations usually take place in the last week of lectures before the Christmas break, while assignment briefs are released either at the beginning of the module or around November and are due online in mid-January. Self-study plays a major role, as classroom time is limited to about three hours per week per module.

6. Betreuung an der Gasteinrichtung (International Office, Fachbereich, Praktikumsbetreuung)

The International Office at the University of Hull has a team specifically dedicated to exchange students. Stephanie Gleeson is the main contact person for incoming students and is very competent, responding quickly and comprehensively to emails. Before the semester started, the university also offered online events that provided useful insights into student life and what to expect. During the semester, most university-related issues such as modules, timetables, or IT problems could be resolved at the Hubble Centre. In addition, all professors were very welcoming and approachable. They were always willing to help and support students whenever needed.

7. Ausstattung der Gasteinrichtung (Bibliothek, Computerräume, Laboratorien, Unterrichts- und Arbeitsräume etc.)

The on-campus accommodations offer study areas on the ground floor, which are very convenient. However, my favourite place to study was the Brynmor Jones Library, which is located on campus and accessible with the student ID. The library offers a wide variety of workspaces, all equipped with PCs. It also provides bookable study rooms for group work. Additionally, there are several cafés on campus that can be used for studying or meeting friends. Beyond academic facilities, the university offers numerous sports clubs and societies, as well as a gym with group classes and squash courts.

8. Alltag und Freizeit (Sehenswertes, Kulinarisches, Geld abheben, Handy, Jobs)

There are many nice cities around Hull that can easily be reached by train. Cities such as York, Sheffield, Leeds, Manchester, and Beverley offer great opportunities for day trips, with Beverley being only about 20 minutes away by bus. York was especially memorable for its scones. In addition to cities, the surrounding area offers a lot of nature, including national parks and the Flamborough Cliffs. In Hull itself, there are many leisure options such as The Deep aquarium, the Old Town with its pubs and clubs, cinemas, shopping malls, the Humber Bridge, and the Hull Fair in mid-October. There is also a small café near the university that offers very tasty afternoon tea.

9. Finanzielles (Lebenshaltungskosten, Stipendien, finanzielle Unterstützung der Gaststeinrichtung)

The on-campus accommodation is relatively expensive compared to other living options. Groceries and leisure activities are around 15% more expensive than in Germany. Train tickets in the UK are also quite costly, but travelling by train is still the most convenient way to get around. Erasmus+ funding was sufficient to cover the rent. However, it was not enough to cover all living expenses. Therefore, careful budgeting was necessary during the semester.

10. Fazit (beste und schlechteste Erfahrung)

The welcoming week was one of my best experiences, as I met many nice people and made friendships that will likely last a lifetime. Travelling to London and especially to Edinburgh was also a highlight of my stay. I really enjoyed the spinning and yoga classes at the university gym and appreciated having all university-related facilities in one central location. Having small classes with around 25 students and very approachable professors made studying much more enjoyable. The most negative experience was travelling from the airport to the university, especially the first time with a lot of luggage, which was exhausting and challenging.

11. Wichtige Ansprechpartner und Links

Most important email address: incoming-mobility@hull.ac.uk The incoming exchange student coordinator is Stephanie Gleeson (most important person for the application process and any questions that might appear)

12. Nur Erasmus-Aufenthalte: Für diejenigen Studierenden, die eine Sonderförderung erhalten haben: Bitte stellen Sie kurz dar, wie Sie Ihren Aufenthalt in dieser Hinsicht erlebt haben.