

**Fachbereich Wirtschaftswissenschaften Nürnberg
FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg
Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium**

Studiengang an der WISO:: IIS
Gastuniversität: Universidad Autonoma de Madrid
Gastland: Spain
Studiengang an der Gastuniversität: Law
Aufenthaltszeitraum (*Semester und Jahr*): WS 2016/17

Darf der Bericht unter http://www.ib.wiso.uni-erlangen.de/outgo_partneruniversitaeten.htm
veröffentlicht werden? (bitte Nichtzutreffendes löschen)

JA

Wenn JA, dürfen Name und E-Mail veröffentlicht werden? (bitte Nichtzutreffendes
löschen)

Beides NEIN

Themenbereiche:

1. Bewerbung und Auswahlverfahren an der FAU
I have obtained a place in Madrid as my second priority choice, since my first choice was not approved. I had an interview mostly in German and a little bit in Spanish about why I wanted to go to Spain (in my case it was because I speak Spanish). Since it was a second round of interviews for the chair and sort of rest places distribution, I received the proposal of the place immediately. The only thing which was important to them was to make sure they are sending someone with appropriate spanish skills (I had a "forgotten" B2 level, at that time closer to B1).

2. Bewerbung / Anmeldung an der Gastuniversität
I did not have to send any separate application/motivation letter. After the chair nominated me, I received a letter from international office at the guest university with a link and instructions to register at their platform as a student. So I automatically got accepted for bachelor level. If I wanted to study anything at Master level I should have prepared a separate application and motivation letter, which I decided not to do. But then again, it also depended of the faculty of the guest university. Apparently each faculty had their own rules. The law faculty demanded a separate application to be able to take Master courses, the Technical faculty did not.
There is also a separate story about the assignment to the faculty which I think is worth sharing. I think everyone should check what kind of partnership our university has with the guest university, in particular to which faculty you will "belong to" once you arrive. I study international information systems but got assigned to the law (!) faculty which has nothing to do with my study of course. Apparently the reason was that the chair that nominated me had an agreement with this faculty, though I am not sure about it.

I did not know if it was important or not at the time and found out way too late to decline my semester abroad. It was important because according to the rules of the guest university I was obliged to take 51% of ECTS from my "home" faculty, e.i. law. Since there is a 30 ECTS limit in Spain I could only take 14 ECTS which were relevant for my studies from the technical faculty.

3. Vorbereitung auf das Auslandsstudium

We had to book places at the courses we wanted to take before arriving, in order for them to guarantee a place at a particular course. They sent instructions how to do it, no problem there.

But then again, I had kind of the same problem as I describes earlier: you could only "book" places at law courses. At a "foreign" technical faculty I could only request places once I arrived and only after all students belonging to the technical faculty got their places. I was lucky I got the places I wanted.

4. Anreise / Visum

I am not a EU national, so I requested a visa. But it was not really necessary since I had the german residence permit which allowed me to travel there. The only situation where the visa came in handy was at a bank when I was paying my accommodation bill: they could not execute my payment order without a "NIE" (which is an identification number for foreigners who stay in Spain long term). Then they found it printed on my visa. On the other hand, the other bank just used my passport number instead. So no real issue here.

5. Unterkunftsmöglichkeiten (Wohnheim, privat)

My advice: start looking early. I read other student reports that said that there was no problem to find an accommodation in Madrid but it is not true. If you start looking in September everything with decent prices is gone. Also, keep in mind that accommodations there is really expensive (I paid 550 euros for a share 2 person bedroom at a student dormitory, although with a full board). It was nice and clean so it was not too bad.

All university accommodations (which offer studio apartments for the same price) are gone long before the semester starts, they are booked by local students a year in advance.

Some of my friends got some WG places for 450 euros/month with single bedrooms through facebook groups, but they booked early and for the minimum of 6 month.

At the beginning I wanted to rent a studio apartment, but you can forget it. Nobody would rent to you for less than a year, and the prices are sky rocketing (800-1000 euros) .

6. Einschreibung an der Gastuniversität

No problems there. At UAM where I was studying it was easy and really quick.

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

There was a buddy program which you could apply for once there. I have not applied though. As for the support from the administrative stuff it was ok. At the beginning of the semester we got a meeting with the faculty admins who showed us step by step how to immatriculate. Also later they supported with learning agreement changes in a timely manner. They were also pretty flexible

with the documents, for example if you couldn't be there to submit some document you could ask another student to do it for you.

8. Lehrveranstaltungen / Stundenplan an der Gastuniversität

The hours were a little tricky as I was enrolled at 2 faculties, taking courses from 2 different levels (some courses Bachelor, some Master). So the schedule could not be synced to suit such choice, that's why I had classes both in the morning and in the evening. But since I lived not far from the Uni it was ok for me. Also, I could stay in the library while I waited for the next class.

9. Sprachkurse an der Gastuniversität (kostenlos, kostenpflichtig)

There were Spanish courses offered by they were not for free. But on the other hand they were not expensive. 60 euros for the semester, classes twice a week. I would recommend everyone to take them, my teacher was really great. They don't allow you to claim credits for it at their Uni, but you could ask for a completion certificate and try to get them accredited at your home university.

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

The university was very well equipped with all you need for study (computer classes, libraries). Each faculty had its own canteen also. Though I might admit the quality of food was not very good, mostly fried stuff and a lot of bread. So if you prefer healthier diet, you might want to look for accommodation options with kitchens to cook for yourself.

11. Freizeitangebote

The UAM Erasmus network costed just 5 euros to join (paid for the plastic card). It had a lot of activities like daytrips, nightclubs, posted on their facebook page. If you are into this, its recommendable to join.

Also the university had a really wide range of sports offered (from martial arts, archery, to regular ones like swimming or aerobics). Unfortunately I did not have time to do sports because I took some difficult courses, but I would have if I could. So if you are having some light subjects it's a great opportunity.

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

Google will tell you more than I can 😊

13. Geld-Abheben, Handy, Jobben

I did not work there so I cannot share anything in that area. My Handy worked just fine in Spain and moreover the roaming is free for the whole EU which was perfect. For withdrawal of money my regular EC Karte worked just fine, but you should probably check with your bank if it's necessary to unblock foreign countries (prior arrival I unblocked my card for Spain through on-line banking).

14. Wichtige Ansprechpartner und Links

15. Sonstiges