Erfahrungsbericht zum Aufenthalt im Ausland (Studium Erasmus)

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<th>Name der Verfasser*in</th>
<th>Studiengang, Fakultät</th>
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<td>BA Außenwirtschaft / Internationales Management, WS</td>
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<td>E-Mail-Adresse</td>
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<td>Land &amp; Gasthochschule</td>
<td>Spanien, Universidad de Valencia</td>
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<td>Zeitraum Aufenthalt</td>
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<td>(inklusive Jahresangabe)</td>
<td>27.01.2020 - 07.07.2020</td>
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Bitte formulieren Sie nachfolgend Ihren Bericht. Die Kategorien dienen Ihrer Orientierung. Wir freuen uns, wenn Sie ein paar Fotos ergänzen würden.

**Vorbereitung**

Information events are held at an early stage to give students a first impression of how an Erasmus semester could run, where it could take place and how to prepare (for example through language courses). The deadlines at the University of Valencia are communicated clearly by e-mail (as well as the deadlines at the University of Hamburg at information events or in a very clearly arranged small booklet), so it is hard to miss anything. Even mails that may be sent due to ambiguities will be answered quickly. In general, it is of course good to think about whether and where to do Erasmus as early as possible, because the higher the level of Spanish, the easier it is to study in Spanish and make contacts with locals. However, Valencia offers a wide variety of English language courses that you can take. This means that you can also take all courses in English, but you are not entitled to do so and should take care to change courses halfway early if you have to or want to. Other preparations, which do not concern language skills, begin a good half year before the start of the Erasmus semester (in the summer semester a good year!) with the application, which consists of a letter of motivation, the CV and previous grades.

**Fachliche Organisation**

In the first two information sessions, general information is given and also the courses taken, together with a timetable, are distributed. If you still want or need to make changes, which everyone wants or needs to do, it is important to be early. On the first day of the changeover in the morning you have the best chance to change your courses, but also the days after the change, the University of Valencia tries to do everything possible to make sure you can still get into the courses you want to get into. However, if you have landed in a difficult course and want to change to a more popular course, you can be very sure is that you're probably not the only person who wants to switch to this course. The International Office will then proceed in such a way that the first ones to sign up will get the coveted places. However, I don't know of anyone who was really dissatisfied with their courses and where absolutely no changes could be made. In the end there is always a solution.

In the first information session you will also be handed out the Certificate of Arrival. If you have to sign a special certificate from your home university, you can go to the International Office. If you also have to sign a special form of your home university at the end of your stay abroad, you have to go to an office in the city centre to get the signature there. For all others, for whom the proof of the host university is sufficient, the appropriate form can simply be requested via the homepage of the University of Valencia (but there are detailed instructions for this, which will be sent to you).

At the beginning you pay a small fee to get your student card (at the Bank Santander on campus they take pictures and print the cards) and when you have paid it, you get access to the "Aula Virtual", the online portal.
You can already find out about courses taking place on the University of Valencia's website. If you click on "Ver ficha" you can only see the information from last year, but you can at least deduce whether it takes place in WiSe or SoSe, as the list is only sorted by year. So you can't just select your courses from this list, you have to click on each one to see the lecture dates. There is also a tab at the top where you can select your courses.

**Unterkunft**

Many students find their apartments via Facebook in one of the countless Erasmus groups or via Idealista. You can live in Spain quite cheaply, but most Erasmus students don't necessarily make it because they are only there for 6 months, and then the landlords don't make a really good and cheap contract. So if you're lucky, you can pay less than 200€, but most of them range from 200€ to 350€, depending on whether you want a shoebox or a super chic room.

As a residential area I would recommend the area around the Blasco Ibañez, one has a short way to the university, lives between the city and the centre and most other students also live there, even if it is not so nice. Some of them still live in Benimaclet, which is also close to the university, but then you still end up in the Blasco area more often in the evenings, when most of them live there. There are also some who live in the city centre or in Russafa. Then you have to but you have to accept a further way to the university and probably you have more to do with other people who also live in the city centre or in Russafa, because the ways are already quite long.

**Alltag und Freizeit**

You will spend less for general expenses like food and gym memberships. The university offers a variety of sport activities and even a gym is located on the campus. I used my phone number from Germany, as the most of the contracts contain european wide data.

**Fazit für Sie persönlich**

Due to the Covid-19 crisis I could only spend 1 1/2 months in Valencia, which is not enough to draw an over all conclusion. But In general, I would say about my Erasmus stay that it was definitely worthwhile! Valencia is a beautiful city, I met great people, but I have to say that if you really want to learn Spanish, it's going to be really hard. There are an incredible number of Erasmus students there, so it is more difficult to get in touch with Spain than you would think. So you can make contacts, go out for a meal with the local people, celebrate or something like that, but the probability that you really spend every evening with Spaniards is just not that high. It doesn't have a big effect on my professional career and my life planning, except that my motivation to improve my Spanish has become even greater.

**Ein paar besondere Tipps**

Clubs /Bars: Radio City, Parabarap, MYA