

Experience report of the stay at the partner university

Max. 2-3 pages in German or English. Use complete sentences (no keywords).

Mobility Program	Erasmus+ Higher Education Studies
Partner University	Amsterdamse Hogeschool Voor De Kunsten (The Academy of Architecture)
Studyprogramme visited	Masters in Architecture
Semester	Third
Name and e-mail optional	

Overall impression Description of the stay abroad in 4-5 sentences	Joining this programme allowed me to do an internship as part of my studies, which offered me a great opportunity to explore the actual work environment of an architectural atelier. This also allowed me to improve my personal skills of both self and time management. Joining this programme offered me a valuable opportunity to empower my career development, broaden my knowledge and complete my architectural skills in a professional manner.
Immigration / arrival entry formalities, visa	As a non EU/EEA citizen, I faced some challenges obtaining a Dutch resident permit. I was misguided by the guest university, which led to a one week delay of my arrival to the Netherlands and also miss the first week of studies.
Room searching/stay Helpful contact information	Finding accommodation in Amsterdam as in many big densified cities was a challenge. Student dormitory was full occupied, renting a room needs lots of time, arrangements, and interviews. So the best idea was to rent a studio from a Realstate company called "Holland2stay", they offer nice studios and small apartments for expats.
Public transport Train, bus, accessibility of the university	The public transport system in the Netherlands is quite efficient. Various train connections to neighbouring cities and trams and buses are available all over the city. But Amsterdam is a small bike friendly city, thanks to the well planned bike routes all around the city. Sometimes it takes actually less time to go cycling than using public transport. It takes around 7 minutes to reach the academy from my former accommodation to the academy thanks to its central location.
Preparation for the studies Course registration procedure, language certificate and transcript of records	The course registration procedure was quite clear and steady from the beginning. The programme is fixed based on different semesters. The studios presentations were interesting, offering different varieties of aims and ideas, also each studio was supported by a workshop or a course that goes along with every studio's course design.
Information about the university Location, size, infrastructure	The Academy's of architecture in Amsterdam is located in a monumental building from 1655, the location is quite central, the building is made out of bricks with bold wooden structures that can be seen from the inside. All services and facilities are housed in the building. There are 15 classrooms and workspaces, a model workshop, a library and an auditorium.
Language course visited at the university Course content, benefits	All courses were obtained in English.

Studies at the university Course content, credits, exams	As the Amsterdam Academy of architecture offers master studies as part-time study programme, 15 ECTS are obtained based on practice experience and practice experience report which was submitted after the internship period. The courses were well designed and fit perfectly with each other and with the study curriculum. 8 more ECTS for design studio, 4 ECTS for virtual reality workshop and 1 ECTS for attending series of lectures.	
Support at the university Student counseling, International Office, Buddy, student contacts	I faced delays regarding administrative issues like misguiding through obtaining a visa and delay of the official transcript during my exchange semester. The international office was always supportive, but somehow some procedures faced delays.	
Budgeting Cost of living, study materials, money transfers	Personal expenses are affordable, rent is not always available on low prices. As an architecture student the academy is lacking some essential machines like laser cutter and plotters, so I had to deal with local shops in Amsterdam and outside to reach what I needed as an architecture student	
Life / Leisure Places to meet, sports, culture	Amsterdam is a beautiful historical city with interesting architecture and culture. It was a bit hard to find some free time to explore all the nice monuments and museums around the city. But the amazing biking experience already allowed me to enjoy some sightseeing around Amsterdam.	
Comparison of universities What is better / worse at the partner university than at the University of Liechtenstein	The academy lacks some essential facilities specially for architecture students, e.g. working spaces, laser cutters, plotters. Flexible working hours allow students to achieve more mature decision, which is all available features at the university of Liechtenstein. The academy offers series of lectures which is all was conducted by professional architects every week as guest lectures, discussing their work with students and professors in relevant topics.	
Photos Impressions of life, studying, environment	On next page.	
Photos Use of photos allowed for promotional purposes?	Ja	





