



IT University Travel Report

Host university: Politecnico Di Milano

Study Programme at IT University: MSc Digital Design and Interactive Technologies

Exchange agreement or Free mover: Erasmus+

Courses studied abroad: Business Innovation, Trendforecasting and Strategic Innovation, Final Design Studio

Period studying abroad: semester (autumn/spring) Autumn year 23/24

If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here:

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Your stay abroad

What was it like to study at the university (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?

The courses fitted well with my specialization and other courses from my master's in digital design. The academic level was also the same as in Denmark, but the structure of classes and the lecturer was different. The classroom engagement is different as they don't follow the normal structures of breaks like in Denmark, but students just more go out when they need to. Additionally, when there are breaks, they tend to go over overtime, as well as the teachers never showing up on time. It is the Italian way of everybody being late, so no one's late ;-)

I mainly became friends with other Scandinavians but also Chinese. The class was divided into half Italian, half international and half of the internationals are then Chinese. They were very friendly and are coming to visit me in Denmark this summer. I think international students find each other because the Italians know that we are going to leave them in a few months anyway.

What was your initial motivation for going abroad and did your stay meet your expectations?

I wanted to get experience internationally and especially not only be taught in the Scandinavian methods of digital design, and I think I accomplished that.

It was also a big learning experience to work together with other nationalities and living in another country and city. It created situations that was great learning opportunities both academically, professionally, and personally.

Please describe what you got out of your stay, both personally and academically, and how do you expect it to contribute to your further studies?

As said above working together with other nationalities was a great learning experience that have made me view different situations in new ways that contribute to my learning curve.

Academically I learned a lot from business innovation that I am both using in my thesis but have no doubt I will use in my further work after studies.

Arranging your stay

Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:

When I started the process I searched for scholarships foremost as I needed it to fund my trip. When I had enough to be sure to be able to get to Milan, I started looking for apartments and then last a flight trip.

The most difficult thing regarding the universities was the back and forth in approval of courses from ITU and the courses available at Polimi, as you can only see the previous years course and not the next semesters until just before the semester start – and then its first come first serve, so you have to have approved plenty of courses for each of your ECTS obligations.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?

The facebookpage “Danskere I Milano” was good at meeting Danes in the city that was also new to it and I got some friendships this way.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

Politecnico recommended using SpotAHome which I did and then a I found a room through the rental company Habyt. It would probably have been cheaper to go directly to Habyt or whatever rental company one might find, but SpotAHome checks every room that they rent out, so you are sure its not a scam.

Polimi does also have some student dormitories, but they get filled up very quickly, so you should not count on that. I visited one of them and they were not very charming either.

So I would recommend either a website like SpotAHome, HousingAnywhere, Idealista or Airbnb.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

Housing in Milan was more expensive than expected, so that was a big expense.

Public transport is relatively cheap, and so is food and going out.

The flight is less than 2000 kroner with suitcases one way if you stop in Frankfurt for example.

Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?

I applied for several which made the trip a lot easier. I did not have savings beforehand so if you make sure to apply for scholarships, you can fully fund your trip this way (aside from SU)

Recommended:

- Nordea Fonden
- Lemvig-Müller fonden
- William Demant fonden
- Knud Højgaard fonden

- ITU Travelpool

Recommendations for other students:

Be patient with the Italians and have backup plans for funding, courses and accommodation 😊