Filip Probst

IT University Travel Report

Host University: University of Montpellier

Study Programme at IT University: Digital Innovation & Management

Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad: Erasmus programme

Courses studied abroad: Big Data, Innovation Management, Organization Theory and more

Exchange Period: Autumn, 2020

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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)?

I need to preface that I left during the pandemic, which had a considerable effect on my overall experience. Nevertheless, I had a positive experience, made new friends and tried living abroad. It took some time to get to know people because of the restrictions, but my advice would be to be as social as possible in the beginning. Once you get to know people, things become easier. The courses are all fine, but the structure is very different to the Danish model. The emphasis is on oral participation, presentations and general continual assessment. The academic level is significantly lower than at ITU.

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

Fundamentally, I wanted to try living and studying abroad. In that sense, it lived up to my expectations. However, my stay was cut short because of the pandemic.

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?

The experience has made me comfortable with living abroad in a new setting, where I had to attempt learning a new language to communicate effectively. The focus on presentations has made me more secure in speaking publicly in front of people.

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Arranging your stay

Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:
This process was long, but fairly simple. I just kept to the criteria of documentation, deadlines etc. The process of booking accommodation was fairly simple, as we simply received a link to book our student accommodation. After a while, you were made aware of the location and further details about your dorm room. My room was fairly small, but I got used to it quickly. I stayed in an Airbnb as well for some days as well, just to try something else.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?
I mostly communicated with the student administrator in Montpellier and Copenhagen, as well as my fellow student, who I travelled with.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad
The accommodation was cheap, and I rented out my room in Copenhagen, so it really wasn't that expensive. Obviously, you need transport and utilities when you arrive, but all in, it depends on your budget and needs.

Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?
I only received the Erasmus Grant, which was easily obtained.

Recommendations for other students:
Socialize, have fun and enjoy your stay, travel and see things. The course schedule is very limited in the beginning, but more courses are added during the weeks. Don't worry about the academic level. Learn French and try to speak it.