IT University Travel Report

Host University: IED - Istituto Europeo di Design

Study Programme at IT University: Digital Design og Interaktive Teknologer (KDDIT)

Activity Abroad: Summer course - Service Design for Innovation

Exchange Period: Semester (autumn/spring): Summer 2019

Your stay abroad

Please describe your stay abroad:

I went to Barcelona to study a 2-week summer course about Service Design. I went with three other students from ITU, who took the same course. We went to school from 16.40-21.40 Monday-Friday. During the day and in the weekend, we explored Barcelona. We also did some preparation for the course project on our own, before going to school in the afternoons.

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

My specialization in ITU is UX, but I was curious about Service Design as well. The summer school was an opportunity to take a course, that wasn’t possible for me at ITU. My motivation was also lightning the workload next semester, by having done a course in advance during the summer.

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 course was more focused on applying methods for creative thinking during the classes, than I am used to at ITU. During the course we did a Service Design project, where we tried different methods for thinking innovative. This way of working is defiantly something I will use in my projects at ITU forward. During the project I also worked with people who has a different nationality and educational background than myself. Collaborating with them made me consider the way I usually work, and how this might also be done differently.
Arranging your stay

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

The three other students form ITU and I booked the flight tickets ourselves. We booked an apartment on airbnb in walking distance to the school. This worked well since we could also make some meals at home and save a little money that way.

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

Finding a summer course that ITU can approve is up to the students themselves. Therefore, it was helpful to see in the travel reports, what courses and universities ITU students had been at before.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

I used Airbnb.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

The fee for the course was about 13.400 kr. but I received 7.500 in SU Stipendium for the course. So I only had to pay some of the course myself. I spent 1.800 kr. on the flight and 4.057 kr. on accommodation.

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

I applied for the ITU travel pool, and will get an answer in the fall.

Recommendations for other students:

If you go to IED in Barcelona you should know that Gracia, the area the school is in, is quite cool. There is lots of bars and shops. So you can easily have your base there during the stay, and the use the metro to go to other parts of Barcelona.

Be prepared that some courses are quite intense (this one was). So even though there is also time for exploring the city, you can be a little tired from school. There was also a little homework to do for classes.