



## **IT University Travel Report**

*Dear Student, this is a template – the aim is to inspire other students who may wish to follow in your footsteps. You are free to give your report the shape you want and to go beyond the questions, as long as you cover the information asked for below. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not. Remember that the report will be made available on the intranet.*

### **Host University:**

University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria (at Hagenberg)

### **Study Programme at IT University :**

MSc in Software Development, Design

### **Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad:**

Exchange Agreement (Erasmus)

### **Courses studied abroad:**

Mobile Computing and Interactive Media courses

**Exchange Period:** semester (autumn/spring) autumn 2018/2019

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

## **Your stay abroad**

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

Studying at the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria was very satisfactory especially because I could take interesting courses that I could not find at ITU. I received great support from the international office when there were some personal or academic problems and the quality of lectures was good as well. I could spend much time not only with Austrian students, but also with many other international students from diverse countries. Hagenberg is a small and peaceful town, which is wonderful for outdoor activities such as running. The weather is relatively good and there

are many interesting social events for students on campus.

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

Initially, I decided to study abroad because it was not possible to complete the desired list of courses for individual specialization by lectures offered by ITU. So, I decided the university for studying abroad based on available courses that I wanted to take. I took significant amount of time for selecting courses and it did meet my expectations well in the end.

**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?**

I feel like I have broadened my global perspective a lot since I could experience many other cultures and ways of life in unfamiliar environments understanding differences. I believe that it would help me become more successful in the future when working or studying internationally. Academically, I could enjoy studies in the fields that correspond to my area of interest creating a unique combination of courses for specialization and explore potential thesis topics to get prepared for the last semester.

## **Arranging your stay**

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

With support from the international coordinator, it was not difficult to apply for the exchange study to the host university.

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

The international coordinator and SAP helped me a lot. The study guide website was useful to plan my stay as well.

### **How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?**

Mostly followed instructions on the study guide website and communicated with the international staff from the host university.

## **Expenses and Financing**

### **Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad**

Lunch at canteen was about 6 to 7 Euros and in general, I felt the living expense is cheaper than that of Copenhagen.

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

I received only the Erasmus Grant.

## **Recommendations for other students:**

Studying at Hagenberg was quite different from studying at ITU. Most of all, it has smaller classes with fewer people. The advantage is that the relationship between lecturers or staffs and students is closer. Also, as most students stay in the student apartment, which is just 3 minutes away from the campus, they get to know each other better spending much time together throughout the semester. It may be boring to stay in Hagenberg from time to time especially during holidays when most people are out of town, but generally the degree of interaction among students is quite high and there are lots of opportunities to enjoy fun events. Moreover, there are many great places to visit within a few hours. For example, Prague in Czech Republic, Munich in Germany, and many other attractive Austrian cities including Vienna and Salzburg would be fascinating travel destinations.