

Erasmus Exchange Project Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

With this assignment I would like to help my fellow students at the faculty of Electrical engineering who would like to participate in the Erasmus Program and especially all those, who would like to do that at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences.

My name is Gábor Kormány. I am a BSc student of electrical engineering and I would like to share my experiences, thoughts and impressions about my time in Hamburg. I think everybody should spend at least one semester abroad, because it opens your mind for new things, you really meet lots of people. During my stay in Hamburg, I have felt really alive and free.

Before you apply for the program, you need to fulfil some requirements, but mainly command of a language was tested. Some exchanges do offer courses in English. This depends on the exchange programme as well as the host country. HAW Hamburg offers a fully english study path, if you are not familiar with german language. The application process is very simple: there is a check list and you have to go through all the points by providing the necessary documents and form sheets.

If you have won a scholarship, you can start the preparation for staying abroad. There are some key elements which have to be done after arrival. First of all, you need a credit card and a sim card for your phone. If you want to open a german bank account with EC card or you would like to buy a sim card (only prepaid card) be aware that without permanent adress not possible.

The university has a limited number of rooms available. Therefore they are regrettably not able to provide rooms for all of us. If you were not provided with a room, you will have to look for accommodation yourself. Unfortunately the HAW Hamburg cannot help you with the search. Before you travel out, you have to keep in mind that in Hamburg there is higher demand for furnished accommodation than supply and therefore start looking early to find a room on the internet. You should start the search as early as possible if you will not get a room in one of the dorms.

Now some words about Hamburg...

Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg, is the second largest city in Germany and the eighth largest city in the European Union. It is the second smallest German state by area. Its population is over 1.7 million people, and the wider Hamburg Metropolitan Region covers more than 5.1 million inhabitants. The city is situated on the river Elbe. I got a lot of chance to discover this city landscape for example : Lübeck, Travemünde , die Fischbeker Heide, etc. This excursions would not have been possible without the International Office and the Buddy Pprogramm where the all colleague organize a lot and help us every time.

..and the university...

The Hamburg University of Applied Sciences is an institution of higher education and applied research located in Hamburg, Germany. Formerly known as Fachhochschule Hamburg the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences was founded in 1970. In terms of student enrollment, the HAW is the second largest university in Hamburg, with a student body of 14,928.

The university administration (apply for classes, plan the semester schedule) was a little bit difficult, because the Hungarian and German study path does not meet each other, and if somebody wanted to apply courses from different semesters it is hard to schedule from semester tables. But our Student Exchange Coordinator was always ready to help in any cases.

I think the standard of teaching is high in English and German too at University of Applied Sciences Hamburg and I am glad I came here to study.

