

Erasmus Study Abroad Experience Report
European Master in Renewable Energies
University of Oldenburg

In accordance with the requirements of the European Master in Renewable Energies, a specialisation semester abroad at the core university was mandatory. In my case, the specialisation was offered by Hanze University of Applied Science. Prior to the start of the specialisation semester, I prepared the learning agreement under the guidance of the Erasmus Departmental Coordinator at the University of Oldenburg. During this phase, the coordinator provided guidance and ensured that all documents were completed correctly and submitted on time. Communication with the host institution was prompt and effective, and my acceptance was confirmed within a few weeks.

Upon arrival, I received an email from the host university containing information regarding accommodation. This assistance was highly valued and contributed to the mitigation of the initial stress associated with relocating to an unfamiliar country. I stayed in the SSH accommodation facility, which was conveniently located in close proximity to the Hanze University of Applied Science campus. The room was furnished, and I shared common facilities such as the kitchen with other international students. On the first day, the host institution organized a lunch to facilitate the introduction of the programme lectures and other students.

The academic system at the host university differed somewhat from my previous experience. The courses were demanding but stimulating, and the lectures were accessible and encouraging. The specialisation modules facilitate a comprehensive educational experience. The university's library and study areas were well-appointed and conducive to academic work.

In conclusion, undertaking studies abroad through the Erasmus+ programme proved an invaluable experience, facilitating significant personal and academic growth. It afforded me the opportunity to immerse myself in a new culture, develop my language skills, and form enduring friendships with individuals from a multitude of global backgrounds.

I would like to mention some advice that I would like to state for future Erasmus students:

Dos:

- Start the application process early and pay close attention to deadlines.
- Attend orientation events to familiarize yourself with the new environment and meet fellow students.
- Stay in regular contact with your Erasmus+ coordinators.
- Be open to new experiences and try to immerse yourself in the local culture.

Don'ts:

- Don't procrastinate on administrative tasks; ensure all paperwork is completed accurately and on time.
- Don't hesitate to ask for help if you encounter any issues, whether academic or personal.

My Erasmus experience was incredibly rewarding and has had a lasting impact on my academic and personal development. I highly recommend this program to any student considering studying abroad.