

Country: Poland _____
University abroad: SGH Warsaw School of Economics _____
Beginning of lectures and end of exams abroad: 24/02/2021 until 15/06/2021 _____
Study path at Viadrina: IBA (general track) _____ [] BA [x] MA _____



EUROPA-UNIVERSITÄ
VIADRINA
FRANKFURT (ODER)



With a double click you can edit the information above!

Studying Abroad Experience Report

- 1) **Are we allowed to publish your report anonymously on our webpage (without your name and e-Mail)?**
[x] Yes [] No
- 2) **Are we allowed to forward your report and contact information to a Viadrina student on request?**
[x] Yes [] No
- 3) **Please confirm hereby that you did not mention names of a third party (lecturer, landlord etc.)**
[x] Yes [] No – in this case your report won't be published
- 4) **Please be aware that all the published photos in this report have to be taken by you and are not the property of a third party. By sending this report you are giving us the legal right of use for your pictures (if we publish the report). The copyrights still belong to you after all.**
[x] Yes, I confirm that all photos are mine.

We would appreciate it if you could include the following topics (the report should be at least two pages long, there is no maximum):

- **Preparation:** Recommendations about preparing to leave, for example (if applicable) Visa, insurance, travel? How was the application process at the university abroad? Were there any introduction events? Were they obligatory and when did they take place? Was there a Buddy program or tutors?
- **Accommodation:** How did you find your accommodation? Any tips about mistakes that should be avoided? Were there any special student accommodations? The cost of rent? Which area of living would you recommend?
- **Studying at the university abroad:** How was the day to day life on campus? Was the attendance mandatory? Which courses did you take? Were you allowed to take courses from different faculties? Please attach links to the course list if possible. How did the exams take place? Were there any language courses? What is your overall opinion of the university in general? How well did the university take care of international/exchange students?
- **Day to day life and free time:** How high are the costs of living in total? How much money should be accessible monthly? How much does the public transportation cost? What can an exchange student do in their free time? What did you do?
- **Conclusion:** worst and best experience
- **Suggestions/Feedback:** In your opinion, how can we improve our exchange program especially considering consulting, information, application process at the Viadrina? – This section is just for the department of international affairs of the Viadrina and will not be published.



Preparation

The application process at SGH university was not complicated and people responsible for incoming students at SGH were really helpful.

There was an introduction week at SGH conducted remotely week before the start of the semester. There was a Buddy program as well, everyone could get one person assigned as their Buddy.

Accommodation

Accommodation in Warsaw can be easily found online on pages like OLX or on Facebook. I did not search for any special student accommodations because I wanted to share a rented flat with my friend. Monthly cost of one room I would say is around 1000 PLN which is an equivalent to around 220 EUR.

Since the classes were conducted fully remotely, it made no big difference if I would live close to the campus or not. I rented a flat in Ochota district close to Pole Mokotowskie and it turned out to be a good choice because Pole Mokotowskie was a very popular meeting point for many Erasmus students.

Studying at the university abroad

At SGH I took courses from many different faculties. Some of them were related to finance area, some of them were focused on soft skills such as negotiating or learning how to be a good leader. 3 out of 7 courses I took were so-called e-learnings. I recommend these e-learnings to people who are systematic and prefer to have the workload spread over few months, rather than learning very long only before the exam. These e-learnings require some work each week but it is often the case that you can pass them earlier for example in May, while other regular courses end in June. Passing the courses was different for each course, some of the courses required a presentation and exam, some only a presentation, and some other courses required for example 1 or 2 essays.

In general, I think SGH has a broad range of courses to choose from and everyone can find something they are interested in. My overall opinion of the university and their attitude towards exchange students is very positive.

Day to day life and free time

The costs of living are not so high but it depends on how much do you spend. Of course, there were months when I spend more than normally because I spend more money on bars and restaurants when these were officially opened after the lockdown. There were many different things to do, especially when the pandemic restrictions were not so strict. SGH organized many different initiatives such as Tandem language exchange courses and meetings, events such as trips to some places (there was a trip to Gdansk but I could not take part in it), bowling, playing volleyball and many other things to choose from.

If I would have to estimate how much I spent every month (excluding the accommodation costs mentioned before), I would say that it was around 800-1000 PLN (equivalent to 180-220 EUR).

Country: Poland _____
University abroad: SGH Warsaw School of Economics _____
Beginning of lectures and end of exams abroad: 24/02/2021 until 15/06/2021 _____
Study path at Viadrina: IBA (general track) _____ [] BA [x] MA _____



EUROPA-UNIVERSITÄ
VIADRINA
FRANKFURT (ODER)



Conclusion

To conclude, I would say that despite the fact that whole semester at SGH was conducted remotely, I think that my Erasmus semester was still a very interesting and valuable experience for me. Even though I did not attend any classes in person, I was able to make some friends thanks to events organized by SGH that helped the students meet each other. What is more, I could choose any subject I wanted so I could choose what interests me and what is good for my future development. Having the classes in person could be better than having fully remote classes but I think that professors at SGH handled online classes really well and I could learn as much or even more than I would learn normally on the campus.