EXCHANGE REPORT

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University: AMSIB: Amsterdam School of International Business,

Hogeschool van Amsterdam.

Minor KEA: Business Economics & IT

Minor AMSIB: Business Process Analytics.

Preliminary question

1. Where and when did you study abroad?

I went to Amsterdam and studied at AMSIB the business faculty of Hogeschool. The fall semester of August 2022 to January 2023.

2. What KEA program did you attend at the time?

Business Economics & IT

3. What classes did you take during your semester abroad? Please briefly explain what each class was about.

I have studied Business Process Analytics at AMSIB a minor with 5 courses: Business process simulation, project management, human resources management, supply chain management, and strategic enterprise management. Almost all of them incorporated SAP as a part of the course. This Minor Combined Business theory and practical tools to operate as a business, as a student are assessed on your leadership skills, presentations, and work effort.

Academic experience

1. How helpful was the receiving school in the process of choosing classes and settling you in? It was a bit stressful, the minor selection was first come first severed, which I did not know at the time. The school helped in providing a place to stay, again this was also first come first severed. The housing provider they use does not have the best reputation. Be aware and settle into which accommodation you would prefer in good time.

Important per 2023

The housing market in Amsterdam is under immense pressure, even worse than in Copenhagen. The Dutch government **doesn't** recommend their universities take exchange students due to the crisis. Be aware of the situation, It ended fine for me and probably will for you as well. But do research on the situation before outgoing.

<u>Link</u>

2. What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?

That I was well equipped on an academic level to follow the minor, and I was confirmed that danish students are skillful and have great knowledge. Danish education is more difficult on an academic level, in my opinion.

3. What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?

The bureaucracy of sudden courses was annoying, it was form rather than content, which totally disagree with. Also, I would have preferred bigger tasks and assignments, instead was a high amount of workload. Multiple assignments and test each week.

4. What classes would you advice other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?

I had to pick a complete minor, so I can only give my opinion on that one. If you like the workspace between business and digitalization, you would like it.

Cultural/Personal Experience

 What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad?
I would almost say that I did not experience any significant ones, the Dutch are welcoming and tolerant and everyone speaks English. Maybe the only thing I can mention is their direct communication.

How helpful was the receiving school in this process? Sometimes they communicated in Dutch but would say sorry for it and do it in English immediately.

2. What was the best cultural/personal experience during your studies abroad?

How fast I adapted as a citizen in Amsterdam, the city is accommodating and accessible both metaphorical and practical. It was also very affirming on a personal level that I could so easily move to a new country and feel at home. the city is also rich in social events of all kinds and student-friendly. I was told that there live more than 100.000 students in Amsterdam alone.

3. What advice would you give other KEA students going to study abroad at the receiving school?

Reduce the transport time I spent myself 45 minutes each way to get to campus, so research and

find accommodation near your university. And maybe rent a bike in advance, because all exchange students arrive at the same time, and want to rent a bike so a shortage can appear.

Practical Experience

1. How was the application process?

Long lasting so be patient.

a. What did KEA help you with?

They arranged the practicalities and help you with the bureaucratic process. The supervisor helps you a lot throughout the process.

b. What help did you receive from your school abroad?

They set me up with a housing provider, but other than that they didn't really help with anything. The housing provider was also very questionable, so pay attention to Lieven De Key, as the provider is called.

- 2. Did you have any practical difficulties settling down in at your destination? Nothing but housing provider as mentioned before. They use keys on the mobile that don't always work and they don't have a good solution for what to do if your mobile runs out of power. The apartment building was also unhygienic and we had, among other things, mice in the kitchen.
- a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process? They were the intermediate link.

3.Where did you live? Noord Amsterdam, very close to the station.

- a. Was it difficult to find accommodation? No the school provided accommodation, I guess it would be more difficult in the future.
- b. Was it expensive?

I must admit that it was very cheap to live there. $450 \in \text{pr}$ month in rent, Food can be both expensive and cheaper than in Denmark. But generally good opportunities for it. Transport was my biggest expense, it could easily be 8-10€ a day. You also have to get kitchen utensils yourself, unless otherwise agreed with your accommodation, which was annoying when it is only there temporarily, but a circumstance.

4. What kind of expenses did you have in general?

Its answered in the previous question, besides it is a little cheaper to go out at weekends than in Denmark. Be aware public transportation stops at midnight even in the weekends.

a. Did you spend more or less money than you budgeted with? approximately the same, it balances out over time.