

Erfahrungsbericht / *Report of experience*

Name:

Heimatuniversität / *Home university*: Università degli studi di Trieste

Land / *Country*: Italy

Aufenthalt im / *Stay in* Sommer / **Summer** Semester / *semester* 20 24

Studienfach an der HHU / *Subject at HHU*: Volkswirtschaftslehre

Bitte teilen Sie Ihre Erfahrungen mit zukünftigen Studierenden. *Please share your experience with future students: (Mindestens 1500 Zeichen mit Leerzeichen. At least 1500 characters with spaces.)*

The first few weeks were a blur of trying to get used to everything. The language barrier was a big deal. I knew some basic German, but the locals spoke so fast it was hard to keep up. Even simple tasks like buying groceries or asking for directions felt like huge challenges. Luckily, people in Düsseldorf were super nice and often switched to English to help me out. Figuring out the public transportation system was another adventure. The trams, buses, and trains were all on time, but understanding the schedules and routes took a while. There were times I got lost and felt pretty homesick, but every day got a bit easier. Whether it was managing to order food in German or finding a new place in the city, these small wins made a big difference. I was studying at Heinrich Heine University (HHU), which is a pretty modern and well-respected school. The campus was a mix of old and new buildings, and it looked great. HHU had an orientation program for Erasmus students, which really helped me settle in. The facilities were big libraries, modern lecture halls, and lots of places to hang out. Classes at HHU were challenging but interesting. The professors were friendly and encouraged us to think critically. I took a mix of courses, some in English, which made things a bit easier. One of the best parts of my Erasmus experience was the friends I made. HHU had a big international community, and I met students from all over the world—Spain, Italy, France, China, and more. We bonded over shared experiences, from struggling with German to exploring new places on weekends. We often had study sessions, cultural exchange nights, and group outings. These friends became like a family to me, offering support during tough times and sharing the fun of new adventures. Being around people from different backgrounds opened my mind and taught me a lot about the world. Düsseldorf is a city that perfectly blends the old with the new. I loved the Altstadt (Old Town) with its cobblestone streets and historic buildings. It's known as "the longest bar in the world" because of all the bars and restaurants. I tried the local Altbier and German food, which was awesome. The Rheinuferpromenade, a beautiful riverside walkway, became my go-to spot for evening walks and weekend chills. The view of the Rhine River at sunset was something I'll never forget. The city is also a hub for art and fashion. The Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, an amazing art museum, and the trendy Königsallee shopping street were fun to explore. Düsseldorf always had something going on—music festivals, art shows, and theater performances. During my stay, I got involved in various activities that made my Erasmus unforgettable. I joined a local football team, which was a great way to stay active and meet locals. Playing sports helped improve my German and gave me a better understanding of the local culture. Weekend trips were another highlight. Düsseldorf's central location made it easy to travel to other cities. I visited Cologne, famous for its stunning cathedral, Bonn, the birthplace of Beethoven, and even made a trip to the Netherlands. There were countless good moments during my Erasmus. From spontaneous road trips with friends to late-night study sessions that turned into laughter-filled hangouts, every day brought something new and exciting. The support network of fellow Erasmus students and the welcoming nature of the locals made the experience truly special. The joy of making lifelong friends and the satisfaction of overcoming challenges were unparalleled. Celebrating traditional German festivals, like May Day and the Japan Tag, added to the charm of my stay. Looking back, I realize how much I grew during my time in Düsseldorf. At first, I was a nervous and unsure student, dealing with homesickness and self-doubt. But each challenge and every small achievement made me more confident, independent, and resilient. Living in a foreign country taught me important life skills—problem-solving, adaptability, and effective communication. I learned to embrace uncertainty and step out of my comfort zone. My Erasmus experience in Düsseldorf was truly life-changing. It was a journey of self-discovery, learning, and growth. The challenges I faced made me stronger, and the friendships I forged enriched my life in ways I never imagined. As I look back on my time in Düsseldorf, I am filled with gratitude for the experiences, lessons, and memories. The city will always hold a special place in my heart, and the friends I made will remain lifelong connections.

Ich stimme der Veröffentlichung meines Erfahrungsberichtes ohne Nennung meines Namens auf den Internetseiten der Heinrich-Heine-Universität zu.

I agree to the anonymously publication of my field report on the website of Heinrich Heine University.

Ja/Yes

Nein/No



Unterschrift / *Signature*