



REPORT ON ERASMUS EXPERIENCE

Name: Hadizat Isah

Field of study: Int. Horticultural Science

Guest university: Szent Istvan University Budapest, Hungary

Year of study:2020/2021

Length of stay: from 10th Oct.,2020 until 30th Jan.,2021

Publication of this report

I agree that this report, including the above data (field of study, host university, year of study, length of stay), will be published on the website of the Center for International Relations for the purpose of exchanging information on the study visit, so that future interested outgoings can be informed about your experience at the host institution.

✓ **yes** **no**

The consent is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any time in the future without giving reasons. Any revocation can be declared at any time by e-mail to erasmus@boku.ac.at.



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The city: Budapest

Country: Hungary

people and social integration: To me, it was fairly okay because I was able to manage without any problem but I had fear in going to Budapest before I arrived. It was so scared but at end, it was not as bad as I expected according to the story. There were some very good people around even among indigenous colleagues.

Accommodation; Following the regulation setup due to corona situation, by the host University to obtain 2 negative test result before entering school premises, I had to do my 10-12 days quarantine in a hotel (Ferihegy) sale@hotelferihegy.hu) recommended by the host University but optional. While there, I was searching for accommodation around Buda campus but I later got somewhere not too far going by Train is 3 stops to the school. I was informed by the International coordinator (Ms. Szabadszallasi) through email from the beginning that I can join Facebook to search for accommodation and she also attached the possible places with agents' phone numbers. My main challenge was the short time accommodation which seems to be limited. Mostly 6months to a year period was much easier to secure, I had to use Air bnb rent for another 10 days at after quarantine before I finally got a place in district 9 (Lonyay 36 ,2nd building, 1st floor) +96170441540 which cost me almost 250Euro/month

Miscellaneous administration (visa, insurance, etc.); Visa not applicable to me as an EU resident. I have Private Insurance.

Description and overview of the host university: The SZIU have different campuses but my study was in Buda campus which comprises the Faculty of Horticultural Science, Faculty of food Science and Faculty of Landscape Architecture and Urbanism. All in Buda campus. Horticultural science studies take place in Buda campus at 1118 Budapest, Villanyi ut 29-43. All other information is clearly stated on the website and it was very easy to get to any of the campuses where your study falls.

Registration and enrolment formalities, including details of the orientation period: Application was done through the website by filling a form provided with attachment of all required documents after the nomination sent from international relation Erasmus Boku to SZIU as University of my choice, I received an acceptance from the host University with more information about the program and attached Course outlines. At this moment I prepared the Learning Agreement which was signed by both sending and host university with recognition equivalent signed by Dean of studies Boku.

Enrolment at host University was done online and with the help of the International coordinators at the host University and with guidelines. But Course registration was a bit difficult at the beginning through the Neptun system but I was lucky I already connected with colleagues on Facebook before the course



registration. A colleague helped and with the guideline provided by the host university.

Orientation was online with the use of power point documents prepared by the University organisation which contained all the necessary information and introduction of all the international relation staff and the coordinators and as well the rectorates. Introduction of all international office in Budapest (Buda Campus) and their opening hours and their responsibilities. Student office was responsible for the status certificate, Student ID, course registration, bank transfer problems and Academic records.

Study workload (ECTS) per semester and the grading system:

Workload per semester minimum of 20 ECTS and maximum of 35 ECTS. Grading system in the host University is different from the home University. In host University, highest grade is 5(excellent) and lowest is 1(fail) but is in the other way round in the home University where 1 is the highest grade (excellent) and 5 is the lowest (fail). I had 2 Excellent (5), 2 Good (4), 3 Passes (2) Which is the other way in Home University Excellent (1), Good (2), Pass (4).

Academic advice/support available: Through Mentors and Erasmus + OLS

Tips and summary:

From my own experience, Budapest is a nice place and Buda Campus environment is conducive for studying although, it depends on the area resided, I stayed at district 9 and I really enjoyed the environment too which was not too far from Buda Campus.

The main challenge in SZIU (host University which is now MATES) is strictly adheres to the rules and regulation of the school without considering the present situation at the beginning. but I was lucky to be considered at the end of my stay with the new structure of the school in terms of ECTS which gives me opportunity to have 30 ECTS. I registered 10 courses but I only took exams in 7 courses. I couldn't get signature to take exams on 3 of the courses.

In order to escape this challenge, be conversant with their rules and regulation as soon as you are there.

Always contact a mentor for which ever doubt you may have and be with your group colleagues.

Generally, I appreciate everyone Most especially all International Relation coordinators, Exchange /Erasmus coordinators, Academic coordinators and student offices in both home University and host University. Those whom I thought they treated me bad only end up teaching me some lessons therefore, I will encourage my fellow students to choose MATE as their host University for exchange semester as additional lessons could be acquired but be prepared to withstand any challenge without given up and be prayerful as well.

Thank you all!