

Erfahrungsbericht zum Auslandsstudium

1. Land und Landestypisches

I made my Erasmus in Belgium. Belgium is a small country but well connected by train, that's why it is easier to travel inside it. Belgium has a friendly environment and a great variety of languages, therefore it is easy for an exchange student to adapt.

I did my Erasmus in Louvain-la-Neuve (LLN). LLN is a small city located 40 min away from Brussels by train. In LLN you can access to the university facilities by walk.

2. Fachliche Betreuung

The Université Catholique de Louvain have a welcome program for the international students, this program takes place between the week before the start of the semester and the first week of classes, the events are held by each faculty. In addition, a group of students call "Kot Erasmus" help and guide the Erasmus students in everyday situation.

The Learning Agreement is structured by 30 ECTS with a mix of theoretical and practical courses related to the field of geography. My stay there was for 5 months studying the equivalent courses to my third semester of my master in the Department of Geography.

3. Sprachkompetenz

My courses abroad took place in English. However, I had the opportunity to include in my Learning Agreement a French course. After my stay in LLN I can say that I had a significant improvement in my language skills (English and French). I'm now fluent in English, mainly in my speaking skill. Furthermore, I could reach a basic level in French.

4. Weiterempfehlung

I highly recommend the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL). From the administrative departments, to the student environment,

everything is well organized and efficient, the support to the student was continuous and the feedback from the teachers was relevant. Furthermore, the cultural and sports activities are also important in UCL and all of the students are involved in the activities and programs.

5. Verpflegung an der Hochschule

I usually ate at the services of the university (Mensa), they have a great variety of food and quality, however, the price it's a bit expensive for a student.

6. Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel

To reach LLN the train and bus connections are needed, however, once in the city everything could be reach by walk.

7. Wohnen

I had to stay in a hostel for a week, and fortunately after it, I could get an accommodation from the university going every day to the office. The price-quality for the accommodation is good.

8. Kultur und Freizeit

Among the cultural activities offered in the region, I made use of the sports center and the museums available in the city.

The price for the museums was free or reduced and for the sports center the price was around 30 euros per semester.

9. Auslandsfinanzierung

Yes, the Erasmus-Finanzierung covered my accommodation costs.