

REPORT AL RIENTRO DELL'ESPERIENZA DI SCAMBIO - A.A.
2014/2015

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| _Semestre svolto all'estero | 2° |

Testo

Name and place of the University: Bauhaus University, Weimar, Germany

/Product design

This is in brief description of my experience during my period of Erasmus exchange programme.

I am currently student of interior design at Politecnico di Milano, and as one, I have chosen to take courses of product design at Bauhaus school of design. At the Bauhaus University, Art and design, the students are able to choose the classes without limits according to the courses which they are inscribed. Every class is counting maximum twelve students, which I considered as advantage, because professors are able to commit their time equal to every student. At the Bauhaus school, students are choosing classes according to their wishes after the courses interduction. Also, professors have the role in that step, according to the portoflio of the student, they will decide which student will attend their class. My first impression's were workshops, which I consider as main streingt of the Bauhaus school. Everything has to be presented as final product at the end of the semester, which means everything has to be built. The conditions of the workshops, equipment, tool's are at high level, student's are allowed to use all machines after the interduction course which they are oblige to attend. I was attending two courses during my stay at exchange programme.

Courses impression's-

The first course which I attended was named, One hunderd years of Bauhaus, regards the 100th aniversary of Bauhaus School. The main objective of the course was to confront the great heritage of the first design school with the new chalanges of today's design. During the research conducted on works of Bauhaus masters I learned a lot about the School's method which was always considered revolutionary. Throughout the course, I had to tackle different tasks regarding to what Bauhaus represents today, and what it will be in 2019. During the semester we had three workshops, during which we developed a range of small products. The main idea was to create products which would be representing the idea of Bauhaus school from the first sight and to be sold during the final exhibition at the end of the semester.

The second course was Bauhaus Bühne, Stage design, regarding to the great history of Bauhaus stage design and their masters, where we were confronting the great history of Bauhaus stage design and new modern solutions. In this course we have learned a lot about the beginnings of

contemporary theater's and their founders, It conducted new research and experiments on the relationship between humans and technology. At that time the Bauhaus Stage became a unique place for revolutionary experiments with body and space.

Language tips-

The courses which I followed were held on German language, according to this all students have to be aware that they have to have knowledge of German language before they come to Weimar. Even most of professors have the ability to speak very good English, the classes are still taught in German. At design school, students can not find a range of courses taught in English. During my stay, there was only one, the one regarding to the photography design. Beside of school, most people in Weimar do not speak English. According to this, future student's should attend the classes of German during their stay in Erasmus exchange programme. We had one month dedicated to German language, where we were attending five days, per four hours, in a week classes of language. That was obligation for students who had the level below B1. After first month, we were able to continue with the classes, during the semester. The course were charged and it was valued with credits also. The school of language is very good and helpful. Professors are holding the classes according to this book, which they can be seen on this website <http://www.germanbookhaus.com/>. I found this very useful, so students can prepare themselves before their arrival.

Accommodation in Weimar-

The best offer to the Erasmus students I found the Student residence. In Weimar there are several, and the one which are located in the Hummel and Schützengasse Straße I found it with the best conditions. They are located in the city center. The four floor buildings, with bicycle parking space, washing machines and dryer in the house, and student club. Every apartment has single rooms, sizes 11m²-19 m², built-in kitchen, shower, restroom. Rooms and apartments completely furnished, TV-and telephone connection in each room internet in each room (only LAN-connection). Also, the student residence is offering the new sheets for the price of 30€, including pillows, and blankets. The price of the room is 190€ per one month, according to the duration of the stay, contract of five months, or in case of the duration of four months, the price is going to be higher, 290€ per one month. Also, city is offering a range of private apartments, where students can rent the room for the price of 300€. The accommodation has to be solved before their arrival.

Public transport and city of Weimar

Students before their arrival will be asked to pay for the tuition fee of one hundred and fifty euros for the public transport system and University expenses, which is Toska card, and with it they will be able to travel through the Thuringia area for free using the regional trains or buses. The best and most convenient way for traveling is by train. Deutsche Bahn offers direct connections from Berlin, Leipzig and Erfurt. The nearest airport is in Erfurt but few connections and high fares make it only feasible for business travellers. The Leipzig Halle Airport (Flughafen) is the closest airport for all intents and purposes. It is an international airport, with most major cities one stop away. Weimar is a city in the federal state of Thuringia, Germany. Weimar Hauptbahnhof is about a kilometre from Goetheplatz, in the city's center. It is a small town with lots of tourists. The best way to go through the city is by foot or bike, it has public transport system too. The historic city

centre of Weimar is situated between the Ilm river in the east, Grabenstraße in the north, Goetheplatz and Theaterplatz in the west and Schillerstraße in the south. Its two central squares are the Marktplatz in the south (with the town hall) and the Herderplatz in the north (with the main church). Weimar is one of the most historic sites in Germany. It was home of Goethe and Schiller, the two most famous German poets and writers, and also it is the birthplace of Bauhaus. Weimar has a great variety of museums, beside of the first and probably the main one, students of design or architecture should see is the Bauhaus museum which is located in the city center, at Theaterplatz, there are more, which I consider as the most important to visit : The Haus am Horn at Am Horn street is the only pattern residence built after the principles of Bauhaus design school, Goethe-Nationalmuseum (shows the life of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in his former residence), The Schiller-Museum, The Neues Museum at Weimarplatz shows an exhibition of contemporary art, The Liszt-Haus at Marienstraße shows the life of Franz Liszt in his former summer residence. There are several clubs with live music once or twice a week. There is also a student club in the city centre which also features disco and live music events on Friday- and Saturday nights (Kasseturm). There are several smaller theatre and cabaret venues other than the large "DNT" (Deutsches National Theater). There are four cinemas including a 3-D cinema, and a Bowling Alley in the Weimar Atrium, the local mall. Two kilometres to the south of Weimar are the Belvedere Palace Gardens, The Palace Gardens with the palace and orangery are part of the UNESCO World Heritage. The Park an der Ilm is the city's largest park along Ilm river between the ducal palace and the district of Oberweimar. It was established between 1778 and 1833 and is an English landscape garden today, part of UNESCO world heritage. Sights inside the park are Goethe's garden house (1690s) and Römisches Haus (in the style of a Roman temple, 1790s). The Onion Market (Weimarer Zwiebelmarkt) is an annual festival held in October in Weimar and it is Thuringia's largest festival. The festival is held over 3 days and approximately 500 stalls and more than 100 stage performances are put up across the city, or during the summer semester, on 6th of June, there is famous music festival.

Where to eat

At the campus, there is student mensa, and the meals cost approximately 5€, which are including main meal and salad. The quality of the food is not very good. Beside of it, at the market square is the home of the centuries-old and extremely tasty Thuringian Bratwurst, which can be bought at one of the many sausage stands during the day. It is widely considered a delicacy. The area is also famous for its cakes, such as the Zupfkuchen, all widely available generally costing around one euro. Pizzeria Da Antonio, cheap Italian restaurant with variety of main dishes to choose from, including 45 types of pizza and many salads or pasta dishes. Average dish price 6-7.50€. "Creperie du Palais" French restaurant for about 6-9€, there are a number of two-course meals, consisting of a galette and a crepe. Sushibar, very popular among the students, with their special offers during the week, it is charged for the meal 5€.

Autorizzo al trattamento dei miei dati personali ai sensi del Decreto Legislativo n. 196/03 da parte del Politecnico di Milano.

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