



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student information

Study programme WU	Management, Economics, and Consumer Studies (Economics of Sustainability)
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	01/10/2023 until 31/03/2024
Exchange destination: University	Technical University of Munich
Faculty	School of Management
Country	Germany
City	Munich

2. Motivation for exchange

a. Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to live abroad for a semester to gain new experiences.

b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

I wanted to improve my German

c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

The university has a good ranking, and I wanted to go to Munich

3. Accessibility to reach destination

a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

It is quite easy to go there by train or flibus.

4. University and studying

a. Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
1	Value Chain Economics	6	Basically Industrial Organization theory applied to the agri-food value chain	3	The course would be doable for anyone who is interested.
2	Energy Economics	6	Another course based on Industrial Organization, now applied to energy markets	5	The course was quite technical, so a strong background in Industrial Organization and Microeconomics is helpful
3	Sustainable Supply Chain Management	6	A course based on seminars with discussions about sustainability in supply chain management.	4	Lively discussions with students from various backgrounds.
4	Customer Insights	6	A lot of behavioral economics and marketing	1	This course was taught in a rather classic lecture way, not very interactive and the topics did not really appeal to me.
5	Deutsch als Fremdsprache B2.2	0	German language course	3	You don't get credits for language courses in Wageningen. I could really notice that the course was not tailored for Dutch natives, as opposed to some courses I did in the Netherlands.
6					

- b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain):**

Yes

- c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain):**

Yes

- d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

Yes

- e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

No, I did not like the customer insights course

f. What is it like to study there?

E.g. Study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material?

You study all the courses during the semester, and have only one examination period. The workload was a bit lower than in Wageningen on average.

g. What is the culture of the university?

E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with WU?

It is slightly more formal than in Wageningen, so the distance to the professors is larger. I had more interaction with other international students than with the local students.

h. What does the university offer students additionally?

E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?

There are some good catering options (mensa). There is also the possibility to do sports, but I don't know enough about it. I haven't heard of any laundry facilities.

5. Housing-traveling-living

a. What are the possibilities for housing?

E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?

There is a possibility to sign up for student housing, but the housing situation is quite difficult.

b. What is the culture like?

E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?

Bavarians are very proud of their cultural heritage, you will notice this.

c. Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?

There is an option to get a student ticket for public transport for 30 euros a month. This was very nice because it was valid both in the weekends and throughout the week, so you could use it to go on day trips in the weekends.

6. Expenses

a. Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	100
Visa - if applicable	
Vaccinations - if applicable	
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	
Daytrips/sight-seeing	100 (per month)
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	850 (private room)
Grocery costs per month	200
Public transport costs per month	30
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	200

b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands:

While Germany is a bit cheaper than the Netherlands normally, Munich is quite expensive. There is often just a lack of cheap alternatives if you want to go to a restaurant for example. In the student areas, there are some cheaper options.

c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?

The beer was relatively cheap 😊

7. Free time

a. What are must-sees in the area?

E.g. Nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?

It is very easy to go skiing from Munich in the winter. In summer, I would advice to try and find some hiking whatsapp groups. Every week, they organize some hikes and you get to know a lot of new people. Besides, there are a lot of very cute towns in Bavaria which you should visit, and it is all relatively easy when you have the public transport student card.

b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?

I lived in the Neuhausen/Nymphenburg area, and I loved the park and castle there. The neighbourhood was also just nice to walk around.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

a. Any challenges? How did you deal with them?

Everything was **very** bureaucratic. I just tried not to worry too much about it, and asked my German roommates for advice sometimes. For these things, it might be helpful to know someone who studied there for a longer period.

b. Best memory?

I think I would really advice to go in the summer semester if you have the choice. I went to Munich earlier and got very lucky with the long summer with amazing weather until late October, and could therefore still enjoy the parks in Munich. Enjoying the parks in summer, including barbecues and going to Oktoberfest afterwards is definitely my best experience there.

9. Contact details

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name & email address (if yes)	Lars de Kruif, lars.dekruif@wur.nl	