

## **Erfahrungsbericht Auslandssemester**

Bitte nennen Sie im Erfahrungsbericht <u>keine</u> personenbezogenen Daten (Name, E-Mail-Adresse usw.). Am Ende des Berichts können gern Fotos (mit Beschreibung) eingefügt werden. Ich bin mit der Veröffentlichung des Berichts und der eingefügten Fotos einverstanden:

Ja ⊠ Nein □
Studiengang an der EUF
European Cultures and Soceity
Fächerkombination (falls BABW)
Gastland
Dänemark
Gasthochschule
SDU Odense
Semester im Ausland (z.B. WiSe 2016/17)
WiSe 2018/2019
Dauer des Auslandssemesters (Vorlesungen und Prüfungen)
4 Monate
Vorbereitung

While preparing for my semester abroad at SDU I was quite nervous as I was not sure what to expect or what was expected of me, but the staff at SDU was very helpful and quick to answer any questions I had in the form of emails as well as in person. They also assigned a buddy to me to help make sure I came along well in the new country. While I did not need much from my buddy, it was still very comforting to know that I could go to her if needed and she also answered many questions for me regarding getting around Odense and the country and University overall.

**Studium an der Partner-Hochschule** (z.B. Vorlesungszeitraum, Unterrichtssprache, Kursangebot, Prüfungsform)

At SDU on their Odense campus, I found that while the campus was quite big, it was fairly easy to get around once I got the hang of it. Classes tend to start 15 minutes past the hour

which helps on getting to class on time, but if you do not get there on time some professors ask you to wait until the break as to not to distract from the lecture. Many classes are given in a seminar style and most professors at SDU want the students to participate so picking classes that are interesting to you is very important. While they have many classes available at SDU, only a handful are offered in English (and a couple in German) so it can be quite limited to the American studies area, but there are other courses as well. One very helpful tool SDU has for their students is their online learning platform Blackboard. Blackboard allows students to access pretty much anything they need in a click of a button and only takes a day or so to understand, but is very important that the students does as the professors give most everything through this platform. Things such as your email, your grades, printing (which the first 250 prints come with studying here!), your timetable, all your courses plus in each the course material, assignments, and most importantly the exam and more are all in Blackboard. Regarding exams, at SDU exam dates are very strict but I personally felt that the professors prepared us very well for them and through Blackboard you get all the information you need to complete the exam and turn it in, as long as it is not a written one.

## Das Leben im Gastland (z.B. Wohnen, Einkaufen, Freizeit, Kosten)

Living in Denmark as a foreigner can be expensive due to the high living costs, but is not impossible! Being smart with your money and also looking around to find what stores are nearby can help a lot! There are also so many things to do in Odense that do not cost anything so that helps as well and asking other exchange students what they are doing/buying can help to get an idea for yourself.

On campus, there is a gym as well as a swimming pool that is open to the students which is quite nice. They have lots of courses and things to do there and lots of nice to people to meet! The university also hosts many events such as bar hops and tours to get to know Odense and the people a bit more which is a great way to get more comfortable in your surroundings and the people who you study with in this semester.

Praktische Tipps/Fazit
My tips for your study abroad at SDU would be to first ask all the questions! Most questions I had seemed daunting to me but were answered quite quickly by staff/students at SDU. It is best to get it out of the way in the beginning so something does not happen later!
Another one would be to find your way around the university (using the e-map helps a lot!) prior to your first day. Some class rooms can be a bit tricky to find on the first try and many lecturers pride themselves on starting class on time.  Use Krone when you can but your EC card also works! Krone is always better to use if possible as then there is no currency exchange fee there at the register (which is usually higher than if you were to exchange from your bank). In some places you may also use Euros and they will give you your change back in Krone which is also good but may not always be possible but if you do not have any cash on you then your EC card will also work so do not fret!  My last tip would be to have fun learning Danish! Most everyone speaks English so it can be a little tricky to learn Danish outside of your language class, but just by trying to say things or ordering your coffee or meal in Danish makes learning the language much more applicable and the people are so helpful and get excited to see people trying which can really help in learning!
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