



Please insert here at least one **PHOTO** of your traineeship stay abroad! Preferred motives are photos of your accommodation, of your work place, of being at work. Attention! Due to legal considerations we kindly ask you to send us only photos that have been taken by yourself!

STUDENT DETAILS

University department / faculty: **Kommunikation Design**
Field of study: **Illustration**
Home university: **Burg Giebichenstein - Kunsthochschule Halle**
Nationality: **Italian**
Duration of traineeship (from ...to...): **13.09 - 13.12**

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

Country: **Estonia**
Name of traineeship institution: **Labora**
Web page: **Labora.ee**
Address: **Laboratooriumi 22, Tallinn**
Contact person: **Nestor Ljutjuk**
Telephone / E-Mail: **nestor.ukk@gmail.com**

EXPERIENCE REPORT (approx. 3 pages + more photos if applicable)

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

Labora is an Ukrainian Cultural Center in the heart of the old town of Tallinn. The building is a beautiful Middleage building with a floor for Calligraphy courses and Kitchen, one floor for Printing and one floor for Papermaking. They have different shops inside the city where they sell their handmade postcards and graphic products. There's a lot of stuff to do because shops needs always new products and most of the times are coming commissions of printing and papermaking for shops or companies or privats costumers.

2) Searching for a traineeship

How did you find your traineeship? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

I found this place previously during a travel, and I was just amazed of the quality of the products and how nice where the colleagues there. I decided then that I would like to come back for do an Internship there. I would suggest to go there with good English language skills and is for sure a job for someone that is more into Handcraft job, so for someone that wants to do some "hard work" with its hands, is perfect.

3) Preparation

How did you prepare for your traineeship in terms of language, intercultural, professional and organisational aspects? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

4) Accommodation

How did you find your accommodation? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

At the beginning, Nestor, my boss, offered me to stay inside Labora for sleep, as they have plenty of space. But I wanted to separate my work life from my free time and so I decided to look for something different. Some students from EKA (Estonian Academy of Fine Arts) suggested me to write a post on the Academy student Blog, and then I had the answer of a Professor of EKA, which had a small apartment 15 minutes of walk from Labora. That was perfect for me. I even had a sauna inside my flat and a nice garden.

5) Traineeship

Please describe the tasks and / or the projects carried out during your traineeship. In which way were you mentored and integrated? How were the working conditions? Did you have especially positive or negative experiences?

So, everyday I was in charge of papermaking and color making, as this were my last studies before to move in Germany. So the first 2 months I would say I was just producing paper and experimenting with the materials. I could done the paper request for commission (which was normally quite urgent) and then have the time to try something new: I start to extract color from plants and dye the paper pulp for try to have colored paper. Normally in Labora they were producing just white paper, so was a nice surprise for them to see how this could be possible using just plants.

The last month, I was in charge of learning how to use the Korrex press, for letterpress printing, and for that Nesotr gave me the task to develop one project for Christmas. I decided then to produce an Handmade Calendar: the Idea was to insert flower seeds inside the paper, so each month can be planted. I also realised the Illustrations and so I did all the printing process, binding and packaging. We went then to sell it in the shops of the Old Town of Tallinn, there I also had the task to decorate the window of the shop where the product will be sold.

Another important Project was for the Old Apotheke. Inside this place, there's a museum explaining all the history of the Apotheke and they wanted to make an "Old looking" book with Inside all the historical photos. So my task was to make huge papers (50x35 cm) that could have a kind of marmorised old texture inside. I decided to dye then 6 Kg of Paper with a wood (in English, I guess is called Logwood). The result, was beautiful Blue Paper. The Apotheke really like it and the book is gonna be finished in the next months (Beginn of 2022).

What I liked is that I was treated as professionist. My boss was really happy of my work and was telling always that he never had better paper before (Normally, he takes new Trainees and he needs to teach how to make paper. Was happy for once, to have someone that can even teach him something new). I was happy then that I was quickly inside the organisations talk and be active with my opinion and not just follow what they tell me to do.

6) Acquired qualifications

Which qualifications and skills could you acquire or improve during your traineeship?

From this experience, now I can say that I know in which job direction I want to go: thanks to my previous studies on Papermaking, I know that I can actually work with that and I can manage commissions and be able to work in a really Handcraft way. Also, I'm really happy that I learned how to use this Letterpress print machine, now I need just to find one in Germany!

7) Country-specific features

Are there any specific traineeship regulations in the target country that affected you as an Erasmus trainee (e.g. France: housing allowance, convention de stage)? If yes, which ones? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

There are no specific traineeship regulations in Estonia that affected me as an Erasmus trainee

8) Visa, residence and work permit (only for international students)

Which prearrangements had to be made in terms of visa, residence and work permit? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

9) Other

Is there anything else you want to let other students know?

10) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

I would answer here as I answered in the sixth point. I'm happy that now I know how do I want to work and which are my skills. It's so different to study and do project in your university and actually see that you can work with that. Makes me feel that I'm not waisting my time. I would suggest to all the students to do this kind of work experience.

Declaration of consent

I hereby agree to the publication of this report on the website of the Leonardo Office Saxony-Anhalt.

I assure that the photos used in this report do not violate the rights of other persons or companies (personal rights, copyrights etc.).

Please send this report by email to angela.wittkamp@ovgu.de!
Acceptable file formats: [.doc], [.docx], [.rtf], [.odt].