



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!



The view from the working place on the campus and the city

STUDENT DETAILS

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| University department / faculty: | Wirtschaftswissenschaft |
| Field of study: | Management |
| Home university: | Otto-von-Guericke Universität |
| Nationality: | Russian |
| Duration of traineeship (from ...to...): | from 15.06.2018 to 15.12.2018 |

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Country: | Greece |
| Name of traineeship institution: | University of Ioannina |
| Web page: | www.uoi.gr |
| Address: | Panepistimiouli, 45110, Ioannina, Greece |
| Contact person: | Dr. Athanassios Stavrakoudis |
| Telephone / E-Mail: | +30 2651005935 |

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

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

The university is located next to the city of Ioannina. It is relatively easy to get to Ioannina in summer time because you can have a direct plane to Preveza which is just one hour from this city. In my case, I had to book flight to Kerkyra (Corfu) and make an extra two hours ferry travel: slow but luxury!

The campus itself is huge, situated 7 km from the town (bus №16 drives to the city center every 10 mins from canteen) has everything you might need for a comfortable student life: cafeterias, canteens, dorms and a big library. I need to add that the town of Ioannina is surrounded by beautiful Pindus mountain range, so that is one of the best views from my dormitory room I've ever had in my life.

Interesting fact: the university land used to be a part of huge male monastery and there is still a small church up in the hill. Since the campus is situated in countryside, it is surrounded by farms. In August a lot of student facilities are closed and instead of students you can observe a lot of sheep harvesting the university plains.

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 was searching for an internship using theerasmusintern.org. It took me almost ten days to get to the first interview. I would still recommend this website because you download all your CV and docs once and then just reply to vacancy notifications.

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?

My internship was connected to the programming, therefore I needed some extra knowledge of Python. Here I would be glad to recommend the book: *How to Automate the Boring Stuff in Python* because it actually explains to absolute beginners how producing simple scripts could help with the daily routine. In terms of language, I made a course of Greek using Duolingo, free language-learning mobile app.

4) Accommodation

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

I lived in a dormitory provided by university. The prices are reasonable: 65 EUR for a single room and 50 EUR for a double one. Rooms have everything you need, the weekly cleaning included, same appeals to the towel and bed sheet change. In the winter time it could be cold (yes, even Greece has winter), thus be prepared to buy some extra heater. Like in German dorms, you have a DSL internet cable but for a Wi-Fi you have to buy your own router. Mostly Erasmus students live in the same building, ST dormitory, which . And the last best thing: for students and for some or trainees the three time meal in university canteen is included! You can cook and wash on your own, every dorm has one kitchen and washing machine per floor.

5) International Students (non-EU countries)

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?

Rather than arranging a standard learning agreement I had to make a visa as a national of Russian Federation. It turned out that in the whole Germany only Stuttgart has a Greek embassy with a visa department. There are two outstanding documents to make for this Erasmus visa which took me almost three weeks to produce: police records from both Russia (I had made 2 trips to Russian Embassy in Berlin to

order it and then to receive it) and Germany (takes 10 days, you can order it from Residence Office and it is delivered to your post address) and medical examination – you should obtain all vaccines up to the schedule. In addition, I could recommend contacting the visa department by phone because the information differs between Greek missions websites.

6) 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?

My traineeship was connected to tourism sector, it appeared to me as a mix of computer science and marketing. The tasks included web crawling of tourist forums, the development of design for a local tourist portal, and further analytics of the text data from fetched reviews. Fortunately, I was given a grant of thrust, therefore the level of independence was pretty high. I was mentored twice a month but it was possible to come up with questions. My supervisor shared my optimism about the project success and introducing the results of my work to local tourism authorities.

7) Acquired Qualifications

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

During my traineeship I was capable to acquire the programming skills: I have learned how to use Python for daily tasks and R for the visualization of results. I have studied how to write academic papers using LaTeX and understood the concepts of automate testing and unit tests. In addition, I definitely improved my soft skills since I co-assisted in organizing small events for other Erasmus students from the Economics Department and once I gave a lecture about my work.

8) Other

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

Students should be aware that there are a lot of stranger dogs on the campus. This situation is actually common for Greece. However, students who live on campus are not allowed to have their own pets.

9) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

As for conclusion, I was completely satisfied with the contents of my internship, life in Greece and in Ioannina and the possibilities to find next internship directly in IT industry.

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