



PERSONAL REPORT

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Home University; San Pablo CEU

Host University: DHBW Stuttgart

Field of study: International Business

Degree intended: Economics

Period of time: 2 semesters (10 months)



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My experience at Stuttgart has been fantastic, the only negative part has been that due to the pandemic I have had to shorten my stay, but nevertheless since day 1 I have enjoyed my time here.

The people working at DHBW Stuttgart have been very kind with me and have always been there to help me whenever I needed. Also having a buddy, who is a young student like you, to help you out has been of great help for me to not feel alone in an unknown city.

The activities planned by the university during the welcome week, allowed me to get to know my new classmates and to get to know the city a bit better, in a fun and different way.

During my first month I had a German intensive course, which helped me learn the basics needed in a complete new language, to allow me to perform simple but necessary activities such as going shopping and being respectful when talking with strangers.

My adventure during classes was very enjoyable due to my subjects being focused in a very practical way and teachers made us participate since day 1 which created a great working environment and made it easy for us students to connect with each other. Due to this I was able to forge an amazing relationship with my classmates, relationship which I still continue to have with them and probably with never end. They have also been a great support for me, and I will be forever thankful.

This has been one of the greatest things about my experience coursing my ERASMUS program, getting to know people from all around the globe with different backgrounds and cultures. Being able to share my values and also learn and comprehend theirs has allowed me to understand and see life in another way. Together we have had the opportunity to enjoy this experience to the maximum, thanks to the variety of activities that both Germany and Stuttgart offered us.

Stuttgart is a city where anyone would like to live, due to the amount of activities you can take part in, from the fantastic Oktoberfest to the most rural towns. We had lots of things to do here and there was not a single day where we got bored. This was in part due to the great climate we've had here during the year, especially during the early months of my stay, where we would go eat and have fun in the beautiful forests and gardens spread around the city.

Since I got there, I found out that there were many activities. One of my favourite ones was going to the different street markets, where you could eat, dance, drink and have fun and seeing the different decorations depending on the location and the time of the year. The most known and famous ones are those that take place during Christmas. We visited the most famous ones in Germany.

Another of the great things about Stuttgart is that it is located in Germany, a country situated in central Europe. This allowed me to travel to many neighbour countries for a lower price, such as Italy, Poland and Austria. Countries I have always wanted to visit and discover but never had the chance to do it, due to the distance and the high traveling prices. Not only this, but Germany itself offers an abundant number of beautiful cities and towns to visit. From all of the places I have travelled to during my stay in Germany my favourite place to visit has been the Schwarzwald due to its precious fauna and flora, which I had never had the chance to admire before. I also recommend visiting the small towns spread across the country, they are very typical German and it's an amazing opportunity to enjoy a deep German experience.

Stuttgart is a very comfortable city to live in, due to its size, which allows you to walk through the whole city without any problem and it also allows you to move to nearby places due to its great public transport and connections to other cities.

Here, I stayed at a student's residence. This was not easy at first for me because I had never lived with other people and had specially never shared living room, bathrooms, and toilets with complete strangers. It was thanks to the residence in which I stayed, its modern facilities and the treat they had with us which made it easier than I expected. I was also lucky to have amazing flatmates, which were very respectful with me and between them, making the stay extremely comfortable and friendly. The same people which stayed with me at the residence also went to the same university as me, this created a greater bond between us, creating a wonderful ERASMUS environment.

It has been an unforgettable year, as I would return to Stuttgart millions of times more. I take with me marvellous people and an experience that I will always remember. This has helped me grow as a person, to be more independent and to assert myself. **At first it's not easy to get to a country where you don't speak the language. But Germany and especially Stuttgart are places I would recommend to anyone since their people and vitality does not make you miss your house; makes you not want to go back home.** It has been a year in which I have not stopped knowing new places, which enriches a lot, as well as meeting people from different places, new culture, new language, system etc. DHBW University is fantastic as it is very up-to-date and

especially the subjects are very useful and practical. Also, they will always help you with anything you need.

Because of the COVID I had to shorten my stay, which could not give me any more pain, but I know that soon I will return to Stuttgart, since it has been where I have lived one of the best years of my life.