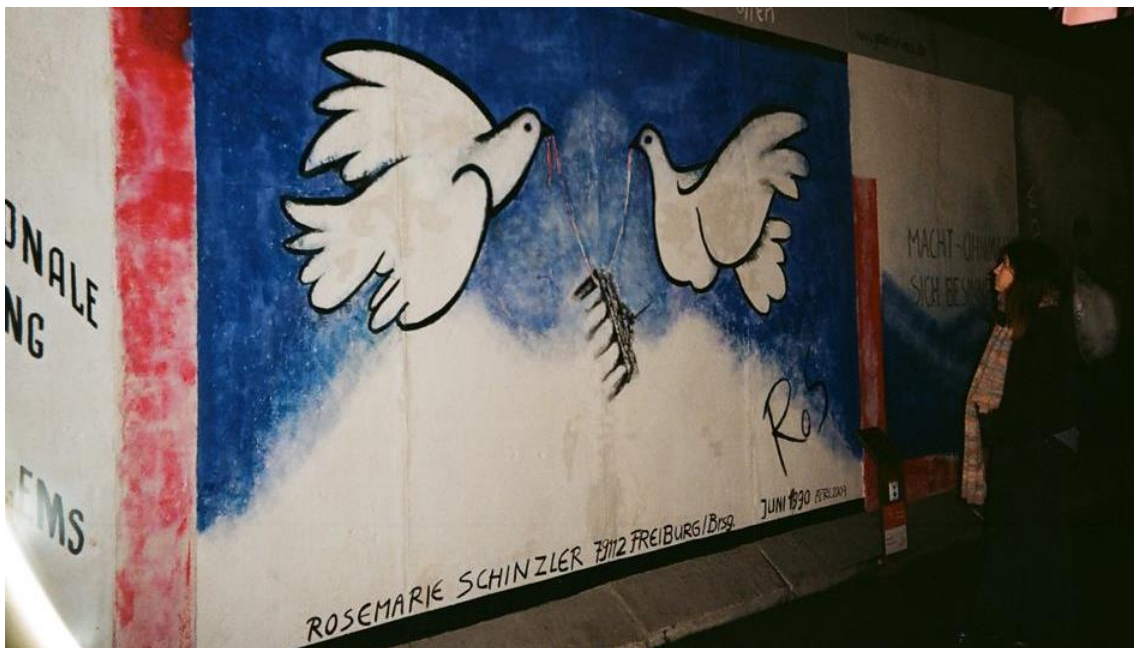


MY EXPERIENCE.



Name: Sara Gómez Sánchez

Contact: saragsz@usal.es

Home university: University of Salamanca

Host university: Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg Stuttgart

Field of study (in Spain): Primary school teacher

Degree intended (in Deutschland): Business Administration

Number of semesters: 1

Period of time: 01.09.2022 until 27.01.2023

MY EXPERIENCE

Hi, my name is Sara, im from Salamanca in Spain. I arrived at Stuttgart on the 31st of August. In my home country, I'm studying Primary school teacher and I chose in Stuttgart the International Study Program related to Marketing and Business.

Before I left for Germany, I had no knowledge of the German language. I had never studied the language and had no interest in learning it, as I had no intention of ever moving to Germany. I knew little about German culture: the typical stereotypes (serious and big people, the taste for beer, the progress compared to other countries and, of course, the punctuality). Nor did I know about the politics in this country, as I had never informed myself. I didn't know about compulsory taxes and some of the day-to-day laws. However, when I arrived in Stuttgart it all came to me at once.

The beginning of my stay was a bit overwhelming: I couldn't understand the street signs or what people were saying. I was also shocked to see many people drinking alcoholic beverages in the streets. One thing none of us incomings knew was that we had to register at the town hall in person. This was a bit difficult as we were not very well located in the city and we did not understand how the registry works, so it was a bit complicated for us.

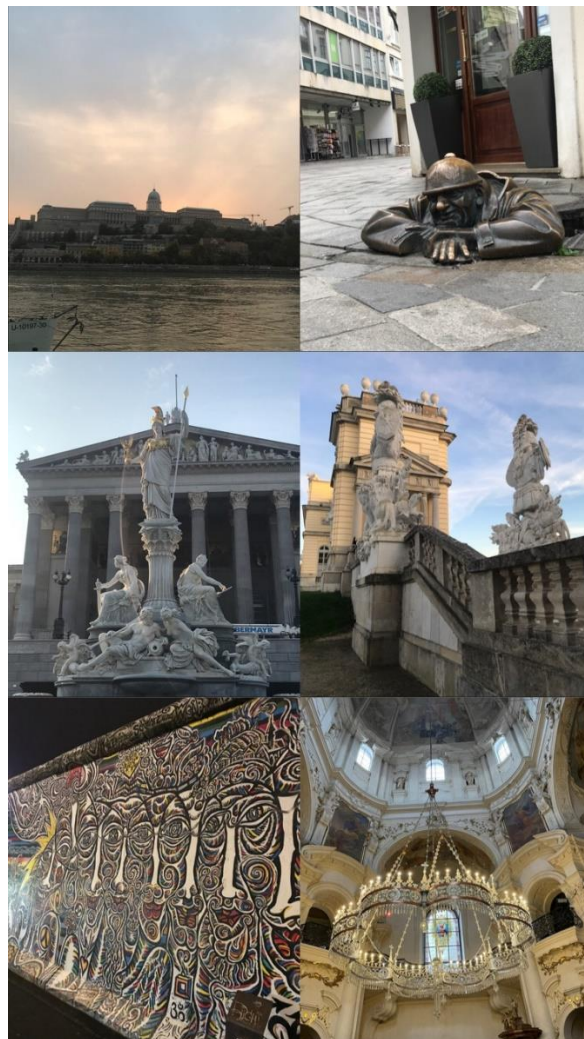
Studying in this city has been an excellent experience. DHBW is a very new and modern university, adapted to many needs of the students. The teachers are very committed to the subject and the students, they make the classes very enjoyable and dynamic. It is not a big problem to pass the subjects. The classes I took during my time abroad were:

- Applied Market Research
- German Language Intensive class A1
- German Language A1.b

- Intercultural Training Germany
- International Student Case Competition

One of the things I missed most about my country was the fixed schedule of classes. Here, at DHBW, the classes were spread over 4 months, without repeating any week. That is, every week there was a different timetable. It was hard for me to adapt to this change, but it wasn't so bad in the end because we had the complete timetable from before the start of classes in September and every time there was a change in the timetable, we received an email with the notice.

I have travelled all around Central Europe and around Deutschland.



Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna, Berlin and Prague.



Stuttgart, Heidelberg, Esslingen, Schiltach, Ulm and Frankfurt.

My main goal at this stage was to travel and get to know new cities and countries. I have achieved it and I am very grateful for this opportunity. I think I have learned a lot from every place and especially from Stuttgart.

Looking back, my experience in Stuttgart has been a very enriching one, both personally and academically. I would like to encourage you to take the plunge. This will be a very awesome experience and will open your mind.

I am very happy to have dared to leave my comfort zone (my parents' house) and live a unique experience like this. I feel that I have grown both emotionally and mentally.

Finally, I would like to thank Sarina and Asita from DHBW for always being so generous and kind. They have been very helpful at all times. Thanks for all.

Sara.