

# Personal Report



**Name:** -

**Email:** -

**Home University:** Laurea University of Applied Sciences

**Host University:** Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University

**Field of Study:** Business Management

**Degree Intended:** Bachelor Degree

**Time:** One semester, 3.9.2018-28.12.2018.

Right from the start I had clear vision what I wanted from my exchange country. I wanted to study in environment which would give me right ideas and tools to use later on in my life. I wanted a country which is constantly pushing out successful business stories. I wanted to learn from culture which is known to be economic power house. After I had listed all my criterias I had only one country left on my list Germany. Now I only had to choose which City would be most suitable for my needs. I had made couple German friend back in Helsinki and they recommended their school DHBW. It sounded cool and unique. I was up for the new challenge.

I was prepared to have huge cultural shock, but for surprise German culture was super close to Finnish one. I was expecting that I need to call teachers with their last names etc. stuff that I am not familiar at all. Happily for me that wasn't the case at least in DHBW.

First classes were kinda rough for me. I wasn't used to have same class with same subject for hole day. So keeping my hyper energetic mind to focusing through hole day wasn't the easiest task for me. To be honest I think its waste of learning time to try learn new programming things 8 hours straight. After one day you have forget more than half of it. I was also surprised how much people used pen and paper when taking notes and doing tasks in classrooms. First month I was always taking my laptop with me. Before I understand that here the teaching was made around papers. Courses were packed in tight packages which was okay system, but it takes some time to get used to it. We had teachers from from big variations of different backgrounds. It makes every course kinda unique. Also forces you to face different ways of teaching methods. Exams were also new thing for me. In my school we have lots of presentations and not exams at all. I was kinda stressed about them. Most of the exams were kinda technical and required you study your material very closely. I had some challenges because all of our learning materials were on ppt slides, so sometimes it was hard to understand what was the deeper meaning behind keywords. Luckily I also had courses were we didn't have final exams. I had courses which were ending with project work and presentations. Those ways are less stressful.



Our group in climbing garden.

We also had chances to apply for couple different buss trips. They were actually really cool ways to see Frankfurt and Strasbourg. In Frankfurt we were seeing how European Union is working. They also arranged us meeting with MEP. That was unique experience to get ask all the question that we wanted. We were also sightseeing inside Frankfurt. DHBW also organized us other free time activities. That were completely free or super cheap for students. Those were great way to make us exchange students to get know each other.



Beautiful Stuttgart.

If I would seal my whole experience to one paragraph. I would say that Stuttgart is really interesting destination middle of Europe. It's easy and cheap place to book trips to see other parts of Europe. Overall people over here has good level of english so you can have a great time with local people as well. Courses are compact and easy to follow. Teachers are really helpful if you have any problems with their courses. Stuttgart isn't maybe the biggest city in Germany, but it packs great punch of new experiences and possibilities for one semester. I got cheap and completely new accommodation 10 minutes from central. There are also many places around which are offering internships. DHBW in Stuttgart was a good choice for studying in new and interesting environment.