

Faculty Report:

## **Universität Mannheim**

Study Period: 4 Month

### **Info University:**

All study related information materials were send to my parents address (where all university documents are sent to). They included the necessary documents for health insurance, living, transfer scripts for administrative costs (Studentenwerksbeitrag) and a detailed timeline for the first month.

### **Study:**

The course offering at the University was pretty much comparable to the offer at the FdeW Faculty. The offer ranged from all business related fields from finance, accounting, strategy, marketing etc. As an exchange student, one had the possibility to freely select the desired courses, in contrast to regular students which have to follow a study plan (Studienordnung). Course registration is rather flexible in contrast to Maastricht. Most courses are only offered by lectures and students attend these and only register for the exams 1 month prior to the exam. There is no limitation on the amount of exams a student takes during one semester. For my part, I followed the marketing track at the faculty, which went hand in hand with my Strategy major in Maastricht. The faculty also offers some courses thought in English language like International Marketing or Consumer Behavior.

### **Language:**

As noted above, courses are taught both in German and in English. The study guide informs on the course language as well as the required examination procedure. For me as a native German speaker, no language training was necessary. But there is a wide offer from the AAA (Akademisches Auslandsamt/ International Office) in language courses.

### **Stay:**

The preparation by the AAA was very good. After all administrative duties have been fulfilled (and there was a lot of support for foreign students which had their struggle with the German requirements for health insurance, housing etc.) there was an information lecture both in English and in German.

For housing, I rented an apartment through a private transaction which was located right across the university. Housing prices are lower than in Maastricht, starting at 200 incl. in a student house. My apartment was around 40 sqm. In size and did cost 370 euro incl.

Host country: As a German citizen, I can not give any information on visa issues etc.

Grant: Total cost for the stay cumulated to around 700 – 800 euros per month including rent. Cost of living is around the same as in Maastricht, with discounters like Aldi offering slightly cheaper products. Services like Internet, Telephone, Mobile are also roughly the same.

Overall I really enjoyed my exchange semester in Mannheim, although from a backward perspective I would have rather chosen a “real” foreign country as I used to get a lot of remarks regarding my foreign exchange study being in my home country. But especially for foreign students who want to have a challenging study but also enjoy some free time the University of Mannheim offers you a wide range of opportunities.