

ERASMUS-Erfahrungsbericht

Persönliche Angaben			
Name:		Vorname:	
E-Mail-Adresse			
Gastland	Großbritannien, England		
Gasthochschule	The University of Sheffield		
Aufenthalt	von:	17.09.12	bis: 02.02.13

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Bericht (mindestens 1 Seite)
<p>I've spent my semester abroad at the University of Sheffield. I decided to go there because of my academic interest in English dialectology and the English culture in general. Nevertheless, I needed some more information before I could start. After attending two Erasmus meetings I was convinced that going to Sheffield would be a good decision and, consequently, started my preparations. At first I visited the university's website and familiarized myself with the available courses. The website was well-structured and the section for Erasmus students proved very valuable. Some days later I sent off my application with my learning agreement. Sadly, I could not study the courses I wanted because of restrictions for Erasmus students. All students planning to study in Sheffield should be aware of this circumstance. Nevertheless, I filled in a second agreement and got a positive reply some days later. I received the necessary documents for my further studies in a couple of days from Sheffield.</p> <p>After tackling this task I had to plan where to stay during the semester abroad. I decided that the student accommodation in a dormitory was quite expensive and, thus, wanted to stay with a host family. A very helpful website, which was recommended by a friend, made the booking quick and easy. The family was nice and friendly, and I became good friends with them. I had a spacious room and all food was provided. Nevertheless, staying in the dormitories would be better for students who want to meet a lot of foreign students and dive into university nightlife.</p> <p>Sheffield provides its' students with a lot of different pubs and clubs, as well as cinemas and shopping facilities. The huge shopping mall "Meadowhall" is an excellent place for shopaholics and one can spend a whole day exploring it. It is no problem to get around in Sheffield because all bus companies offer a student discount (a lot of shops do so too). The central location of Sheffield makes it a good starting point to surrounding cities (London is 2 hours by train). Regardless, the living (especially food) can be quite expensive depending where a student lives or what he needs.</p> <p>The campus of the University of Sheffield is excellent and provides a good base for successful studies. All facilities are near each other and can be reached by foot. The student's union offers wide range of activities, and different societies and sports clubs enrich university life. Additionally, a good and organized introduction week made the first orientation and registration easy. Erasmus students can sign up for a limited number of courses and, therefore, must be aware of this before deciding for the University of Sheffield. Most of the courses are literature, language and culture ones and the chance to meet students with different nationalities is high. Signing up for a normal</p>

Sheffield University course is only possible when the Erasmus courses are full at the end of registration. Meeting British students is much hard because they attend separate courses and are living in other dormitories. Nevertheless, the exams in Erasmus courses are manageable and the normal Sheffield courses need a lot of self-initiative from the students. Finally, the university provides excellent research facilities and support from lecturers. The libraries are big, but not very well stocked. I could never get hold of the books I needed during exam and essay-writing times because there were not enough copies of a book.

In conclusion I would like to say that I would recommend the University of Sheffield to other students. Firstly, the courses offered are easily manageable and not too demanding. Secondly, Sheffield provides the students with excellent student life and things to do. Moreover, the excellent location of the city is a starting point for different day trips. Thirdly and most importantly, Sheffield is a place to have fun, to meet foreign students and to experience a new culture.