

## Questionnaire Study Abroad/Exchange

1. Where and when did you study abroad?

I studied at Hogeschool in Rotterdam. My study period was from the 21st of August, till the 22nd of December.

2. What KEA program did you attend at the time?

My study program at KEA is Entrepreneurship & Design

3. What classes did you take during your semester abroad?

Please briefly explain what each class was about.

My study-program at Hogeschool was called: #GetConnected – Media, Culture and Society. The study was centered around two different things: Communication about societal issues from an organizational and PR point of view, and about change from the point of view of activist communities.

## Academic Experience

1. How helpful was the *receiving school* in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?

I mostly looked at the receiving school's website and what their classes were about when I chose my class. I had to choose a program before I started my exchange period, and all my classes were already decided in that program – so I didn't have the choice of picking different classes.

2. What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?

The E-mag class. We had to make a E-magazine both with writing articles and making the design in Adobe InDesign, which I found the most rewarding. I liked designing the magazine because that was similar to some projects that we have done at KEA.

3. What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?

Building a community. We had to start a community based on one of the Sustainable development goals, which was okay, but I feel like it got dragged out a bit. It had a lot of workshops included where I felt like some of them wasn't relevant for me or the study.

4. What classes would you advice other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?

I would advise students to choose the program if they like communication. It was far from what we are doing at KEA on Entrepreneurship and Design. Personally, I didn't like the program that much because I'm not that interested in communication such as Entrepreneurship and Design.

## **Cultural/Personal Experience**

1. What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad?

- a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?

The main challenge I've experienced was the housing crisis. The first month, plus a couple of weeks, I was staying at Airbnb's and Hotels because I couldn't find a place to live. I had researched on Facebook groups months before and was stressed out about it the days before I went to Rotterdam. I got told from the receiving school that their experience was that it was easier finding a place to live when we got there so that helped calm my nerves. When I got there it was impossible to find a place to live and I spend hours and hours trying to find a place. It almost went to the point that I had to move home because of my financial situation after the expenses of living in Airbnb's and hotels for over a month. But finally, I found a place in Den Haag which is a city around 20km from Rotterdam.

2. What was the best cultural/personal experience during your studies abroad?

I really liked the cultural diversity in Rotterdam. Also, that the Dutch culture has some similarities compared to Danish culture.

3. What advice would you give other KEA students going to study abroad at the receiving school?

Look for a living situation already when you decide that you want to study in Rotterdam. Otherwise, it can be really stressful and tough financially.

## Practical Experience

1. How was the application process?

a. What did KEA help you with?

The application process was very easy and nice. We got a lot of help from our exchange coordinator at KEA, and they showed us everything that we had to do to complete the application.

b. What help did you receive from your school abroad?

I didn't really need a lot of help from the school abroad as most things were done with the help of KEA.

2. Did you have any practical difficulties settling down in at your destination?

Only the housing challenges that I've faced and that I had to move around every week for the first month + weeks.

a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?

The school knew about the housing crisis but couldn't really do anything so not helpful in that matter.

3. Where did you live?

I lived in Rotterdam for the first month and a half, and then I moved to Den Haag.

a. Was it difficult to find accommodation?

As I mentioned earlier – very difficult – almost impossible.

b. Was it expensive?

I paid 900€ a month so yeah, I would say pretty expensive, but it was a really nice area I lived in, in Den Haag.

4. What kind of expenses did you have in general?

Going out for drinks and food was the primary next to housing ofc.

a. Did you spend more or less money than you budgeted with?

I spend a lot more than I budgeted because of the housing situation.