

Exchange Report

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Host institution:
University of Tomáš Baťa in Zlín

Host institution contact person:
Patrik Foltýn

Period of study:
08.02.2021 - 30.06.2021



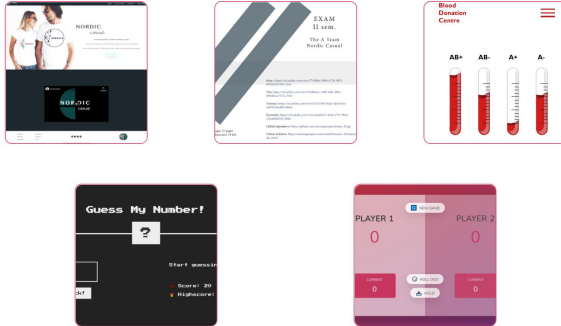
I'm a 3rd semester student in Multimedia design and I spent my 3rd semester studying "abroad" in University of Tomas Bata in Zlin (Czech Republic). It was very different experience compared to other year exchanges, simply because I never left my room. My exchange was right in the middle of COVID-19 pandemic (08.02.21.-30.06.21), so this report is short on some information and a bit unique.

A lot of changes were happening when trying to apply, a lot of universities declined all exchange students mid-application process. I got a list of universities that were still accepting students and choose to go to Zlin. After going through the application process I first choose 5 courses: Multimedia 3, Visual Communication 2, Contemporary visual culture 2, Graphic Design 2, Sound design in Animation 2. At the start of semester I got informed that Sound design in Animation 2, will not be happening due to the lack of students, and could change my selection from a list of courses. I had enough credit so I just left my 4 choices. All studies were remote from Microsoft Teams.



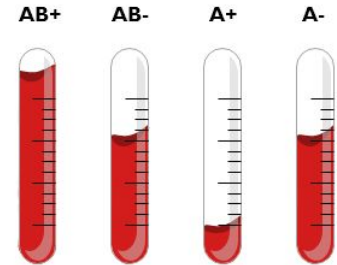
Multimedia

Multimedia was the course most similar to studies in KEA, content wise. There was one other student besides me in the class. We worked on making our own theme for wordpress, using PHP, JavaScript, MySQL and Bootstrap. Profesor was great at explaining how all of the functions and other codes work, and helpful with all the problems we faced.



Visual Communication

Visual Communication was another one that seemed similar to KEA, I was the only student in this class, so I had a wide variety of choices to what I can do for this class, and talking everything over I settled on a prototype for blood donation centre. I wasn't bound by schedule, and could meet with profesor more often if I needed, and got great suggestions for improvement.



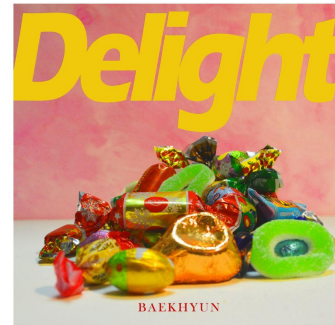
Contemporary Visual Culture

Lectures were mainly about contemporary/modern art. Sharing your perspective. A few times we presented about art movements or artist from our countries. Profesoer shares interesting projects from wide variety of artists.



Graphic Design

Were mainly focused on doing some smaller tasks every week, from time to time you get a 2 week task. You present your task and get an instant feedback and ideas for improvements. We got short lectures about czech designer, that were kind of intros for our next task.



Front cover



Back cover

Q & A

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

Great, lots of help when I needed to change my course selection, and you can still make changes up to 2 week after semester started

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

I feel like visual communication is the most useful for future, since I don't really think I will be using PHP that much.

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

From my selection it was probably the contemporary visual culture, just because it was not really focused on digital arts.

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

Multimedia and visual communication, work with web designing and web development.

Q & A

What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad? a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?

I wasn't abroad

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

Seeing presentations and works from other countries from the other students also

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

Be curious about other cultures and share your own, both, students and teachers love hearing about that.

Q & A

How was the application process?

- a. What did KEA help you with?
- b. What help did you receive from your school abroad?

Application was a bit stressful, but both people at KEA and UTB were very helpful with late application and at filling everything out, if there were any changes both sides were very receptive

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

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

I wasn't abroad, but host university was keeping us up to date with all decision that were being made about our stay in Zlin, so the communication was clear and fast

Q & A

Where did you live?

- a. Was it difficult to find accommodation?
- b. Was it expensive?

I wasn't abroad, but university does offer accommodations in dorms. The price was somewhere around 3000czk/month.

What kind of expenses did you have in general?

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

I wasn't abroad