Auslands-Studienaufenthalt an der

Universität: UNARTE – University of Art or Bucharest

Stadt/Land: Romania

besuchte Studienrichtung an der Gastuniversität: Fotografie si video

Aufenthaltssemester / -jahr: Winter semester 2017-2018

Studienrichtung an der KUNI: Time-based Media

Meine Erfahrungen

- about the study (courses / professors / students / exchange office)

In the department foto-video, there is no shared atelier, but you can ask the key to work in a room for some time. There is no equipment, so you better bring your own before to come. The list of courses from the school book is not exact and updated, so you will have a first week to try out the classes you really wanna take and choose a tutor, who would follow your work. Some teachers and students are getting updated on a facebook group.

Professors can be late without notification and are mostly making classes in romanian but you can ask them for special homeworks to make. They mostly do talk English and French.

The exam is usually to give back a video/fotography/book/research work.
There is an Erasmus exhibition organized at the end of the semester in the UNARTE gallery.

The exchange office is very helpful.

- about the staying (culture / accommodation / food / transport / living costs / language)

Before your arrival UNARTE offers you to stay at the UNARTE student dorm. You share a room with 4 people max. It costs less than 50€/month. It’s in the city center, about 5min by foot from the university. Still, you shouldn’t be afraid of bugs even if they disinfect every week. There is no kitchen at all and the shower-toilet is about 1m². There is an art library in the dorm with books in romanian, english, german and french.
You can also find a flatsharing for around 250€/month in the city center, or alone for 300€/month.

Buses and metro stop running at 11pm even during the weekend, except for a very few night buses. But taxis are extremely cheap. Although, I would recommend to use an app to order a taxi as prices can change if you just take one in the street.

As students under 26 years old, you also get a card to have free train tickets to travel everywhere in Romania, even if trains are very slow.

You can eat in restaurants for about 20 lei (1 Euro = 4,6 lei), so around 4,50€. J’ai Bistrot, next to the university as a great lunch meal for 17 lei for students. But it is more expensive to buy from shops (Mega Image). You can also shop at markets places for very cheap and have the traditional mici (with bread, senf, a pickle and a beer).

Mainly people speaks mostly romanian, english, italian, and French.
You can watch old and new art et essay films for cheap at Cinemateca Union, Eforie, Elvira Popescu or Museul Taranului.
In romanian libraries, most of the books are old and in romanian. But there is a great art library in MNAC with free entrance.
Sinaia and the black sea (Constanta) are a must see, specially in summer. To go out: For Frends Bar (reggae-dub), MACAZ coop, Green Hours (jazz), Eden, Guesthouse, Expirat (House), Control Club (concerts), Miaou (Cat bar with meditation music), Trollo bar (psy-trans), Fabrica, Underworld (metal bar), Londophone (live-concert, international).

Usually people are helpfull but not necessarily very warm and they don't understand why you came in Romania as they are not very proud of their country and very aware of the poverty. There is still political problems, especially linked with corruption.

Winter can be very cold and rainy. Architecture and landscapes are amazing. The art history of the city is very interesting.