

REPORT ON MY ERASMUS EXPERIENCE

1. What is your name and which program did you attend?

Pierluigi Giosi, M.Sc. in Finance & Banking 2013 - 2015.

2. Where and when did you go during your Erasmus program?

Université of Lausanne (UNIL), Switzerland, spring semester 2015.

3. How did you like living there?

Lausanne is an attractive city that offers many different interests. You can find either culture, sport and nightlife activities, furthermore it's one of the swiss cities with more students! It's located on the board of lake Léman, with a nice atmosphere. One good point: There is an international environment, and it's a good opportunity to learn an additional language. One drawback: It's expensive, the prices are often 3-4 times higher than Italy, especially for meals and transportations.

N.B.) Apply for a student residence as soon as possible, the private accomodations are more expensive and limited!

4. What about the University?

The structure is impressive, the university is located in a green-zone and it's organized like a small town. There are several buildings interconnected through a (free) bike sharing service and three dedicated metro stations. There are three main libraries divided by academic interests (economics, art and literature and medicine). The UNIL shares part of the territory with the EPFL university, that offers one of the largest library in Europe, the "Rolex Center". There is also a large sport center with several (generally free) activities such as soccer, rugby, track&field, tennis, climbing, archery, gyms, martial arts and canoe courses in the lake Léman, that is just in front of the university.

5. What is the level of the courses? Did you find similarities to those in Tor Vergata?

I attended three courses of the M.Sc. in Finance, and the structure was pretty close to the one offered by Tor Vergata. You should find many subjects in common with the M.Sc. in Finance & Banking and/or Economics, therefore the conversion of the exams should be relatively easy. The lectures were presented using slides and my feedbacks about the clearness and quality were positive. They require periodical homeworks, a mid-term exam and a final written evaluation. They also require a massive use of softwares like MatLab, STATA and RStudio for quantitative courses, and excel (or similar) for the others. In case of need there are weekly tutorial sessions (not compulsory). All the rules are on the webpage.

Be careful: You should select the courses that you will attend before April, there are fees in case of late decisions!

6. Is there any particular advise that you would like to give to another student who will go there in the future?

I would suggest to try an erasmus experience in this university in the second year, when you are approaching the final dissertation.

There are two main reasons: you will have less workload, and you could not be satisfied about the results in terms of grades (the evaluation criteria is really severe and affected by the performance of the class); furthermore you may be interested in a phd programme abroad, and this could be a good way yo experience the swiss system.

7. Do you wish to be contacted for further information by interested students?

Sure, my email address is pierluigigiosi@gmail.com, feel free to ask whatever you want!