

REPORT ON MY ERASMUS EXPERIENCE

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

Jacopo Centofanti. In Rome I attended the MSc in Finance and Banking while in Stockholm I attended courses from the Master in Finance and the Bachelor in Global Management from Stockholm University (Stockholm Business School) and some courses from the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship.

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

I went to Stockholm from January 2018 to June of the same year

3. How did you like living there?

I loved it. There were 3 main issues, but those were easily solved

- *Cold weather: Swedish people say that there is no cold weather, just inappropriate clothes. That is a thing to keep in mind when temperatures drop to -24° C*
- *Early nights during winter: this might be off-putting. But if you try to keep busy until “normal” sunset times either by staying in Uni to study or doing sports you’ll stop noticing it’s getting dark*
- *Early day during summer: this I could just not get used to. Buy heavy curtains if you need to, otherwise an eye mask to avoid early wake-ups*

4. What about the University?

University was great. Lots of facilities, such as a great gym on campus and a huge library with virtually endless studying spots. Also, Stockholm Business School provides several tools for studying, which might be very helpful.

I will never stress enough how rewarding joining one of the University Associations was. Being part of the Business Student Association (Foreningen Ekonomerna) was the best thing that could happen during my semester abroad: I joined some of the most insightful lectures of my life, participated in fun and involving activities, such as writing a financial market newsletter and organizing meetings with companies such as EY, Nordea Bank and Deloitte.

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

It was completely different from Tor Vergata. In my experience (and that seemed the case for all the Italian students I met) Italian Universities tend to be more theory-oriented. If you’re going to Stockholm there will be virtually no theory studies compared to Tor Vergata, but real-life practice will be central. You’re not going to be learning formulas by heart, but you’re going to get hands deep in a Venture Capitalist funding agreement (course of “Finance for Start Ups”), you’re not going to memorize the proof for statistical models, but you’re going to be running models and provide explanations for them over computer programs (course of “Econometrics 3b: Time Series Data”). You’re not going to learn laws behind business creation, but you’re going to create your own start-up idea, present it in front of a class of hundreds of people and then team

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up with other students to build a feasible starting project (course of "Ideation: Creating Your Business Idea").

However, don't expect things to be easy: courses are high-level and very demanding. Speakers from high-level companies were showing up on the daily, allowing to get industry insights from professionals and creating important networks.

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

Join the Foreningen Ekonomerna association and be an active member in one of the so called "committees": they have strong ties with huge companies in Sweden and they might become your business card for a career in Sweden. However, that business card will only have power if you learn Swedish, otherwise you won't find many openings for you.

For your last day in Stockholm: University Campus are very strict about how you should clean your room. When they say "don't leave anything behind" they mean it, even if it's something like a bottle of olive oil or a pillow or a duvet which you had already found in the room. I'm suggesting you to get ready to pay a fine, and just save yourself the effort to clean.

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

Of course. This is a University report, there are several things I couldn't write