

REPORT ON MY ERASMUS EXPERIENCE

1. What is your name?

Francesca Rossetti

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

I went on the Erasmus program at BI Norwegian Business School in Oslo during the last semester of the MSc.

3. How did you like living there?

I really enjoyed living in Norway, despite the climatic and cultural differences compared to Italy. It felt a bit weird in the beginning to adapt to the cold weather and the little daylight, but I got used to it. Also, there was always so much to do (school, outdoor activities, meeting new people, etc.) that dampened the initial obstacle. Norway itself it's so beautiful, so much nature and outdoor activities to do that you will not get bored. Although in winter it can get very cold, sunny days are always behind the corner, I wouldn't associate it with countries like London, Berlin, Frankfurt (that I feel like are much more grey). I think that with the right mindset and openness to new experiences, anyone could enjoy living in Norway!!

4. What about *the University*?

The university is so nice and modern! There is a gym on the second floor, coffee bars and a little snack shop on the ground floor, and a canteen. There are many facilities for students, cool places to study with for different purposes (closed boxes where to concentrate alone or with your group mates, quiet areas where people do not talk or open spaces where you can also have a chat with others). There is a library in the school with many books you could access to and an online student portal that offers many services (tutoring of any kind: how to plan your thesis, how to write your CV or cover letter, mentorship, etc.). At least once per month they organize a career day and companies come to the university to welcome students.

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

I took three courses: Applied Valuation, Fixed Income Securities and Sustainable Finance. I found a lot more differences compared to Tor Vergata: there are less frontal lessons, there is much more of a practical workload at home (than theoretical), and also there are a lot more projects to work in groups, which can be very challenging. Also the final exam is very different, and I found them more challenging than the ones at Tor Vergata. But the amount of things I learned with practical projects is of a very high standard, so I highly recommend it!

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

Go there if you want to get top tier education and challenge yourself in interesting practical projects, if you want to have an international experience that you will remember forever, if you don't mind having a really cold weather (in the summer I think there is the perfect level of warmth), if you are an outdoor person that loves taking hikes / go around the fjords / skiing (cross-country but also alpine), if you don't mind not going out a lot to drink / eat (since it's VERY expensive). Ok, maybe a particular advice I could give is about the cost of living: it is very high, so that could of course be an obstacle from deciding whether to go to Norway or not (so I would consider this aspect as one the main ones).

7. Would you mind being contacted for further information by interested students?

No, I wouldn't. I am happy to answer any questions they might have 😊