

ERFAHRUNGSBERICHT ÜBER IHRE STUDIENERFAHRUNGEN IN BAYERN [Report on your study experiences in Bavaria]

Herkunftsland [county of origin]:	Polen
Studium in Bayern [program in Bavaria]:	von [from] October 2017 bis [until] November 2019
Hochschule in Bayern [university in Bavaria]:	Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Studienfach [subject of study]:	International Business Studies
Abschluss [degree]:	Master

I. Practical experiences and tips

Application to FAU requires the same number of documents like application for BAYHOST scholarship. Make sure you have all the documents translated by the sworn translator and you send documents in time. My program - Master in International Business always receive about 1000 applications and they accept around 50-60 students, therefore it is recommended to fulfill all of the requirements.

Finding a place to stay in Nuremberg may take some time, therefore I recommend to apply for dormitory from Studentenwerk (= student union) for the first year. Studentenwerk offers the cheapest accommodation in Nuremberg, but to get the spot it is important to apply in advance within application deadline give on their website. Late applications may result in not receiving an offer from Studentenwerk. Master students are allowed to stay in Studentenwerk's accommodation only for two semesters.

From Poland there are many ways to reach Nuremberg. The easiest and the cheapest is to fly with Ryanair from Cracow. For students from other regions in Poland I would really recommend to use Blablacar. That's how I always arrive home, as there aren't any established means of transport to my city in North-Eastern Poland.

When your faculty is in Nuremberg I'd recommend to search for accommodation in Nuremberg. I know many students that live in Erlangen and have to commute to Nuremberg or the opposite and it is really time consuming. Even though it takes the S-Bahn only around 20 minutes to reach Erlangen from Nuremberg people always complain about it.

If you live close to your faculty and you don't have to commute a lot instead of buying a Zusatzticket (extension of the student public transportation Semester ticket) I recommend to buy a bike. In Nuremberg and Erlangen using bike is much better than public transportation – in most of the cases you arrive to your destination place faster. Important: basic student public transport ticket is valid only from 7pm to 6 am and on the weekends. That means that going to University and work in weekdays is excluded.

University offers sport activities both in Erlangen and Nuremberg. The price is always low, therefore spots for most popular sports like Yoga or Fitness are filled within seconds. So if you want to sign for

UniversitySport make sure to be on time – they always publish the application date on their website www.hochschulsport.fau.de.

Contact with other students: Search groups on facebook for your respective year or faculty. Examples for FAU WISO faculty in Nuremberg: Wiwi-Büchermarkt Wiso Nürnberg; WISO Nürnberg – Wissen was abgeht!; International Students WiSo Nürnberg. In addition, there are some associations that gather students interested in certain topics. You can find them on the campus (e.g. START Nuremberg, RCDS, FSI)

II. Academic experiences and further qualifications

Master of Science in International Business Studies: Courses are divided into core courses (obligatory list) and area specific courses (free specialization, students choose the major and the courses). The overview of the courses for my program and also for any other program at FAU are available in module handbooks of respective program (always available online on the website of respective study program).

University offers many opportunities to learn outside the classroom. I participated in Digital Tech Academy, that is a one-year elite program for digital and entrepreneurial talents from FAU. During the academy I worked with a team on a startup idea. University has also connections to many institutions that organize different events like workshops or conferences. I took part in 3 conferences related to entrepreneurship and startups organized by ZOLLHOF Tech Incubator (2 times in Digital Tech Summit and one time on Hackbay).

University also provide many different language courses. I've taken German and Italian courses but the choice is much bigger (e.g. English, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Turkish).

I've worked as a student assistant at the Wirtschaftsinformatik Chair focused on Innovation and value creation. I think that almost every Chair offers part-time jobs for students. It's a nice way to earn some money and stay in touch with PhDs and Professors. It also often helps to apply for PhD position at the Chair you work for.

Focus on innovation management and value creation. Beside participation in Digital Tech Academy I also did an internship at ZOLLHOF Tech Incubator, where I got deeper knowledge about entrepreneurship and innovation.

Studying in Bavaria has been a great time. I enjoyed studying at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. The quality of studies is very good and University provides students with many additional opportunities to widen their knowledge. I've also found many good friends among Germans and international students. I think that studying in Bavaria is a great opportunity to study not only the university subjects but also the German culture.

III. Your plans or activities after the BAYHOST-funding

After the BAYHOST funding I'm actually done with studying Master's degree. From 2020 I'm planning to continue studying as a PhD candidate at FAU, when at the same time working as a research assistant at the Wirtschaftsinformatik 1 Chair.