

SEP Report

1. Student Information

Faculty/Major	FASS/Global Studies
Host University	Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen
NUS Semester and Year of Exchange (eg. AY14/15 Semester 1)	AY15/16 Semester 1

2. Study at Host University

Please provide information on the academics at your host university:

- **Studying or learning culture at your host university. How were classes conducted?**
- **What did you like most or dislike most about the academics at your host University?**
- **Advice on module registration and module mapping**

Module mapping took a long time as I had to register for the classes and ensure that I was enrolled before submitting the module mapping forms to the relevant departments in NUS. The administration process and finalization of modules for the upcoming semester in my home university took quite some time. As such, it is advisable to register for the classes as soon as the modules have been finalized.

As my classes were seminars, it required more active participation in classes than I was used to. Nevertheless, most professors are very encouraging and provide a conducive environment for class participation. The courses were really interesting and I enjoyed learning the new content. Group presentations also provided opportunities for me to get to know the other students better, and some of my closest friends from SEP are actually my project mates.

Overall, the curriculum in my exchange university was quite similar to NUS, and it was a fruitful semester learning alongside students from distinctly different backgrounds!

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Please list the courses that you took during SEP. (Please take note that the list of modules available to exchange students at the host university are subject to change. This table merely serves as reference.)

Host University			NUS Equivalent		
Module code	Course title	ECTS Credit	Module code	Course title	Modular credit
	Theories of European Integration	6	EU3214	European Economic Integration	4
	The Politics of Risk	6	GL3%WS	Dummy code	4
	EU in International Politics	6	EU2301	The European Union and the 21 st Century	4
	Ethics in International Relations	6	PS3233	Political and International Ethics	4
	Aufbaukurs B1/B2	8	LAG4751	Department Exchange Module	5

2. Accommodation

What kind of accommodation did you stay in during your exchange (eg. on campus / off campus)?

Would you recommend this accommodation to future outgoing students?

Do you have any other suggestions?

Since the university is located in different parts of the town, all the accommodations can be considered off-campus. I stayed in a shared apartment provided by the university housing services. Each of us had our own room. Most shared apartments range from 3 to 12 rooms, with a shared kitchen and bathroom facilities. However, there are also single rooms with personal bathrooms. It is also important to note that there's often an option of furnished/unfurnished room when it comes to choosing your accommodation.

3. Activities during SEP

Were there any activities organized by school/student group/external organizations at your host university which you would like to recommend to other students?

There was a student-led group called StudIT which organizes one to two day trips to different locations per month (e.g. skiing, Christmas market, etc.) Students can simply sign up online and pay the fee required for the excursion. There were also several orientation courses to help us assimilate into the

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new town and environment.

4. Cost of Living

Please provide an estimation of how much money you spent during your SEP?

Please list travel expenses separately.

Monthly spending excluding travel expenses:

- Food (80 euros – cooking is often healthier and cheaper!)
- Transport (There's a semester ticket that covers transportation within the town which costs 80 euros. External transport costs: approx. 20-50 euros)
- Health insurance (80 euros)
- Rent (250 euros)
- Miscellaneous (100 euros)

About 550 euros per month x 5 = 2750 euros

5. Challenges

Did you face any challenging issues during your SEP stint? How did you overcome it/them?

There was a lot of administrative matters to attend to when I first arrived. Visiting the foreigners' registration office, health insurance company, bank, matriculating etc. The office hours also varied and could be open for only 2 hours a day, so there was quite a bit of planning to be done to ensure I met the relevant deadlines. Thankfully, things went smoothly.

Since German is the native language, I found it hard to express myself well in daily conversations. But speaking and understanding German gets better with practice, and I would encourage other students to learn at least basic German before going for exchange.

6. Overall SEP Experience

Please write one paragraph about your exchange experience and attach some photos that represent your exchange experience.

Having the opportunity to go on exchange is truly a blessing. Coming to a foreign place to live and study really forced me to move out of my comfort zone. I have gained new insights that I never expected to glean from the short time I was in Germany. Exchange may not exactly be whatever romanticized ideas

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we have about it, but it is certainly an amazing experience not just for travelling or intellectual pursuits but growing as a person as well.

7. Suggestions for future outgoing students

Please share any other suggestions for future outgoing students.

Everyone's exchange experience is unique. Decide for yourself what you want from the one or two semesters you are there, and have fun while achieving it! Meet new people and see the world from their perspectives as well. 😊