

**EXCHANGE REPORT****Name**

Theodor Naumann

**Year and term for exchange**

2019/2020 Autumn

**Exchange university**

TU Wien

**Degree programme**

Real Estate &amp; Construction Management

## TU Wien – Vienna University of Technology

### Before departure

I wanted to go to a German speaking country with rich culture so of course Vienna was the most logical choice. Vienna is an extremely beautiful city architecturally speaking and offers a lot of activities such as the famous Opera, museums, the Vienna Philharmonic and the Spanish riding school. As well as of course famous German and Austrian dishes such as the *Wiener Schnitzel* and *Sacher Torte*. With people such as Nikola Tesla, Sigmund Freud, Wolfgang Mozart, Franz Kafka, living in Vienna there's no doubt that Vienna has something offer!

### Upon arrival

I arrived approximately 2 weeks before the school started in October. This is something to keep in mind since the semesters are not the same as they are in Sweden. My semester was from the beginning of October until the end of January. Once I arrived there were immediately a lot of Erasmus-related activities offered. Which is a great way and highly recommended to get to know new people from many different universities. I would also recommend arriving a bit earlier for all the logistics when it comes to organizing everything for your accommodation and legalities for being in the country.

### Financials

I wouldn't say that Vienna is more expensive than Stockholm but nearby similar. I didn't set up an external bank-account but stuck with my Swedish one and then you have to keep in mind the transaction costs between SEK and Euro and especially now that the SEK isn't very strong against the Euro. Otherwise you can expect a similar price range such as in Stockholm. There are some university fees you need to pay for and also when it comes to some articles read in some classes you need to pay for which are usually paid by the university in Sweden. There are although restaurants that are subsidized in the university area and subsidizing for metro-passes if you show your 'meldezettel'.

### Accommodation

I found accommodation by simply googling and found a company housing Vienna which offered numerous different housing options with everything from sharing a room to single apartments, different pricing options and you could also search based on how far away you wanted to live from the university. The accommodations are also subsidized by the government so it's generally a bit cheaper compared to finding a private landlord. Also since they work exclusively with students, they tend to help out a bit more if there are any uncertainties.

### University and studies

The classes in Vienna are way smaller in credits compared to KTH and Sweden. The average course ECTS is about 3 credits so generally you have to study 10 courses per semester to reach 30 credits. I

choose to study a bit less since I was planning to credit from a different university and wanted time to study out-of-school related topics such as music and literature.

### **Courses**

It was hard to find courses related to precisely Real Estate so I studied more management-related courses. It's worth to keep in mind that some of the courses might actually differ from what is read on the university website. Some weren't offered that semester, some were aligned and not recommended for exchange students. They were also really picky when it came to the last sign-up day even though they had some struggle with their website. At the end I studied the following courses:

Human Resource Management and Leadership  
Managing People and Organizations  
Risk-based Performance Management  
Technology, Work and Organization  
Advanced Financial Planning and Control  
Creativity Engineering

### **City and country**

Austria and Sweden are in general quite similar culturally. People aren't in Austria, like in Sweden, very eager to get to know new people and don't really talk to use just for the cause of it. This meant that you didn't really have the opportunity to connect with a lot of native Austrians but spend most of the time with other Erasmus-students from all over the world which (for me) wasn't a downside. The city itself is as I mentioned above, extremely beautiful, have a rich culture and is very safe. Never once did I feel unsecure traveling late at night.

### **Leisure and social activities**

There aren't really a lot of sport related activities but a lot of cultural activities such as opera, museums but also hiking in the Austrian Alps and skiing offered by Erasmus and the university. But I would say most students, me included, spent time at the local pubs drinking beer, eating Sacher cake and getting to know each other

### **Other recommendations and observations**



Hiking in Austria!



University campus!