

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

The reason I went on exchange to UK was that I wanted to go an English-speaking country and to improve my English skills. Before coming to Newcastle, I found out over internet that it is very student friendly city and thus decided to apply to Newcastle University. This ended up being a good decision since Newcastle indeed is a student city with a lot of activities. Newcastle is very friendly, small and cozy town, where people are cheerful and happy to help and talk to you.

Concerning to studies, my lectures began on 2nd of October and finished on 13th of December. However, I had exams-online assignments till the end January. There was international week from 18th till 22nd of September and Erasmus meeting held on 20th of September. There were a lot of activities during international week that was organized by student union of Newcastle University, Business School and by Erasmus, international office. The activities that I participated in were: Bowling, English Roast Dinner, Welcome Reception Party, city tour, Trip to Whitby, BBC Tour, Newcastle United Stadium Tour and a lot more. During international week there were also provided tours around campus, library. As campus of Newcastle Univeristy is big, these orientations were very helpful before the start of lectures.

Concerning to lectures, I enjoyed them a lot- they were very interesting and interactive. I had six modules simultaneously, consisting of lectures and seminars. Through the number of seminars was not so big. Attending was compulsory and monitored by swapping the student card before lecture. I had seminars and lectures every day, sometimes even up to two lectures/seminars in a day. For final exam assignments there was a lot of work to be done, the reading list that each module had was quite big. I had 2 group presentations and 2 final exam assignments in December and 4 assignments with deadline till the end of January. Assignments had word limit of up to 2000 words. Local students have exams in the end of January, however, the structure of courses for Erasmus students was arranged so that we had possibility to submit assignment before going back home or online in January. Lecturers, Erasmus coordinators and university staff, all were very helpful and polite, providing information and willing to help.

The facilities of university are at very high level. The university gives print credits of appr. 37 pounds, the library works 24/7, all books from module reading list are available either online or in library, moreover there is recap of lectures. The quality of teaching is also at high level. In the beginning of the semester university has an English assessment test and based on which extra English

learning courses were provided. As it was not compulsory for Erasmus students, I did not take them. However, for those who wish to improve their English language skills can attend this courses for free.

Concerning to accommodation, I got the confirmation for accommodation very late just 3 days before my flight to Newcastle. However, I was satisfied with the room, it was quite a big room. I stayed at Windsor House, Jesmond Road. The location was great, everything was accessible by foot. It took just 1-2 min. to Robinson Library, 5 min till main campus, 7-10 min till Business School, the main shopping street is just 5 min. walk., metro station is just 3 min walk, from where you can get to the Tynemouth beach. I lived in a corridor with 5 very nice girls from different countries, we shared bathroom and kitchen. This accommodation is very quiet, may be because it is just for Postgraduate students.

The time spent at Newcaslte has gone quicker than I could imagine. I had an unforgettable time that I would really miss. To sum up, I am very satisfied with my exchange period in Newcaslte University. I have met very interesting people from all over the world that I can call now my friends. I definitely recommend to apply for exchange at Newcastle University, as it gives a great opportunity for growth and the time spend at Newcaslte would never be forgotten.