



# STUDY ABROAD GUIDE

Oestrich-Winkel, Germany- 1 Hour Train from  
Frankfurt

## **ABSTRACT**

A brief introduction to studying at EBS Business school and the process involved to make it happen.

# International Exchange Questionnaire

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

A) Your program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hours per course.

Program: Masters in Business

## Study Skills German A1.1

This course is offered before the semester starts. Starting on August 14<sup>th</sup> this is a 10-day course designed to prepare you for living in Germany. It is an introduction to the language course and is extremely helpful. Great way to meet other exchange students and get settled into the school before campus gets busy.

Hours: Roughly 35 hours of class time

Assignments: Written exam, listening exam and class participation

Format: 7 Days of small class size with interaction practising the German language followed by testing at the end of the week.

## ***From September 1<sup>st</sup> to October 25<sup>th</sup> (First Half of the semester)***

➔ The semester is divided into 2 parts. This means that you would do 2/3 modules in the first half and 2/3 modules in the second half. One Module is equivalent to a course at uOttawa (6ECTS)

### Module 1: MSC Automotive Management

- The Module is split up into 2 courses; **Business Process Management and Information Management in the Global Automotive Value Chain**
- Hours: 35 hours in class
- Assignments: Written exam, 2 small papers
- Format: Must pass both courses within the module or else the entire module counts as failed.

### Module 2: MSC Real Estate Fundamentals

- The Module is split up into 2 courses; **Real Estate economics and Real estate Mega Trends**
- Hours: 35 Hours
- Assignments: 1 large case study with presentation, 1 small case study with presentation, written exam, written report (Case Studies are done in teams)
- Format:

## ***November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 20<sup>th</sup> (Second Half of the semester)***

### Module 3 : MSC MOOC Social Innovation

- Hours: 30 Hours in class plus online sessions

- Assignments : Participation, Essay, 2 Presentations
- Format: 4 Seminar days and 6 online sessions. In class are workshops.

Module 4: MSC Start-Up & New Business Model Development

- Hours: 33 Hours
- Assignments: Participation, Presentation

\*\*\*Typically, the classes are very long and can take up a full day but they are only once a week- I basically had class once or twice a week\*\*\*

They have a good variety of courses to choose from but I tried to take courses that were only scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday. I also looked for classes that we wouldn't necessarily have at home. Germany is known for the Automotive Industry so that was logical to take that course. (Professor was the CIO at Volkswagen prior to teaching)

In my opinion the courses are easier than uOttawa and require less work. So far, the marking seems to be really fair.

The professors are top quality and they often fly them in from around the country to deliver the lectures which means the quality is high.

**B) The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc.) Please submit the precise dates so students will know when to book their flights next year.**

Registration dates: The school does a great job sending email to inform about dates and next steps in the process. If you keep up to date with emails and do the tasks when they are required the process is simple. Heard from the school for the first time at the end of March. Course registration is August 12<sup>th</sup>. Once the school reaches out to you it is time to “apply” for the school. This is just the process of registering with their system you are already admitted and this is just a formality.

Search result				
Degree type	Subject	Subject semesters	Action	Note
Exchange Students - Business	BSc Exchange (fall term 2019, admission unrestricted)	4	<a href="#">Apply</a>	Please complete this application if you have been nominated by your home university for a 1 or 2 semester exchange at EBS
Exchange Students - Business	MBA Exchange (fall term 2019, admission unrestricted)	4	<a href="#">Apply</a>	Please complete this application if you have been nominated by your home university for a 1 or 2 semester exchange at EBS
Exchange Students - Business	MSc Exchange (fall term 2019, admission unrestricted)	4	<a href="#">Apply</a>	Please complete this application if you have been nominated by your home university for a 1 or 2 semester exchange at EBS

There are 3 options to register- Through uOttawa you will be a MSC Exchange student. This means you can take all masters courses or MBA (MBA courses have mandatory attendance)

- MSC courses for the most part don't require your attendance.
- There is some participation marks but if you show up most of the time you are fine

Orientation: First week of September when all the exchange students have arrived. Latest I would arrive is August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Beginning of Classes: September 1st

End of Classes: December 12th

Exams: October 20<sup>th</sup> to October 24<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> to December 20th

Holidays: There is a small semester break in-between finishing first half of modules. October 3<sup>rd</sup> is a German holiday.

Number of Semesters: 1 semester is split into 2 parts for master's students.

### 1. Semester Dates at EBS

Semester dates for Fall 2019 at EBS are as follows:

<b>Expected arrival date on campus:</b>	No later than 28 August 2019
<b>15 – 23 August 2019:</b>	<b>Study Skills in German:</b> Intensive German Language Course <i>Participation is free of charge for exchange students and highly recommended/ Exam is obligatory/ course worth 3 ECTS (will appear on your transcript)</i>
<b>29 &amp; 30 August 2019:</b>	obligatory <b>Orientation Days</b> for all exchange students
<b>29 August 2019:</b>	Welcome Buffet for new exchange students
<b>02 September 2019:</b>	Lectures begin
<b>20 December 2019:</b>	End of exams * **

\*it is highly recommended to stay on campus until the last official day of lectures and exams.

\*\* exams cannot be postponed due to personal reasons and retake exams need to be written on campus

**C) Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange Office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social activities.**

- Register your address with the city
- The school has several socials to get to know faculty and students
- There is a welcoming party
- The office that supports exchange students can answer all questions

**D) Budget outlining the cost of studying abroad (i.e. airplane tickets, housing, vacation and daily travel costs, textbooks, meals, etc.).**

Airplane Ticket: \$1200 CAD

Housing: 430 Euros/month

Vacation: Varies depending on what countries and the style of your vacations

- There is plenty of opportunity to travel and see the country. Also plenty of 3-5 day periods without school commitments where you can see Europe.

Daily Travel: Bus pass is covered with your student card for the region

Textbooks: EBS doesn't use textbooks they provide all the material that you need

Meals: \$15CAD to eat at a restaurant and you can get meals for 2-5CAD at a Supermarket

Student Card: 125 euros

Insurance: 700 euros (You must have German insurance to enroll at EBS) – They give several public insurance plans that you can easily register for.

**E) Application procedures before your arrival (visa deadlines, documents required for visa, course registration, housing deposit, etc.).**

Visa Deadlines: You do not need to get a VISA before arriving. I highly recommend getting it before as it is a pain to register to get it while you are there. It takes 4-6 weeks at the German Embassy and you need to go to Toronto for the appointment.

Documents required for visa: Can find a list on the German Embassy website.

- Passport (They will take it and ship it back to you)
- Proof of enrollment in the school (School will send to you)
- Flight details
- Proof of sufficient funds (I needed to print out my bank statements to show them I had enough money to live in Germany for 5 months) \* They recently changed the standard but its approximately 700 euros/month

(If you live in Wiesbaden, they require you to have a German bank account and put the sufficient funds in the account. You can only withdrawal it after the month is finished)

- I did not open a bank account as you can survive with a Canadian account
- Germans love to use cash and often that is the only payment method that they will accept (Always make sure to carry 50 euros with you at all times)

Course registration: August 12<sup>th</sup>

Housing Deposit: Paid before arrival. – Every landlord is different

- 600-euro deposit returned upon departure

**F) Address and description of housing. Cost of housing.**

There are several options for housing when attending EBS. The housing office does a flat hunt to help with finding a place to stay but it happens at 4am EST time. The flats go extremely fast so I recommend getting up and being prepared to do the search right away. Once you are comfortable with the place you want to stay then email it in right away. I had friends that waited an hour trying to coordinate and by then all the flats were gone. They ended up living in Wiesbaden which is a much bigger city and it worked out but they struggled navigating FB groups and online postings. I secured my accommodation in May 20<sup>th</sup> whereas others who were not successful found places only days before arriving.

- There is a school residence right beside campus which is very nice and around 700 euros a month. They want you to commit to 1 year but I know of people who managed to get it down to 6 months
- In Wiesbaden you can expect to pay 500  600 euros

- I paid 410 euros/month for 5 months and that is the cheapest flat I have seen to date

**G) Work term (if applicable).**

Not Applicable

**H) Other comments or recommendations.**

- The school is in a very small town with not a lot going on. With that being said all the students are in the town and it is a lot of fun.
- Living in Wiesbaden or Frankfurt is possible as the school schedules are not super intensive and you can do the commute from Frankfurt in an hour and Wiesbaden in 20mins
- You can get anywhere in Germany on a train and it is extremely convenient
- Download RMV app for the region and DB for the country (super easy to navigate)
- Everything is closed in Germany on Sundays
- To do most shopping and errands it is best to go to Wiesbaden which is a 20min train away
- Partying in the area (Mainz, Wiesbaden, Frankfurt).
- Just be aware that the trains and busses end before the clubs close so you can either leave early or wait until the first transit in the morning
- Getting a German phone number is super easy and costs around 20 euros/month
  - I registered and set it all up at the local supermarket (Aldi)
  - The plan worked all over Europe including the UK and Scandinavia
- There are 2 different platforms that the school uses to communicate
  - 1 is an email account
  - The second is similar to the platform we have at uOttawa where all your courses are loaded
  - All your lectures will be loaded on the platform with additional information about assignment and exams.
  - All Marks can be seen on the platform (usually takes 3 weeks after completion to see result)

**I) Add a description of about five to seven sentences summarizing your experience.**

Attending EBS university has been a wonderful experience to date. The school consists of many exchange students from all around the world. All fulltime EBS students are required to do an exchange so they understand what you are doing and are great to chat with. Traveling from Frankfurt is super easy and reasonably priced. There is a massive emphasis on the network at EBS. The connections to industries such as strategy consulting, real estate and automotive companies is outstanding. The school throws great parties that you can have unlimited wine/beer all night. The campus is right beside the train station Hattenheim and is in the wine county of Germany. There are over 100 different wineries to try along the Rhine river. The campus is only 3 old buildings that used to be a winery/castle and is situated in the vineyards. There is a new building and campus in Wiesbaden for the law students but any business student can take advantage.