

Final Report

Sending Institution: University of Mauritius, Reduit, Mauritius.

Faculty at Receiving Institution: Faculty of Engineering Management

Bialystok, Poland

Poland is a beautiful country with beautiful scenario of the cliffs, sandy beaches and dune systems in the East and the mountains and lakes in the West, which are worth visiting. The climate is very pleasant in winter as well as in summer. Bialystok, the largest city in the north eastern Poland ranks second in terms of the population density in Poland. The city has a Warm Summer and long frosty winters. Forests are an important part of Bialystok and it is the fifth most forested city in Poland with around 1,756 ha. Most of the people living here are fond of football and also the pubs. Bialystok is the largest concentration of orthodox believers in Poland.

There is an extensive bus networks that covers the entire city. Bialystok is home to one principle public University (University of Bialystok) and two other specialist University (Bialystok Technical University and Medical University of Bialystok).

Most of the people living here hardly speak English, so it was quite difficult to communicate with the polish people, but however with those who speaks English it was fun knowing each other.

I studied my spring semester 2024 abroad at the Bialystok University of Technology, Poland, under the program Erasmus+. The dates of the summer semester were from February 27 till June 30. I would like to share my experience and impressions

Contact with coordinator, preparation and journey before arriving in Bialystok, I was in touch with the coordinator from the IRO office. I would assess my contact as very good. E-mails were replied very quickly and I received well guidance on questions that I had. All issues related to the documents were well discussed.

I arrived on a Schengen Visa which our country has an agreement with European Union for 3 months but had to apply for temporary residence as I was staying for 4 months, Thankfully, there was an English speaking lady who helped us to apply the temporary residence card.

I stayed in a student dormitory "ALFA" with other Erasmus students from around the world. I had my room in box of four rooms. I had 3 neighbors in the next room. We had shared bathroom

for our box. The kitchens were shared on entire floor. It was big and had all necessary equipment. Also, our floor had laundry with drying room, which was definitely very comfortable. My room was furnished and came with a bed, closet, bookshelf, desk and chair, cupboard, refrigerator and 2 drawers. The dorm was very clean and cozy. Every working day on the floor was carried out a general cleaning

All exchange students had the opportunity to participate in an introduction week, where everything about Bialystok was explained. It was a helpful week and also just nice to see all the other exchange students for the coming semester. The reception of students by the IRO office and ESN office was also very good. First one helped a lot with all documents which were necessary. And ESN office helped settle in the city, introduced all the activities, and entertained students in all possible ways.

Poland is cheaper than my native land to live in. Erasmus amount, which is €800,- per month is pretty enough for living and even traveling. Travelling in Poland and Europe is quite easy. Within Europe there's the Flixbuses, which has routes through almost all Europe.

Studying at the Bialystok University of Technology is a lot easier than at University of Mauritius. I experienced more free time, less homework, easier tests. The teachers are willing to help with every question you have. I was pleasantly impressed, the studying was held with great pleasure. The schedule was very convenient, no classes intersected. Student facilities are very modern and nice. There are many computers and another modern equipment available. The buildings are very nice, clean and modern. The International Office at the University is also easily reachable. They are always willing to help

The ERASMUS life in Bialystok was full of experiencing. I met many different people from different cultures and made lots of friends. It also provided an opportunity to go around the other European countries. Being from small country i hardly have seen new devices but here I had a lot of new experience in the field of new electronic systems in the laboratories. I have built a keen interest in studying abroad if given an opportunity. I also managed to improve my English a little at least. I feel I have a long way to go, to learn about many things for a better living