



## **Personal Report**

### **Winter Semester**

**Name:** Carlos Ramírez Hernández

**Home University:** Universitat de les Illes Balears (UIB)

**Host University:** Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg

**Field of study:** Economy

**Degree:** Business Management

Seems like it was yesterday when I arrived to Stuttgart with just a few backpacks and the excitement of a new life away from my comfortable area, the feeling of a new stage in my life and a new adventure.

My first experience with the Erasmus was the decision to choose a host university. Once I decided that I wanted to study in Germany and selected the DHBW, it was the turn for the formalities. There were a few of them that required time to prepare, in general it was a slow process. The next step was to choose the lectures. In my case I selected the lectures of the International Program, focused on discovering the German culture and working style.

After finishing all the formalities, it was time to start this new life in Germany. A few days before moving in to the residence, I came with my family to see the center of Stuttgart and a few close cities, like Nuremberg. My first impression of Germany was pretty good: friendly people, good gastronomy and a beautiful background.

One of the most helpful assistances was the buddy program: a current student from the host university is assigned to you for helping with everything you need. At the beginning of the semester they organized a Welcome week with different activities, the perfect way to meet the other Erasmus students and the buddies. Of course during the Welcome week, you have to do some more formalities with the help of the buddies and the DHBW staff, like opening the bank account or the registration in the host university.

The lectures were really interesting and helpful in order to understand German culture better. The courses of the International program are taken 100% in English, that's why it is a really important requirement to have at least a B2 level. In general the classes are taken in the building of Paulinenstraße, but there can be a few exceptions.

Stuttgart is not famous for the sunshine weather; in general, you will have cloudy days or rainy days, but that's not going to stop the fun! You can find a lot of interesting activities and nice places for enjoying a good conversation with a drink. Almost everybody in the center of Stuttgart is able to speak in English, so don't worry that much for the German

language. There are more universities in the city center besides the DHBW, in fact the center is like a big university campus. That's why it is easy to find a lot of students and pubs to hang out. I strongly recommend exploring Stuttgart, where you can find a lot of cool places and meet new people from all around the world.

I would like to add that, if you want to learn or improve your German language you will have a wonderful chance here in Stuttgart with the help of the DHBW.

From my point of view, the experience has been awesome: I've met a lot of people all around the world, I have built with a few of them incredible friendships and have learned the language successfully with hard work plus the help of my German friends. I feel pretty lucky to be able to stay here also for the spring semester and keep enjoying the Erasmus experience, learning about the culture, the language and adding more incredible moments to this journey.

And finally, I would like to thank the DHBW and the UIB for this fantastic opportunity.