JKU Linz

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| How does the workload in your classes compare to Strathclyde. |
| Harder |
| the same |

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| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went? |
| The one main thing for me was finding out just how different the way the classes worked as opposed to how they worked here in Strathclyde. Not so much the content, but the mechanics of the classes at JKU - here there is a much greater dimension of independent learning compared to being taught mathematics at Strathclyde. |
| Although the workload is the same, the teaching technique is completely different. It's much more independent learning in Austria with less resources made available to you. |

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| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away? |
| student housing (by host university) |

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| What is your monthly cost for accommodation? |
| 330 euros a month |

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| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation? |
| I wouldn't recommend considering accommodation outside of those offered by the university. Julis Raab Heim dorm, where I reside, is probably your best bet, as you are close to the university, have the necessary shops and tram station within five minutes walking distance, and most importantly is where the vast majority of other exchange and international students stay! |
| I chose my accommodation based on the exchange student who came here last years recommendation. I'd highly recommend you do the same as the majority of exchange students all live in Raab Heim and everyone speaks English which is always nice. |

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| What is the town/city like where you stay? |
| Linz is so delightfully quaint - it might not have the splendour and pomp as you might find in Vienna, but it's a very nice and cosy place to stay. The trams run frequently and don't suffer the same ailments as the trains do in Glasgow! I have never found myself not being able to go into the city centre because of a cancellation. The city is very safe at night, you can walk about at any time without any worry of something bad happening. Everything is also very central, with the main street Landstrasse running through the city, making it hard to get lost, as you can always find your way back to it. One thing to bear in mind is that all shops a part from restaurants and cafes are closed on Sundays! |
| Linz is a small city with not a huge amount to do but the old town centre is really beautiful. The nightlife is actually quite good considering there's only really two clubs to choose from. But Linz is in the perfect location to travel to so many other places if you'd like to see Europe. (I've only spent 3 weekends in Linz) |

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| Where is your favourite place to go? |
| A walk from the city centre around the city - the architecture and overall general feeling you get whilst in the city is completely different to that in Glasgow. Notable places include Postlingberg, a church on a hill which overlooks the city, CafÃ© Traxlmayr, the only traditional Viennese coffee house in Vienna, are but a few of the many gems in the city! |

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| How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)? |
| A part from the main library the maths department has its own libraries for its different institutes - but these tend to have very odd opening times so it can be hard to make reference to any text books without it being brief. The labs are also a little strange as you need to ask to be given access to the computer systems and aren't granted it automatically as in Strathclyde - although it doesn't take long at all to register. The campus isn't too big at all and is easy to get yourself around, once you know where everything is. A point worth noting is that Raab Heim is a five minute or ten minute walk to the campus, so not very far away at all from the dorm! |
| Much the same as Strathclyde but on a smaller scale. |

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| Do you spend more or less money than you expected? |
| Less |
| More |

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| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)? |
| Things tend to be cheaper here compared to at home, I have found. I haven't encountered anything which has been shockingly expensive. |

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| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? |
| Not including rent, I think I spend roughly around 120 euros a month if it's a quiet month! Could be a fair bit more if there are any trips planned. |
| It completely depends on how much travelling (and or drinking) I do that month. I'd estimate on average about 600 euros (including accomodation) but thats a really really rough guess |

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| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students? |
| The host university has a very active group for the exchange students - the first month is bustling with activities of all sorts, including parties as well as many excursions. After the semester starts things tend to quieten down, although there are parties every week both in the dorm, and in the university union! Excursions during the semester tend to be arranged by the students themselves, although the international group at JKU organises trips during the semester to Prague and Budapest. |
| A really good social life! As I said all the exchange students all live in one building pretty much and there's often parties. The university has an exchange team who organise parties at least once every two weeks and really encourage everyone to attend and also ran around 3 excursions to Budapest, Prague and to go skiing as well as other day trips which were available to every one on a first come first served basis. All of these were really good ways to meet people. |

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| Would you recommend this University to future Strathclyde students who are considering studying abroad? If not, please explain your response or contact the Recruitment and International Office to discuss. |
| Yes |

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| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| I am very glad and for a number of reasons. It has at times been a pretty hard experience, what with adapting to life in a new country and away from what is comfortable and known, but for all that it has been more than worth it with all the friends I have made and new experience gained. |
| DEFINITELY! I've met people from all round the world and loads who I'm quite sure I'll stay in touch with. It was also the perfect way to see a lot more of Europe. |

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| Is there any additional information/advice you would like to pass on to future students who are considering study abroad at the same institution as you? |
| I would whole heartedly recommend coming here on exchange - it has truly been amazing. The fact that classes are in German might put people off, but it is amazing how much you can adapt if you work at it |
| If its for maths like me, the classes you need to do are only taught in German. It IS possible but it's definitely not easy and I'm pretty sure my grades have taken a dip this semester because of it. I'm not too upset about this as I have had such an amazing time but it's definitely something that you should consider when choosing where you go. But go somewhere. Erasmus is the best I promise. |