

## **Field Report Erasmus Mailand 2017**

### Prerecord

Starting with January until end of March I studied at Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy, as Erasmus+ (MEST) student. The program was part of my Social Policy (Sozialpolitik) Master degree -within the specialisation European Labour Studies-, which offers the possibility to study abroad at a (partner) European University. Below, I attached the link for more details.

Official website and link for MEST-Program (Uni-Bremen):

[http://www.socium.uni-bremen.de/master/master-sozialpolitik/studienschwerpunkte/european-labour-studies-\\_-mest/](http://www.socium.uni-bremen.de/master/master-sozialpolitik/studienschwerpunkte/european-labour-studies-_-mest/)

### Preparation

To enrol as a MEST-Program student is significantly easy. The first step is to inform the current MEST-Program coordinator from your M.A. (Uni-Bremen), with the fact that you want to take part in the previous mentioned program. However, it is necessary to register at the course “European Labour Studies”. Afterwards, with the approval from the coordinator, Uni-Bremen international office will guide you, in order to register on “Mobility Online”, by introducing personal data, as well as documents, which are required. Nevertheless, without the approval from the coordinator, the enrolment cannot take place. For more details, you can read about all the steps on the link in ‘Prerecord’ part (ZES-MEST).

### Language

All courses in Milan University are on English, but there is the possibility to learn Italian, by registering to an Italian (language) course -within “Mobility Online” -, which will help you in your Erasmus period. Consider the fact that most of Italians do not speak English, even in the student residence. Without further ado, knowing and speaking Italian is fun, as well as significantly useful.

### Insurance

There are two types of insurances, which need to be prepared: (1) European Health Insurance Card (EHIC - Europäische Krankenversicherungskarte), and (2) Accident Insurance Card. The European Health Insurance Card needs to be valid on the entire Erasmus period, same for the Accident Insurance Card. In the case of the Accident Insurance Card, there are two possibilities: either you acquire an Accident Insurance Card from your own country, but -necessarily- needs to be recognised in Italy; if it is not recognised, then you are obligated to achieve one from Milan,

which is the second possibility. Meaning, that after you arrived at Milan University, the international office (Uni-Mi) will offer a certificate, that proves the fact that you are a student, in order to pay to another office, the insurance which costs between 10-12 euro per month.

### Money supply and current situation

Personally, I think that having an Italian bank account it is not necessary. All payments can be easily made with your national (bank) card. From paying the rent, to withdrawing money from any bank in Italy.

### Before arriving in Milan

After completing the first phase of registration, it is needed to announce Milan University as well. In the following link, there are presented all the steps that need to be achieved: <http://www.unimi.it/ENG/relations/31234.htm> . The guest University will orientate each Erasmus student in terms of how and what should they achieve. Moreover, without enrolling first in University Bremen, then the registration at Milan University is not possible.

### Living in Milan

Finding an apartment in Milan it is possible, however the costs are, relatively, high compared to a student residence. To live in a student residence, known as “Hall of Residence”, offered by the state, firstly you should register at the Milan University, mentioned in section “Before arriving in Milan”. In the online-site, it is needed to submit all the information, within is mentioned if the student wants to register to a ‘Italian language course’, and also if the student wants to be registered for a bed in “Hall of Residence”. The internal policy of receiving a bed is based on: “First arrived, first served”, meaning that the student will be put on a waiting list, and need to be fast in terms of registering for a bed. Moreover, due to the new Italian regulations, starting with year 2017, all Erasmus students need to register at “Agenzia delle Entrate” to receive a personal fiscal code, “Certificato di Attribuzione del Codice Fiscale”, in Milan. It is necessary to have the fiscal code, in order to achieve diverse certificates (for instance, to receive a certificate that allows you to play sports, or other activities), to finalise peculiar payments, and, most importantly, to receive back your deposit (Kaution) from the student residence. Without the fiscal code, the deposit cannot be transferred. To be registered at the office the University will offer you the necessary document that needs to be filled, and the next steps towards achieving it. The required documents are a copy of your ID card and an attached document from Milan University. A bed in Hall of Residence costs 300 euro each month and a deposit of 350 euro.

The first payment (which include first rent 300 euro and 350 deposit) will be accepted from any bank transfer but just at the beginning (and the student needs to present a ‘proof’ of the payment). In addition, each payment should be done before the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, if not then you need to pay a fee. There are two ways of paying the rent, either you pay the rent online

(which is much faster, and needs less bureaucracy), or you download a 'MAV Form' from the University, which you need to bring it at any bank (holding your personal ID card) and pay it there. The 'MAV Form' will be given after you were completely registered for a bed, never before. Regarding the first and the future payments, it is important to know that the first payment depends on your arrival -if you arrive after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month then you will pay just the half of the rent, which is 150; similar situation with the leave, if you arrive before 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, then you need to pay the full rent-.

Afterwards the rent needs to be payed either through 'MAV Form', or within the Uni-Mi online banking (it will be created a personal account on Uni-Mi website with all your student status, which you can access it and fulfil the payments). After the confirmation, the student residence office will inform you about the free dorm-rooms in Milan, in which you need to choose a residence. In the end, you will receive (online), a document that needs to be presented at the residence to receive the promised room. The student-residence reception is 24h available to receive any international student (however, overnight sleeping for other persons is prohibited). Most importantly, if you need to change the date of arrival or, especially, to leave you need to inform the student-residence office. The benefits you will receive in 'Bassini' residence are the following (all of them are included in the price of the rent, no extra charges):

- Internet (unlimited)
- Bedsheets, towels, Toilet Papers, which you can change them in each week.
- Cleaning Room Service (free, and in each two weeks), however you need to leave your room (between 9:30-16:00)
- Common kitchen, and refrigerator (with the entire floor)
- Garden, gym, washing room, media room, game room, study room.

#### Contact Person

Mr. Massimo Costa, within the international office of Milan University ([mobility.in@unimi.it](mailto:mobility.in@unimi.it)), will guide all international student regarding the fulfilment of registration, providing extra information, and sending official documents (for instance, transcript of records).

The coordinator of MEST-Program in Milan University is Prof. Dr. Renata Semenza ([renata.semenza@unimi.it](mailto:renata.semenza@unimi.it)). The Professor will help you with all the courses regarding enrolment, Learning Agreement, and other relevant documents. Moreover, with Prof. Dr. Renata Semenza you will need to discuss and fulfil your Learning Agreement. On Uni-Mi official website you can find all the necessary information, as example you need to bring in Milan the following documents:

- A document from the International Office (in english), to prove the status of Erasmus-Student.

- A Document (in english) proving health insurance, as well as accident insurance.
- At least 5 (five) Passport Photos.
- Learning Agreement (from Germany)

### Arriving in Milan

If you travel to Milan by plane, you need to know that there are three different airports, all of which have trains, or buses that travel towards Milan. My recommendation is to book-in for airport Linate, there is a bus, which stops in the centre of Milan, in San Babila, 1 station near Duomo. When you, finally, arrived in Milan you can buy a city-ticket that costs 1,70 euro at any ATM-Point, most of the ATMs' you can find in each Metro-stations. Once bought and stamped in the bus/metro/tram, you have maximum 70 minutes to travel with all public transports within Milan.

Your first official meeting should be with Massimo Costa, at International Office (Via Festa del Perdono 7 - 20122 Milano). With Massimo, you will complete the registration, and you will receive a Student-Erasmus Card, and a specific document in order to buy your ATM-Student-Card (for traveling with the public transport in Milan). With the document (proving your Erasmus status), you need to go to an ATM-office (In 'Duomo' Metro-station), there you need fulfil a registration document (in Italian), and to pay for the card 10 euros, and for each month 20 euros (there is the possibility to pay each month, or for more months).

### University

All the courses will take place at Scienze Politiche, Economiche e Sociali Milan University, on Via Conservatorio 7. You can arrive there with the metro at San Babila, and walking 7-10 minutes. All the courses within the MEST- Program *European Labour Studies* are on English, and the courses will be structured for trimesters, meaning that you will have a different exam period in comparison with other masters. Each course has a specific examination program, such as, either you need to send a paper/ essay, write an exam, or to present your work on a given project. In order to register to an exam, you need to log in within Uni-Mi student online service ('Ariel-Portal Uni-mi'), register with 1 month before the exams, and confirming your presence for the exam. Each course depends on your Learning Agreement document, in general each exam consists of 6 CP, with a total of 30 CP. In the University, you can find a cafeteria, and a library, or you can simply walk near the faculty to eat.

### Other Activities in Milan

There is a special Organisation known as ESN (Erasmus Student Network), which could help you with the life in Milan, and to buy from them an ESN-Card for special Student discounts in specific cafeterias, or bars. Besides the discounts, it is recommended to meet with your 'buddy',

he or she will teach you everything about Milan. Moreover, in each week, they organise different parties together or trips towards Rome, and other cities.

### Leaving Milan

Before leaving Milan, you need to meet with Mr. Massimo Costa to receive your *Confirmation of Erasmus Study Period*, which is very important. The Transcript of records can be send either via e-mail, or by post to your Home-University (after you receive all your grades).

Before leaving the student residence, you need to inform **at least with a week before** the Student-Residence Office. In the day of leaving, you need to sign the fact that you leave your room, after a quick check of your room (to see if all it's in a good condition). You will receive the deposit, after 3 (three) month starting with the day of your leave (for instance, if you leave on 01.01.2017, your will receive your deposit on 01.04.2017).

### Conclusion

Personally, I enjoyed living, studying and traveling in Milan, respectively Italy. The culture and the way they live is different from Germany. I strongly recommend you to register in a student residence; there you can meet so many persons from other countries, sharing together culture, experiences and traveling, partying, and studying together. Moreover, you can visit all the museums and architectures in Milan in 1-2 weeks, so even if I studied there for one trimester, I had enough time to visit other cities in Italy, and it's all worth it.