

OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM – 2007/2008

Programme BSc International Management

University Attended Rotterdam School of Management

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

The induction programme involved going to a beach in the south of The Netherlands. This involved teamwork exercises and socialising with the other exchange students. The following day we went to a museum and learned about how The Netherlands manages the threat of flooding. We did some cultural exercises which was aimed at helping us with our integration into Dutch society. I took away a few insights from the two days, however it was most useful in regards to meeting the fellow exchange students and making friends.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

The styles of teaching varied. The courses that I took at the business school involved large numbers of students in large lecture halls. Courses I took outside the business school were often in smaller groups and were taught in class size rooms. The online material for the courses was very good. Registering for courses within the business school was easy. Registering for course outside the business school was extremely bureaucratic.

The methods of assessment were largely based around multiple choice exams. I initially underestimated the difficulty of these exams as a scoring 66% in the exams was a pass (as a rule of thumb). In courses where the exams were open questions I did well in, as they were similar to the exams of Manchester. I also did well in coursework (which was often group work). There is a steep learning curve when you first arrive and I would suggest that future students work hard in the first trimester. I got through the first trimester only failing one (3 ECTS) course many other exchange students failed several exams and I can understand why.

Teaching support varied between courses. It was understandably hard for some lecturers to provide a lot of support as the classes were very big in some courses. All in all I had no problems with the level of teaching support.

MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The International Office was very helpful and responded positively and promptly to all my problems.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

One thing I would suggest is to emphasise that studying in Rotterdam is not easy, for me it was as hard as the second year at Manchester.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

On the whole they were very polite and did help me, particularly in the first few months. I would suggest that they highlight in the induction meeting that if you do not register for your exams before the deadline you will have to pay a lot of money to do so.

ACCOMMODATION

I thought that the size of the accommodation was good. However I felt that it was overpriced by £100-150. On the whole International House has more positives than negatives, because of the social environment it fosters. I would point out that if you lose your key card the manager will charge you 10 euros to open your room, as I found out on several occasions.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

The transport infrastructure in Rotterdam is good, although nowhere near as frequent as in Manchester. This made it easy to travel. I found the social life a little repetitive, partly because a lot of international students like familiarity. I am not the biggest fan of clubbing and so I got bored at some points with the social activities. But all in all the city was good socially, and the bar opposite the accommodation is very convenient. Also International House is a very lively place (until the last couple of months when a lot of students move out) and there was always stuff going on. I did not really spend a lot of time with student activity groups although the business school one seemed good (I attended several of their functions). I also went on the Ski trip which was incredible.

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

Hard work but a very rewarding and memorable experience.