International Experience & Communication Skills
module
Master in Management (MiM)

Section: International Experience (3 ECTS credits)

Report guidelines

Formal requirements:

- 10,000-15,000 characters (excl. spaces; excl. cover page, excl. table of contents, excl. list of references; approx. 4-6 pages of pure text)
- Cover Page with name and matriculation number
- Clear structure (e.g. subheading, table of contents)
- In German or English
- Must be submitted as a text file (e.g. in Word) electronically
- Factual writing style, no story telling
- No colloquial language

Structure (mandatory):

1. Very short description of the international experience
2. Similarities and differences between your own culture and the culture(s) of the people in your social environment
3. Transfer and Embedding of experiences into a scientific context
4. Example of an intercultural conflict, difficulty, etc.
5. Concluding thoughts

Guidelines for each part of the report:

1. Description of the international experience (max. 1000 characters, excl. spaces)
   - Where was I, for how long, and what did I do?

2. Similarities and differences between your own culture and the culture(s) of the people in your social environment
   - How did the people around me behave and what struck me the most?
   - In what ways was their behavior different or similar to mine?
   - In what ways were my own culture and the culture(s) of the people around me similar?
   - In what ways were my own culture and the culture(s) of the people around me different?
   - What do those similarities and differences say about me and my culture?
Please note: We are interested here in cultural differences and similarities on an interpersonal level, not in differences of geography, climate, language etc. Further we are not interested in story telling: Please choose a factual writing style!

3. Transfer and Embedding of experiences into a scientific context
   - How can I associate my experiences gained abroad with scientific practice using available scientific concepts and methods? For this purpose, a list of references is suggested below.
   (Attention: The references listed herein are not compulsory but rather meant to serve as guidelines. Students are very welcome to refer to alternative relevant scientific literature in accordance with their own experiences.)

Please note: You have to pay attention to correct citation! For further information read our citation guidelines (TUM Citation guide). We prefer the APA style.

4. Example of an intercultural conflict, difficulty, etc.
   - Structure: Description – How I interpreted the situation – How the other people involved interpreted the situation (change of perspective) – Reflection

Please note: We are interested here in an example of a conflict, difficulty etc. which arose out of different cultural background. Not typical language barriers etc.!

5. Concluding thoughts (please be brief, no long explanations)
   - How did I benefit from my time abroad (project, etc.) in terms of intercultural or international experience?
   - What did I learn about myself?
   - What did I discover about my own culture?
   - What did I discover about other people and their culture(s)?
   - What did I learn about intercultural/intercultural communication?

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Annex – List of references (examples)


Müller, S./Gelbrich, K. 2014.


Podsiałowski, A. 2004. Interkulturelle Kommunikation und Zusammenarbeit


Please note: There is also country-specific scientific literature available, e.g. the book series “Handlungskompetenz im Ausland” of Thomas, A. (Hrsg.). The individual books are titled “Beruflich in [LAND] - Trainingsprogramm für Manager, Fach- und Führungskräfte”.