

EXPERIENCE REPORT



Partner University: Corvinus University of Budapest

Country: Hungary

Semester: Winter Semester 2024/2025

Degree Program: International Management (M.Sc.)

Name of the Program: Master International Management (CEMS MIM)

Completed courses (graduate courses):

- CEMS Block Seminar
- Technology Innovation and Knowledge Management
- Changing Environments and Globalization
- The foundations of behavioural economics
- Comparative Cross-Cultural Management
- Global Strategy

The University

The Corvinus University has four buildings. Two of them are historical buildings located next to the Liberty Bridge. Another one is next to them, and the fourth is the newly opened Gellert Campus. The latter one is easy to reach by public transport but requires a short walk (10 minutes) uphill, which is compensated by the view that it has to offer (The 3rd picture is the view from the rooftop terrace).

The CEMS program manager was very helpful and provided us with all the material regarding the choice of courses and registration.

Courses

The Block Seminar was a nice official start to the semester. During the day, we had a class that was in the first part of the week rather theoretical and the end more practical as we had a guest lecture by a company that gave us a project to work on. In the evenings, we had events organized by the university, like a dinner and events by the local CEMS Club which both were great opportunities to get to know each other.

The **Technology Innovation and Knowledge Management** class revolves around a theoretical part and then using the newly gained knowledge to solve a case in a group. The lecturer was very helpful and gave us guidance in the process.

Changing Environments and Globalization is held by a philosopher, which is quite rare for a business school. We had a lot of discussions in class, and we shared a lot of our own experiences in that class that don't necessarily revolve around business.

The foundations of behavioral economics took place during the intensive week, which was held before the actual semester started. We went to a lot of topics of behavioral economics and had to write a six-page essay about two topics we could choose ourselves. It was also my only class on the Gellert Campus.

Comparative Cross-Cultural Management is a class that revolves around how people from different cultures can work together. For that, we had to form multinational groups and sometimes work in person or online together.

Global Strategy walks you through all the common frameworks and teaches you how to solve case studies. Some felt a bit rushed, but at the end of the semester, everyone had a lot of experience in presenting and solving case studies.

Preparations

Since Hungary is an EU country, applying for the Erasmus stipendium was the only real bureaucratic task that I had to fulfill before going there. Finding accommodation is easy compared to other places (for example, Cologne). Usually, people find their accommodation via Facebook. I would recommend being aware that scams are possible and maybe asking others if the offer seems real. It is very common for landlords to rent out individual rooms to Erasmus students.

How to get there

Taking a train takes around 13 hours if everything works out well (but with luggage the cheapest option), taking a plane is very comfortable as the airport is well-connected to the city via a shuttle bus. You can also drive, but be aware that free parking is nonexistent close to the city center.

Daily life and travel

Budapest is a beautiful city that has a lot to offer. The weather is a lot better than in Cologne. Public transport is amazing (Compared to Cologne and a lot of other European cities) and for students very cheap (Around 5 Euros a month for a pass for the whole country). There are a lot of (outdoor) party options. The huge parks (like Margaret Island) hold a lot of opportunities for outdoor activities. Budapest itself offers everything that a typical city that size would offer, and its surroundings are worth a visit, too. The CEMS Club took us to lake Balaton, which is just a bit more than an hour by train away.

They also planned a lot of events, and I would recommend you to participate in them. Other than that, the local ESN is also very active and offers a lot of events.

Many destinations are easily reachable from Budapest. I did a trip to Ljubljana and Lake Bled, which I would recommend.

Overall, it was an amazing semester, and I am sure you will enjoy it too if you come to Budapest!

