

QUESTIONNAIRE

EXCHANGE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES OF STUDYING AT THE HOST UNIVERSITY

A. Background questions

1. Sex

Female Male

2. Age _____

3. Home country

4. Mother tongue

5. What other language(s) can you speak? How would you describe your proficiency in this language/these languages?

Language	Fluent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. What do you study at the host university? In which department/departments?: (not in HU)

7. How long are you going to stay in the host country? _____ months

8. Why did you want to become an exchange student? Do you want to: (not in HU)

Study a major subject

Study a minor subject

Learn the language of your host country

Something else: _____

9. How did you come to the host country? (not in HU)

Within an exchange programme (Which?) _____

On your own initiative

10. Why did you decide to come to the host country as an exchange student?

11. What has surprised you most about the host country?

12. What have you enjoyed most about the host country?

13. What have you enjoyed least about the host country?

14. Did you take part in the orientation week programme?

Yes No

15. Did you get all the information you needed during this week?

Yes No

16. If not, what other information would you have liked to be given?

17. Have you had any difficulties in dealing with practical matters or getting to know the university?

Yes No

18. If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please specify the problem areas:

- Registration
- Housing
- Banking services
- Finding your way around the campus
- Using the library
- Computing Centre services
- Health care services
- Meals
- Other (please specify)? _____

19. Please describe one or two of the problems you had:

B Proficiency in the language of the host country

0. Did you know any Finnish/Hungarian/German before coming to the host country? (only in FI, HU and Jena)

Yes No

Questions 1 - 2 are only for those who knew the target language when they arrived in the host country. (only in FI and HU)

1. Please evaluate your language proficiency on your arrival in the host country.

fluent good fair/satisfactory (very) poor

2. Where and how did you learn the target language before you came to the host country?

3. Which language course are you attending now?

C Questions about studying

1. Were you able to get information about studying in the host country before your arrival?

Yes No

2. If you got information in advance, who gave it to you or how did you get it?

- From staff at your home university
- From students at your home university who studied earlier in the host country
- At information events organised by your home university
- From the website of the host university
- Through contacts with staff at the host university (via e-mail, letters, phone calls ...)
- Some other way (please specify) _____

2a. What information did you get in advance? (only in FI and HU and Jena)

3. Did you get all the information you needed?

Yes No

4. If not, what extra information would you have liked to be given?

5. How many of the following formes of teaching do you attend to? (only in Dresden)
 What forms of teaching do you attend? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

	Number
Lectures (all: DE, FI, HU)	____ <input type="checkbox"/>
Seminars	____ <input type="checkbox"/>
Practice courses	____ <input type="checkbox"/>
Laboratory work	____ <input type="checkbox"/>
Written examinations	____
Oral examinations	____
German language courses	____
Other (please specify) _____	____ <input type="checkbox"/>

5a. If you have already taken an exam, which language did you use to answer the questions? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

- English
- Finnish/Hungarian/German
- Some other language? (please specify) _____

6. Are you studying in Finland/Hungary (only in FI and HU)

- in English only?
- in Finnish/Hungarian?
- both in Finnish/Hungarian and in English
- in some other language way (please specify) _____

7. Which forms of teaching do you find the most difficult and which the easiest? (1 = easy, 2 = demanding, 3 = difficult, 4 = very difficult) (only in DE/only in Dresden)

Lecture	1	2	3	4
Seminar	1	2	3	4
Practice courses	1	2	3	4
Laboratory work	1	2	3	4
Written examination	1	2	3	4
Oral examination	1	2	3	4
German language courses	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify) _____	1	2	3	4

8. To what extent do you have difficulties in the following areas?: (only in DE)
 (0 = none, 1 = a little, 2 = moderately, 3 = a lot, 4 = very much)

a) understanding the speech of teachers and room mates (fast, inarticulate, dialectal speech)

0 1 2 3 4

b) understanding long sentences (the word order differs from that in your mother tongue)

0 1 2 3 4

c) understanding the content (too little advance information)

0 1 2 3 4

d) understanding the connecting thought (difficulties in understanding the structure of a lecture/ conversation) (only in Dresden)

0 1 2 3 4

e) participating in a discussion (conversational conventions differ from those in a mother tongue, insufficiency of the vocabulary)

0 1 2 3 4

9. Were you given, beforehand, information about what is expected of you when you

- take an exam?
- write an essay?
- write a seminar paper?
- write a summary?
- write a report/portfolio?

10. Are you used to a different form of studying at your home university?

- Yes
- No
- Yes and no

11. If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, please explain in what way(s) studying in host country is NEW for you and differs from studying in your own country.

12. Did you have any difficulties using the library? If so, what were they? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

D. Questions about everyday situations

General (only in Jena, FI and HU)

1. In which situations have you had communicative problems? (You can mention more than one)

- at the cafeteria/in the restaurant
- at the doctor/dentist
- at the hairdresser
- in shops
- at the post office

- at the travel agency
- at the swimming pool
- at the ice rink/when buying tickets for an ice-hockey match (only in FI)
- in renting skiis
- At the railway station/when bying tickets for a trip (only in HU)
- in any other situations? Which? _____

2. What type of help would you have liked to have? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

Bank (only in Jena, FI and HU)

1. If you have used an a Visa or an Access card, have you had any problems with language when

- drawing money from a cash dispenser?
- paying your bills through an automat?

2. When you have been to the bank, have you had any problems with language

- when taking out money from the counter?
- when paying bills at the counter?
- when exchanging money?
- in some other transaction, what? _____

3. Would you have liked help in some form when dealing with a bank? If so, what kind of help and in which situation/s?

Travelling (only in Jena, FI and HU)

1. Were you informed about

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| the discounts you can get with your student card in trains and buses? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| where you can buy train an bus tickets? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| how you can exchange the ticket you have bought for a different one? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| on which trains you need to reserve a seat? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. How do you usually get around in the host city?

- On foot
- By bicycle
- By bus
- By car
- Some other way (please specify) _____

3. Have you had any difficulties getting around in the host city? Please specify

Media (only in Jena, FI and HU)

1. Do you read local newspapers?

Yes No

2. If yes, which ones?

3. Which articles do you find especially important? (You can mention more than one)

- local news
- international news
- cultural affairs
- sports news
- notices about local events (e. g. cinema programme, concerts ...)
- Special offers (food, clothing, electronics ...) (only in Dresden)
- job adverts
- tv- programmes
- other (please specify) _____

E. Social life and leisure

1. Have you got to know any students of the host country?

Yes No

2. If you have, where and how (studies, leisure activities, hobbies etc.) did you get to know them? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

3. If you have not got to know any, why do think that is?

4. How much time (a day, a week, ...) and in which situations (home work, sports, cinema, parties, ...) do you spend with

	Time	Situations
other foreign students?	_____	_____
local students?	_____	_____
mixed groups of local and foreign students?	_____	_____

5. What language do you use when you communicate with local students? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

6. What language do you use when you communicate with foreign students?

7. Are you familiar with leisure activities organised by (only in Jena, FI and HU)
- the university?
 - the workers' institute/open college?
 - any other associations?
 - other free-time activities? (please specify) _____

8. Where did you get information about leisure activities? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

9. Do you participate in these/organised leisure activities? (only in Jena, FI and HU/only in Dresden)

Yes No

10. What leisure activities do you participate in?

11. Is it necessary to know the target language in order to obtain information about these activities or to participate in them? Why? (only in Jena, FI and HU)

12. Have you ever found yourself in a situation in the host country that was funny or embarrassing because you broke a cultural convention?: (only in DE)

Yes No

13. If so, please describe the situation. (only in DE)

F Important/essential vocabulary

Can you think of any basic phrases in the target language that would be useful to know before coming to the host country? Write down **ten** phrases that would have been of use to you when you arrived. You do not need to put them in any order of importance **and you can write them down in English if you don't know or remember the Finnish/Hungarian expressions. (only in FI and HU)**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Other comments:
