



**Università Commerciale
Luigi Bocconi**

**Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi
Exchange Semester SS 2019
Experience Report**

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Milan is a lively city, with plenty of places to visit. I would suggest looking early on for an accommodation, which is quite complicated and might get expensive in this city. I was staying in the nice neighbourhood of Porta Ticinese, which is at walking distance of the university and close from the Navigli.

Bocconi is a very nice university with plenty of students from different horizon. Here is a small description of the classes I chose during my term abroad.

Italian Crash Course

This class will teach you some Italian language basics, which prove to be quite useful when living in Italy. It is a two weeks class, that starts approximately five days before the official beginning of the semester and is designed for exchange students exclusively. Even if you are not really interested in learning Italian, it is still a good way to get to know other exchange students. There will be a pass-or-fail exam at the end of the two weeks, where in case of success you receive a certificate.

There is a Follow-Up course that takes place during the semester, which I did not attend as previous exchange student mentioned that they did not benefit from it as much as they thought. Some people I met told me that it was quite tedious too, therefore I would not recommend the follow-up course. Furthermore, it is unfortunately not possible to receive language credits (HSG policy) for both the Crash Course and the Follow-Up.

Corporate Finance (6 ECTS)

This class is reserved for exchange students, there is no choice of being with local students, although they will pass the same exam. The course is very interesting and the teacher is excellent. The grading is divided in different components, there are weekly quizzes based on the readings, two group cases and a final exam. The two first components account for 50 percent of the grading (respectively 30 and 20 percent) and the final exam accounts for 50 percent as well. It is relatively easy to achieve a decent mark for the quizzes and the cases, however the final exam is a bit more complicated. Overall, the grading is fair. The workload is fair as well. Attendance is not mandatory, but I advise one to attend to the course.

I would recommend this class.

Macroeconomics – Module 2 (8 ECTS)

This course is the equivalent of Macroeconomics II at HSG. It is very interesting since you revise some of the concepts of Macroeconomics I in depth. Patrice De Micco is an excellent and friendly teacher. The course is very well structured with weekly readings and problem sets that are solved with the teaching assistant during TA sessions. The evaluation is composed of a mid-term exam and a final exam, each of them account for 50 percent of the grade and the grading is also fair with a decent workload. If you did not already attend Macroeconomics II in St. Gallen, I would recommend this class.

Business Strategy (6 ECTS)

At the beginning of this class, one can either chose being an attending students or a non-attending one. I decided not to attend this class. There are not many differences between being a non-attending student or an attending one the major one is that the grading is done differently. When not attending, there is only a final exam which accounts for 100 percent of the grade whereas for attending students there are weekly cases and a presentation in addition to the final exam. This course is the equivalent of Strategic Management at HSG. The reading was very interesting; however, the lecture slides are slightly confusing and not very well structured. Some of the attending students told me that the lecture where a bit disappointing and the teacher was not as good as in the other classes they had. For these reasons, I would not recommend this class, except if one needs to do it.