Arts and Social Sciences

Charles University

World Literature/Digital and Print Pu

Czech Republic

January 2017

May 2017

1430.00 (not round trip, 2 one-way tickets)

Canadian

100.00

Proof of enrollment, proof of acceptance into exchange program, pa

Ottawa

40 days

ECES arranged a car service to transport me from the airport to the dorm, it was very easy. However, I was arriving much later in the day (11:30pm) and there was no one from the university, except for the receptionist of the dorm (who spoke little to no

Vaclav Havel Airport

The orientation is mandatory, and completely necessary. It helps you become oriented in the city (as the dorm is 15 minutes away by tram from the city centre) and they help you get set up with a transportation pass (your best friend) and student ID. They spend 3 weeks getting you accustomed to the language, the people, the culture and how to get around your new home. It would have been a lot more difficult without that.

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3 weeks prior to the beginning of the term

Czech is a very difficult language to learn, don't expect to master it even if you decide to take the full course through the semester. The 3 week course gives you the basics to survive but is challenging nonetheless.

650.00

15 minute tram-ride

For the first week we were given ethernet cables and were not set up with wifi until the end of the week in the dorm (very frustrating for those trying to contact their parents/friends etc). Once the wifi was set up it was adequate. There is a phone for dorm use at reception, however I never used it.

I did not live off-campus and I was not familiar with many people who did and never had the chance to chat about it. I knew one girl who was living in her own apartment and she seemed happy with her situation. The ease of which she (or others) found that accomodation is unknown to me.

770.00

The dorm is not pretty and it is not a 5-star hotel. It is quite reminiscient of a hostel that one would stay in while backpacking. However, it does have a certain charm to it and breakfast is provided Monday through Friday, which was greatly appreciated. The rooms are spacious and have elevated ceilings and large windows. Once you make it your own with posters and decorations it becomes a lot cozier. The common room on the 4th floor is nice, there's a TV where you can hook up your laptop and play movies on the big screen plus a communal kitchen (if you don't like cooking on hot plates). It's a nice little spot to hang out if you want a night in.

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Bring some Czech korunas (aprox. 50$ worth) and some Canadian cash that can be exchanged. Otherwise you can withdraw money (korunas) from the bank ATMs (I preferred raiffeisen bank) with your debit card.

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While some places accept credit/debit cards most prefer cash, especially smaller venues.

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At a designated time all of the students are open to registration and one selects the course they want and simply click "sign-up." If the course is full they are put on a waiting list. However, the ECES website is being revamped so I am unsure whether this method will continue.

Literature, Film, History and Photography (A

English

All of my professors were very lovely and had a similar teaching style to my professors at ¶¡ïãÔ°AV. My classes were small and ran more like seminars with active discussion mixed with lecture. All of my professors at Charles University were very passionate about what they taught and had a wealth of knowledge not only about their field but the Czech Republic itself. It is inevitable that you will learn about the history of the Czech Republic in each of your classes despite the discipline.

The main academic benefit is that I have studied Czech literature, film and art as I was actively participating in the culture that I was studying. It proved to give me a much deeper and richer understanding of what I was studying and a much greater appreciation for it as well.

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