



ATHENS – Final Report

Month/Year: March/2024

Code and name of the course:

TUM 0324-02: Automotive and Aerospace Design for Crashworthiness

Host University: Technische Universität München (TUM), Germany

Course Language: English

Dates: 16/03/2024 - 23/03/2024

Student: Antonín Ďurana

e-mail: duranaa@vscht.cz

Transport:

Means of transport (+ price): **1 400 CZK** for a direct train Prague – München and back.

Local transport:

- Weekly ticket (*IsarCard* via app MVGO) **21,10 EUR**
 - I don't think it's necessary to buy a weekly ticket. TUM is in a walkable distance (approx. 20 minutes) from the main train station (and most of the hostels), same with the restaurant and the Spaten brewery as a part of the program (more in the Spare time section).
 - Another option: multiple single one-way tickets (2 hours) 3,90 EUR
- I really recommend installing the MVGO app, where you can buy all the tickets and find more information, directions etc. Another possibility – buying printed tickets at U-Bahn stations (similar to Prague subway).

Accommodation:

I was accommodated at the *Euro Youth Hotel* (4 min walk from the main train station). I arrived in München a day earlier and left a day later, for those 8 nights in a shared room with 3 other Athens colleagues I paid **262 EUR**. Hotel was very nice and clean with a guest-only bar downstairs (karaoke-night on Saturdays, pub quiz on Wednesdays, upon arrival you get a coupon for one free drink). On the same street as my hotel, there were other hostels, e. g. *Jaeger's* (including nice hotel bar downstairs even for non-guests) and *Wombat's City Hostel*.

Next time I'd probably stay in *Wombat's*, because it has a very modern kitchen (in comparison to no kitchen in Euro Youth), bar with a pool table (also karaoke nights I believe every Friday) and beautiful indoor relaxation spaces. However, I don't have any expense comparisons between those hotels.

Food:

As part of the programme, we got to visit a traditional Bavarian restaurant *Augustiner Keller* on Monday. It's a pretty expensive restaurant (around 30 EUR for food and one beer) with part of the restaurant underground (look it up on their website), I think it's worth the money as a one-time experience. During weekdays we usually picked up breakfast in Lidl very close to our hotel (prices similar to czech Lidl). Close to TUM there is a lot of bakeries, sandwich shops, cafes and even McDonald's, so you have a great number of options for lunch. I don't recommend getting food at TUM cafe or menza, because you need a guest card (10 EUR) and prices for non-students are much higher than for students. For dinner we usually picked up some kebab/döner close to hotels (7-10 EUR) and went for drinks (3-5 EUR for 0,5l beer). We usually spent evenings in areas close to hotels or in the city centre (Marienplatz), bars and pubs were pretty expensive there, but I believe there are some more student friendly areas in München.

Scholarship – the amount you have received:

5 400 CZK

The scholarship I received covered **63 %** of my expenses (transportation and accommodation). Including food, the percentage would probably be much lower (see Food section).

Course schedule (how it was organised):

From Monday to Friday, we had lectures from 9:00 to 16:30 with one hour lunch break. From the very beginning we knew the time schedule, lecture topics, names of lecturers etc. On Friday we had a presentation (two persons groups) on topics we decided on Tuesday. We had time blocks dedicated for preparing presentations on Wednesday and on Friday morning. We were also required to write a 5-page-minimum report about the same topic as our presentation, deadline 3 weeks after Athens. I found the organization of this course to be very efficient and accurate, the schedule was correctly followed in most cases. In general, you were „only“ supposed to listen to the lectures and discuss with the lecturer. It was the discussion with professor or other students that was given great emphasis, especially during parts about ethics.

Spare time:

Program included tour of the city on Sunday, visit to a Bavarian restaurant *Augustiner Keller* on Monday and for Saturday you could decide between a visit to *Spaten Brewery* or *Deutsches Museum*. I went to *Spaten Brewery*, but not including the free-beer-after-tour part, there wasn't much to see, so I recommend visiting *Deutsches Museum* instead. In my spare time I visited other places with my friends, the most beautiful and interesting ones were *Schloss Nymphenburg* and *BMW Welt* and *BMW Museum*. Since lectures ended late in the afternoon, there wasn't much time to explore the city on weekdays, the best option is to go during weekend after tours or stay in München longer.

Overall Evaluation:

I really enjoyed this course, met a lot of new people and fellow students from all around Europe, I can proudly say that it was a life-changing experience. The lectures were long, but with interesting topics (modelling of crash tests, dummies, materials, ethics and law, customer safety etc.) and lecturers including guests from BMW factory.

A lot of things we talked about at the lectures were new for me (my programme is Chemistry and technology of materials) and I believe this course is the most beneficial for automotive, aerospace or mechanical engineers and students who work with computational mechanics and modelling. But don't worry, even if you have no background in these fields, the lecturers usually explained everything very well in an engaging way.

I definitely recommend everyone to participate!

!!Obligatory Enclosure: A4 POSTER (preferably with photos*)