

# Master Double degree Mechatronics program

First semester



Leibniz University  
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Impression by I.T. 

# Introduction

My name is Ivan, I live in St. Petersburg, Russia, since 2000. I was born in Crimea, Ukrainian Soviet Republic in a city, called Kerch, on a Black sea, which is several kilometers away from Russian border. I study IT in St. Petersburg Polytechnical University got a Bachelor degree and decided to go to double degree Master programm between my university, and Leibniz University of Hannover. The reasons why I've chosen this particular program are simple:

- I had opportunity to study abroad
- I had a strong desire to change something in my education after the first four years
- LUH is on the edge university in science and technology, with which St. Petersburg Polytechnical Uni has partnership programm
- Having a diploma of European university, especially German, is a good benefit in finding then the job either in Russia, or anywhere else in Europe

I've made some conceptual chapters in this report, devoted to different aspects of my life in Hannover, which contain general information, my impression, pros and cons, etc.

## Dormitory

The dormitory I live in situated in eastern part of city, one U-bahn station from the eng of line 4, Roderbruch. It is very quiet and nice, a lot of shops around, on the way from dormitory building to station, it is always easy to buy food and stuff, and you fo not need to go anywhere too far. Post is also near, which is nice. My way from dormitory to station takes roughly 5 mins, so I totally like it. But the overall dislocation of building is not best for me. Most days a week I needed to go to totally another part of the city, which is called Garbsen, which is north-western part, where most amount of lectures in my schedule are heldin a building, called PZH(Produktionstechnisches Zentrum Hannover). So, my way to university in most cases takes around hour. This, I must say is the biggest disadvantage. But, to say about the

dormitory itself, I have a very nice, clean, sunny room on southern side, I live on 5 floor, there are not so many people there, because the wings of the building are smaller, than on lower floors. The kitchen is okay, and so is the shower.

I was really surprised by how is the bulding maintained, through these 6 months, the floor of the kitchen was totally cleaned-up, the discs of stoves have been replaced, the shower was replaced by a newer one, the toilets are maintained pretty well.

We also got a new table in a kitchen and sofas as well.

I should also say a good word about the work of personell, House master, electrical engineer, etc who always helps with light bulbs and such kind of living stuff.

## Main Building



When you first go inside the main building, it looks totally different from what you expected from outside look. The hall is enourmous and encourages whith it's volume and shining. My home university also has a great main building, very old, but not a castle-building. Sometimes you feel like being in Hogwarts:) I must say, that

all classes, I've been in were very well equipped, had good light, and blackboards. But there are definitely some bottleneck places, in my opinion.

One of these places is the first floor hall, there is not enough room for people in hall, where red tables are. In rush-hour you just go through it, but all places are occupied.

I need to point out though, there is a place, called information office. Personnel there is always kind, helps with any question, and always have a best way out in your problem situation. A lot of thanks to them.

The park just behind the main building is awesome!

## Canteen



I personally like the prices, the assortment of the food in canteene. Sometimes it can be a little overcrowded, but it is about ques before getting the food. You always will have a place to seat, if you already ordered food. It is always very clean, and good-looking.

# PZH (Produktionstechnisches Zentrum Hannover)



This is the place I spent the most amount of my time, on lectures and project work. I already had mentioned the problem with transport,

and time, I needed to go to the building, especially it counts in time, when the U-bahn doesn't work. The transport strike happened once, when I had exam, so I needed to take a taxi, which is not so cheap.

The building itself is very modern, it has very volumous structure inside. I totally like how it looks inside. I have been to different Institutes, they somehow vary one from other, but have simillar plan scape, so you always can find you way, except maybe IFUM, it occupies three floors, and sometimes it is hard to find the way. I've worken in hiwi room. It is very well equipped, which was not a surprise at all. I must say all institutes inside this center are very well equipped. I totally like working and studying there, except of the time in public transport, I need to go there every day.



# Study process



The studying process is organised well, there were some problems with some subjects, it can be explained by the fact that our programm, is new, we are the first three students to study it, so there are some problem places, some booklets were on German language, we didn't have a lecture on Dynamics subject held on English, but nevertheless, it didn't affect how we passed through exams. Maybe we just needed to spent so more additional time.

Talking about exams, I need to say, that they are very fair. I had three different types of exams, held in written, oral, or something combined forms. The hardest for me was written. The amount of questions were not correlated with the time. But, you do not need to answer all of them to get best mark. Written exam is very stressfull, you do not have any time to think. I even cannot imagine someone cheating on it, because you will loose more time, and overall progress will be decreased by this loss. On this type of exam all you have to do is just write all answers right after you read the description or the excersise. You do not have any time to think or imagine.

Oral exams were of different kind, but it is always up to the professor, who interviews you, which kind of questions will he ask, how deep he will go into details.

I personally like more oral exam, you have time to think, the interviewer can help you, if you stuck, etc.

## **Additional exercises**

Also, I've taken additional lectures of German, which were not included in my standart schedule. I totally liked the two teachers, which I had, Herr Apel, and Herr Baske. They were always very understandable, their descriptions were full and clear. They always answered very completely to all the questions, and Herr Apel is very artistic at the same time. I wish to continue to study at their classes, but they give classes only of one or two particular levels. Schade☺

## **Entertainment, free time**

At free time I go to gym, three times a week, it was said to me, that university has very good gym, I went there, but you need to meet a lot of criteria to go there, for example, you need to take paid lessons of trainer before you are allowed to go there. I am going to gym for 6 years already, but still needed to take this course, so I decided just to go to Mc Fit, instead, which is a big gym in city center, and is not so expensive.

When me and my friend had time we travelled to different cities around. We've been to Koln, Hamburg, Bremen, Osnabruck, Dortmund.

The cities are nice, but more or less simillar, epecially in center. Maybe it is a pro, but for example, in St. Petersburg we have a lot of railway stations, but none of them are called Central, and they all have different arcitecture, design, and feel.

I must say, when we went to Dortmund, to see a match of UEFA Champions League, between Borussia, and Zenit(St. Petersburg), we sat on a wrong train. The conductor, informed us with that, built up the new road map for us, and we dindn't pay anything extra, it was a big surprise for me. And a big thanks to DB for their personnel. Dortmund was great! The stadium is huge and very classy. And by the way, Zenit won!



I liked the dome in Koln, and the view on Rein. Also, we went to Roman history museum, which is also very well made, with a lot of stuff to see there.

## Summary

To make all the things up, I must say, that I enjoy living and studying in Hannover. Sometimes it gets boring and I go to places in Hannover where I have never been yet. Just discover some new parks or another places to visit.

The educational process hardly relies on laboratories, which are very well built, and not only in one building, where I studied, but everywhere, from the main building to Apelstrasse building, where I had classes of machine dynamics and vibration.

The people are very nice, I must say.

I totally dislike, the fact that I live so far from the university, but you cannot do anything with that. Also I dislike the strikes, which sometimes happen, making every citizen uncomfortable in their movements.

Also, the gym must be much bigger, free-to-visit for everyone.

Now I will continue studying, for the second semester. Hope my feelings will get just better.

Thanks for the opportunity to study here, providing me with scholarship, it really helped paying for dormitory and insurance.