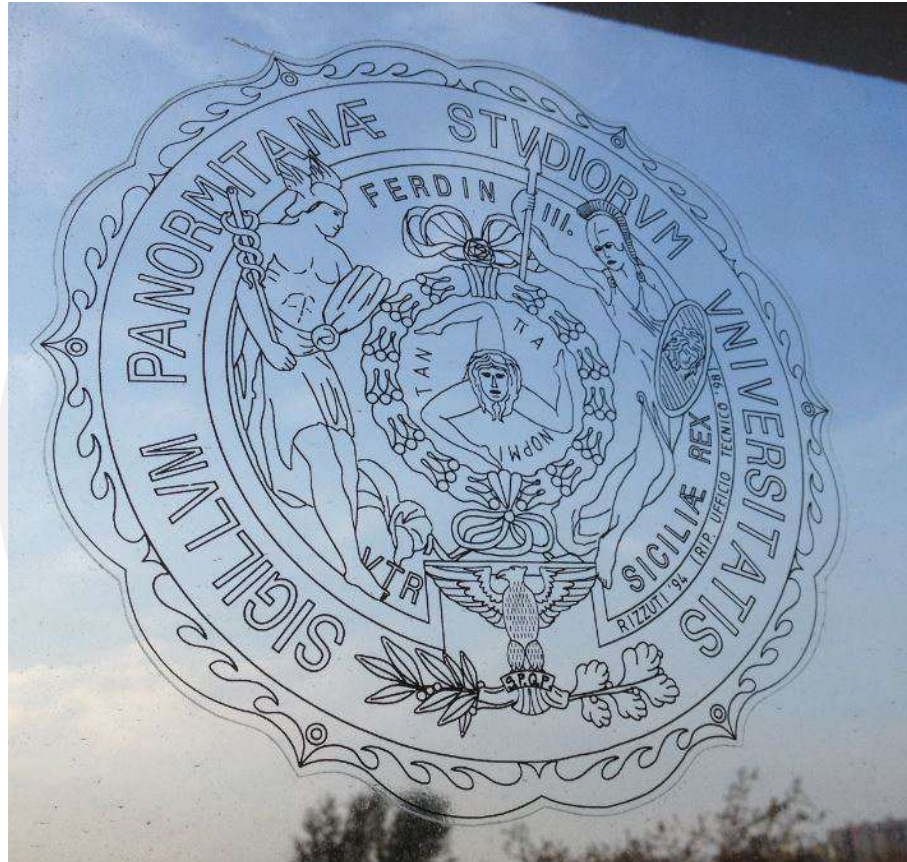




A Semester Abroad in Palermo



Welcome to Palermo!

**Experiences of two
ERASMUS students of
Hochschule Bonn-
Rhein-Sieg**

**by Marvin Glowania
and Sonja Jähnig**



Why did we decide to study in Palermo?

What does our work include?

How is living in Palermo?

What are the advantages of studying in Palermo?

How can you afford studying in Palermo?



Why did we decide to study in Palermo?

Palermo is the capital of Sicily and often associated with the Mafia. But actually it includes much more...



<http://media.web.britannica.com/eb-media/32/99232-004-51FB467C.gif>



Why did we decide to study in Palermo?



We always wanted to study abroad to become more self-confident and experience a semester in a foreign country.

Moreover especially the South of Italy offers the chance to get to know a completely different culture.

During the first five semesters it was not possible for students of the university to study in Palermo because the course of study there was only in Italian language. Therefore the possibility of performing an internship with only English language knowledge was a great opportunity to fulfill the dream of studying in Italy.

Frau Prof. Dr. Schulze informed us about her contacts and cooperation between the university of Palermo and the university of Bonn-Rhein-Sieg (ERASMUS agreement) and the possibility for students to perform their practical phase in Italy.



What does our work include?

There was the chance to choose from several topics, offered by the professors of Palermo, such as a topic in inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry and biochemistry.

Since we are interested in the field of organic and analytical chemistry, we decided to take a topic, dealing with the extraction and analysis of plant compounds, using analytical methods like TLC, CC and NMR.

Therefore we are working in a research laboratory, together with Ph.D. and other final degree students in the faculty of organic chemistry.

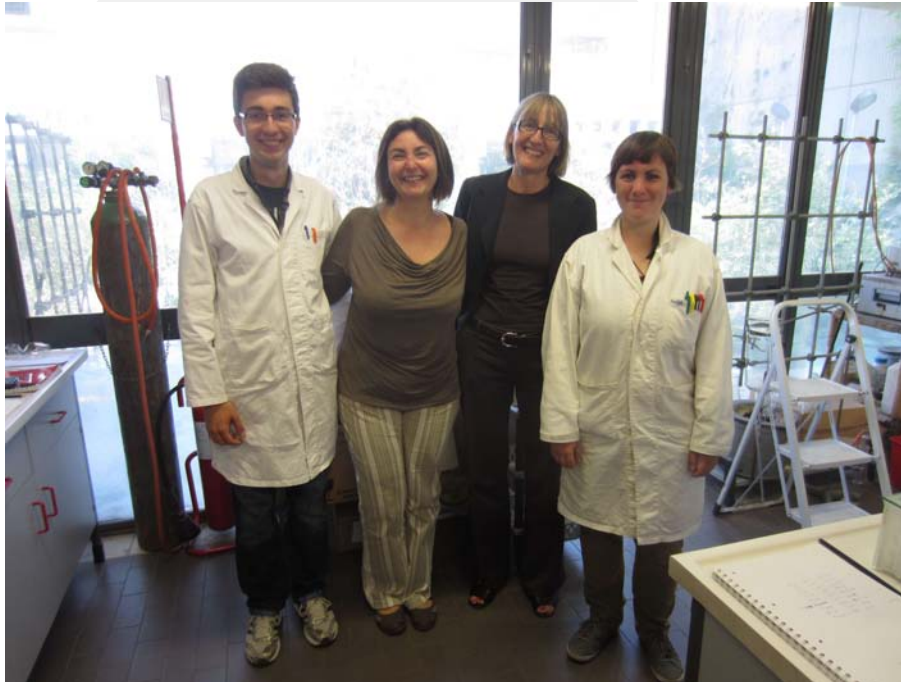


Sonja in our laboratory



What does our work include?

Even with limited Italian language knowledge we were able to communicate and familiarize ourselves with the lab work after some days. Some basic Italian understanding and participating a language course would be highly recommended. The Sicilians' English is very limited...



Left to right: Marvin, Prof. Dr. Maggio,
Prof. Dr. Bartz, Sonja



Left to right: Dr. Rosselli,
Prof. Dr. Lo Celso



How is living in Palermo?

The life in Palermo is very different from life in Germany. Many people live and work on narrow space, especially the streets, market places and buildings were not designed for modern cars and large amount of people.

Tourism is one of the main financial incomes and therefore souvenir shops, tourist guides and street hawkers can be found on every corner and in every street.

As a consequence of that Palermo is a vivid and night-active city. Particularly students can enjoy themselves here due to the vast amount of restaurants, bars and parties.

The food is awesome, too. :)





What are the advantages of studying in Palermo?

Palermo has got about 654,987 citizens (2012) and is the fifth largest city of Italy.

The average temperature is 18.5°C and in the summer even up to 40°C.

The city includes several beaches, a large port, a soccer stadium (Palermo just managed to rise into the first league of Italy), a beautiful historic district, many cathedrals, markets and so on....





What are the advantages of studying in Palermo?



Beach of Mondello
(30 min per bus)



Main Street of Palermo



Our daily way to University



How can you afford studying in Palermo?



We received financial support via ERASMUS due to the learning agreement between our university and the university of Palermo. Depending on the amount of applicants the amount of money varies (about 230€/month). The possibility to apply for “Auslands-BAfÖG” is also given.

Moreover the ERASMUS-team of Palermo rents apartments in the city center and near the university to exchange students for a low price.

Helpful organizations like ERASMUS and IAESTE can be found here:

<http://www.fh-bonn-rhein-sieg.de/auslandsamt.html>

or directly to Sonja:

sonja.jaehnig@smail.bcw.h-brs.de

or directly to IAESTE:

iaeste@h-brs.de



Arrivederci!



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