

Erasmus+ Internship Report

1. General Information

I am currently a Master's student in **Computational Design** at **Technische Hochschule Ostwestfalen-Lippe (TH OWL)**. As part of the Erasmus+ programme, I completed an internship in **Denmark**, in the city of **Aarhus**.

I worked in the **Innovation & Operations (IO) department**, which focuses on developing digital tools and new technological workflows for architecture and design processes.

The duration of my internship was **6 months during the 2025–2026 academic year**. The main focus of the internship was computational design, digital workflows, and exploring the integration of **artificial intelligence and advanced computational methods into architectural practice**.

This internship allowed me to gain practical experience in applying computational methods to real architectural projects while also collaborating with architects, engineers, and researchers.



2. Preparation (Planning, Organisation and Application Process)

The preparation process for the internship started several months before the mobility period. First, I searched for architecture offices that focus on **computational design and digital innovation**. Since Denmark is known for its advanced architectural culture and strong focus on digital workflows, it was a very attractive destination.

After identifying suitable firms, I applied sending my **portfolio, CV, and motivation letter**. The application process included communication with the company and discussions about how my computational design background could contribute to their ongoing research and development projects.

Once the internship was confirmed, the **Erasmus+ mobility application process** began. This involved several administrative steps, including:

- Preparing the **Learning Agreement for Traineeships**
- Completing Erasmus documentation
- Organizing travel arrangements
- Arranging accommodation
- Ensuring insurance and residence documents were valid

The support from my university and the Erasmus programme was helpful during this process, although the administrative steps required careful organization.

3. Accommodation

Finding accommodation in Aarhus can be challenging because it is a **popular student city** with a high demand for housing. It is therefore important to start searching for accommodation as early as possible.

During my stay, I lived in a **shared apartment**, which is a common housing type for students and interns in Denmark. Shared apartments help reduce the cost of living and also provide opportunities to meet new people.

Some important aspects to consider when looking for accommodation in Denmark include:

- Start searching **early**
- Use **student housing platforms and social media groups (facebook etc.)**

- Check whether **utilities (electricity, heating, internet)** are included in the rent
- Pay attention to **deposit requirements**, which can sometimes be high

Overall, living in a shared apartment was a positive experience and helped me adapt more easily to life in Denmark.



4. Internship Provider: Activities and Work Experience

I worked within the **Innovation & Operations department**, where the focus is on developing digital tools and exploring innovative approaches to architecture.

My tasks during the internship included:

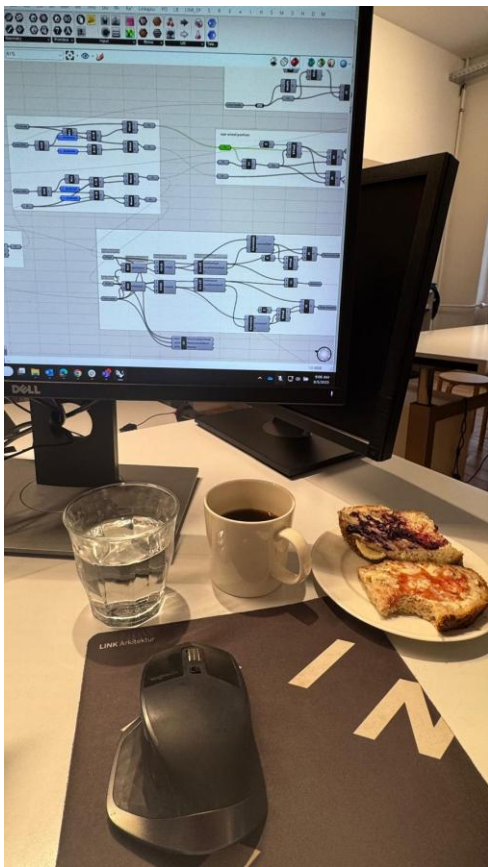
- Supporting the development of **computational design tools**
- Working with **Rhino, Grasshopper, and C# programming**

- Exploring how **artificial intelligence and automation** can support architectural workflows
- Participating in discussions about **digital transformation in architecture**
- Assisting with research and prototyping of **new design tools**

One of the most interesting aspects of the internship was working on projects related to **AI-assisted architectural design processes**. These projects explore how digital systems can help architects evaluate design decisions, automate certain analyses, and improve design workflows.

The working environment was highly collaborative. I had the opportunity to work with professionals from different backgrounds, including architects, computational designers, and software developers.

The typical working schedule was similar to a standard office job, usually **around 37 hours per week**, which is common in Denmark. The working culture in Denmark emphasizes **collaboration, openness, and a balanced work-life environment**.



5. Finances (Cost of Living)

Denmark is known for having a **high cost of living**, and Aarhus is no exception. However, careful budgeting can help manage expenses.

The main living costs included:

Accommodation:

Rent is the largest expense. Shared apartments can reduce costs significantly compared to private studios.

Food:

Groceries are relatively expensive compared to some other European countries, but cooking at home helps keep costs manageable.

Transportation:

Aarhus has a good public transport system, but many people prefer cycling. Denmark is very bicycle-friendly, which makes it easy and affordable to move around the city.

Leisure activities:

Cafés, restaurants, and entertainment can be expensive, but there are also many free or low-cost activities such as parks, beaches, and cultural events.

The **Erasmus+ financial support** helped significantly in covering part of the living expenses.

6. Everyday Life and Leisure

Life in Aarhus is very enjoyable and balanced. The city is known for its **high quality of life, modern architecture, and strong cultural scene.**

My daily routine usually included:

- Going to the office in the morning
- Working on computational design projects
- Lunch with colleagues
- Continuing project work in the afternoon

After work, I often spent time exploring the city or relaxing. Aarhus offers many leisure opportunities such as:

- Visiting museums like **ARoS Art Museum**
- Walking along the **Aarhus harbor**
- Spending time in parks and nature
- Cycling around the city
- Meeting friends and colleagues

The Danish lifestyle places strong emphasis on **work-life balance**, which makes everyday life very pleasant.



7. Insider Tips for Future Students

For students who are planning an Erasmus internship in Denmark, I would recommend the following:

- **Start planning early**, especially accommodation
- Learn some **basic Danish phrases**, although English is widely spoken
- Consider buying a **bicycle**, as it is the most convenient way to move around
- Be prepared for **higher living costs**
- Take advantage of networking opportunities with professionals

Additionally, internships in architecture offices can provide valuable insights into how **digital technologies are transforming the design profession**.



8. Conclusion

Overall, my Erasmus internship in Denmark was an extremely valuable and enriching experience. It allowed me to gain professional experience in a leading architecture office while also developing my skills in computational design and digital technologies.

The best aspects of the experience were:

- Working on innovative projects related to computational design
- Collaborating with professionals in an international environment
- Experiencing the Danish work culture and lifestyle

One challenge was adapting to the high cost of living and organizing accommodation, but these difficulties were manageable and part of the learning experience.

In conclusion, the internship significantly contributed to my academic and professional development and strengthened my interest in **digital innovation in architecture**.

I would highly recommend participating in an **Erasmus internship programme**, as it provides both professional experience and personal growth in an international environment.