

## Regensburg: a Testimonial.



I went to Regensburg on Erasmus in 2001/2002. It was ten years ago but my experience there has had a positive effect on my life afterwards. Before going to Regensburg, I knew very little about the university or the city. The city is set in idyllic surroundings on the banks of the Danube. It is also within easy reach of Munich and Prague.

The university itself is, perhaps, not as aesthetically pleasing, sharing the same architect as our beloved UCD. However there is a very vibrant student life there with plenty of opportunities to meet new people. A large percentage of the city's population are students which gives the place a very lively feel and also means the bars and restaurants are generally not too hard on the pockets.

Most importantly, my stay in Regensburg not only inspired me to pursue a career in history, it gave me the necessary linguistic tools for my research. Most of the other Erasmus students I met were in the same boat as me when I arrived, having very little German. After a month of studying, living and partying in German however, we all achieved a more than serviceable fluency in our new language. A lot of my friends from Erasmus chose to go back and work in Germany after graduation or are using German in the current professions. Overall I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in Regensburg, it was a year in which I not only gained a proficiency in German, but my experience there and the people met had a profound and very positive effect on my life. Ten years later I am still in contact with a lot of people I met there and believe that going to Germany on Erasmus was one of the best decisions I made during my time at UCD.

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