LIUC Carlo-Cattaneo University is a state institution where you can study business, law or engineering. The campus is located in a small town called Castellanza, 30 minutes by train or car from Milan. The first entrance to the campus can be surprising, as the premises are housed in an old factory. Despite the somewhat surprising architecture, the campus is very pleasant. The school remains small, human sized, but that is not all, because the campus is divided into two large parts. The first is in the lower part with the classrooms and the second, in the upper part, is composed of a large park, the library and the administrative offices.

In addition, student residences are on campus, so you only have to walk 300 meters to reach your classroom.

As far as the courses are concerned, for this year they were mostly offered in hybrid mode. It was possible for each student to choose whether they wanted to follow the courses in person or remotely. The classrooms are quite large and it is very easy to find your way around the university. In distance learning mode, the school has invested heavily in the necessary equipment so that the quality of the teaching stays the same. It is also important to know that the grading system is different in Italy as the scale is out of 30. Another obvious difference concerns the registration for online exams. It is absolutely necessary to think about registering otherwise it is very complicated to take the exam. It is also important to know that you can refuse your marks. If you feel that a mark is too low, you have the possibility to refuse it and to retake an exam afterwards. Depending on the subject, you can retake the exam once or twice. There were no activities for international students, I guess because of Covid, but the international office is still there to help us.

The best advice I can give you if you come to Castellanza is to choose a student residence. Indeed, although the place may seem surprising, it is also fascinating. It is a mixture between a hotel and a student residence. Beyond the services that are included, such as cleaning the room and changing the sheets, there is a real dynamic that you will not find anywhere else. This place allows you to mix completely with the Italians and to create bonds that you would never have imagined. The apprehension I had with this residence was about the lack of freedom and in the end I can tell you that I have never felt as free as I did in this residence, especially in this time of health crisis.

The other advice might be to take your car if you can. This will allow you to go wherever you want to visit or just go out. However, even though Castellanza is a small town, the place is very well served so it is also possible to use only public transport, especially the train.

What I appreciated most were the people I met through this university, the relationships I had the chance to create. The Italian culture is also a highlight of this experience. Indeed, Italians are very open socially and ready to do anything to help. Beyond the people, the food is incredible and of course the cultural heritage and the diversity of the landscapes you can admire.

I think the thing I liked least was the way you have to organise your choice of courses at the beginning of the semester. The Italians don't have a weekly timetable like we do. At the beginning of the semester, you have to check if the courses you choose are not at the same time during the semester. However, it is impossible to attend all the classes because of this, as some teachers change the timetable in the middle of the semester.
Because of the coronavirus, we did not have classes physically in the university. The university is about a 25-minute walk from the center of Kristianstad and can be reached by bus. The campus has a nice library where it is possible to find and borrow the books required by the different courses (be careful, there are not many). The campus is very nice with old buildings as we can see on the picture.

We took courses in Strategic Management, International Marketing and Retail Management, Business Ethics and Swedish Culture. Because of Covid, all the courses we took were distance learning. There are not so many hours of classes per week but there is a lot of personal work to do. The courses are interesting and accessible, the majority of the teachers are available and friendly. Most courses have graded assignments, oral presentations and an exam at the end of the course. If you fail an exam, you can retake it to change your grade.

Kristianstad University normally organizes activities for exchange students, but due to Covid, there were none this semester. However, a welcome meal was offered as well as the discovery of "FIKA" (coffee and cakes). The staff responsible for the exchange students is very welcoming and available to answer our questions and help us if needed.

For your trip to Sweden, I strongly recommend you to have a bank card with an international option to avoid being overcharged. You will also need to inform your bank that you are going to Sweden as the vast majority of payments are made by credit card. It may be a good idea to increase your limit. Furthermore, the currency in Sweden is not the Euro but the Swedish Krona. Before you leave, be sure to withdraw Swedish krona if you have to pay for a taxi or other means of transport. To give you an idea, 1 Euro corresponds to about 10 Swedish crowns.

Finally, bring some warm clothes but also remember to take clothes for all seasons. We were surprised by the weather. Most of the time, it is not very cold and we were dressed as if we were in France. Our winter clothes were only useful during our trip to Lapland.

Go to Lapland and see the Northern Lights. Moreover, there are great hikes to do, parks to visit...We did several road trips around the country and we rented Airbnb in the countryside or in the centre of the biggest cities like Gothenburg or Stockholm. I advise the next students to do the same thing as I loved it. We went in groups of 5-7 people, rented one or two cars (or a van) and it was not very expensive.

The cost of living was higher in Sweden than in France. Alcohol is very expensive. To buy alcohol you have to go to a specialised shop and be at least 20 to buy it. Our accommodation was a converted prison. It allowed me to be with a lot of international students and to stay in a fun atmosphere. The kitchens were not very clean. However, I would definitely recommend staying there.
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL
The University of Almeria campus is very beautiful and calm: next to the sea, palm trees... It's pretty far from the city itself but there are 3 different bus lines that enable you to go to the campus and you can easily commute by bike if you prefer. You will also find great sport infrastructures especially the gym and the swimming pool.
Unfortunately, due to Covid I only had online classes which we attended on a special website organized by the university. Since you will probably need to choose courses from different schools in the university, you may have two classes at the same time so you should ensure that this situation is as rare as possible.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
You only have to choose 5 courses from a large list which includes all fields of study so your timetable will never be over full and some teachers will ask for some homework. Again because of the pandemic, activities for international students were really rare.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 550€
My travel expenses to my host university: 140€
Housing: 190€
Internet & telephone: 10€
Food: 120€
Transportation: 5€
School supplies: 0€
Leisure: 100-300€ (excluding travel)

MY ADVICE-TIPS
The most important thing is to choose the location of your flat well. The "Zapillo" neighborhood is home to a lot of Erasmus students and very close to the beach. The center is also nice for good restaurants and clubs but it's a 20-minute walk to the beach. Also you should get a subscription to use the bus in order to go to the campus.
And if you like sport, I highly recommend getting the "UAL deporte" card that enables you to have access to the gym, the swimming pool and cheap activities with the university only for 25€ for the whole semester.

WHAT I LIKED MOST
I love the fact that Almeria is a small city with a beach but also the mountains and of course the weather is great. You can travel by bus to the main Andalusian cities, Sierra Nevada if you like skiing and there are lots of nice hiking spots. Also, Almeria is very cheap and there are amazing restaurants and tapas bars.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
If you really like very big cities, Almeria might be disappointing. And due to Covid, there were almost no ESN events.

https://www.ual.es/
During this study mobility, we had the pleasure of attending the University College Cork (UCC) located in the heart of Cork City. With the difficult health situation, we only had distance learning through Microsoft Teams. Despite this, we were still able to visit the campus and spend some time there; it is really big but above all very pleasant! The mentality of the students at UCC is totally different from the one of the French students; it is really good to live at UCC!

All three of us were in the Marketing major at Grenoble IAE, for this reason we all took mostly Marketing and Management courses (with sometimes one or two subjects related to sustainable development or an opening subject). All our courses were held remotely; the professors gave either live lectures with student interaction or recorded lectures that we had to watch on our own. UCC did a great job of organizing their courses! The professors are really nice, they don't hesitate to help you if you don't understand something or if you need anything. They are really friendly and are always very happy to welcome foreign students!

For international students, UCC has an international service dedicated exclusively to Erasmus students. This international service sends regular news of competitions, activities, news, events... to help integrate international students!

Accommodation in Ireland and more specifically in Cork is very expensive and difficult to find, so don't wait for UCC's housing offers to start your search. The student residences belonging to the UCC can offer you shared accommodation depending on the availability of places, you will have to register beforehand. You can also do your own research via Airbnb, Daft.ie, EasyCity and join the Facebook group "Les Français à Cork" in order to benefit from good deals and sometimes even housing offers. Concerning transportation, everything is easily accessible on foot, so don't ruin yourself with public transportation. If you want an alternative, you can take a Bikes Share subscription for 10€/year.

If you want to travel and know the best sports, check out the internet and subscribe to Instagram pages like cork_daily!

Despite the two and a half months of strict lockdown that we had when we arrived, we greatly appreciated the mentality of the Irish people, the city of Cork in general which is really very nice, meeting new students of other nationalities and of course traveling! We had the chance to do two road trips, the landscapes of Ireland are just spectacular!

The distance learning courses because it took us a little while to really understand the Irish and their accent (it's not a myth), the lack of student atmosphere because of COVID-19 and the cost of living in general which is quite high.
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL
We studied for the whole semester at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Valencia; it’s located in the campus Taronger which is in the big student area of Valencia.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
We chose 5 different courses in the same areas as our courses in France. It’s possible to choose the language of the course: English or Spanish, for almost all the subjects. For each one, there are 2 hours of theory and 2 hours of practice with projects, presentations etc. The timetable can be quite full but we could build our timetable when we chose our courses.
Outside of the classes, we met a lot of people and there are organizations in Valencia that offer activities and trips for Erasmus students (Happy Erasmus, Erasmus Life etc) so it’s a great way to do fun things and meet a lot of new people.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 650€

<table>
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<td>Leisure</td>
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<td>30€ bike rental</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

MY ADVICE-TIPS
If we can give some advice for an Erasmus student in Valencia it would be to take the bike pass which is really cost effective and I used it a lot. Then it would be to meet as many people as possible (join the Erasmus groups, do the activities proposed by the organizations, go to beach parties etc). You will enjoy meeting new people and new nationalities etc. You should explore the city which is very beautiful, enjoy the beach and meet a lot of Erasmus students during this semester, it will make your experience amazing.

WHAT I LIKED MOST
I really loved living right next to the beach every day, it’s like being on holiday for 5 months. Also the Spanish prices are really great (low prices !) and the Spanish atmosphere of sharing everything and being relaxed is also very nice.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
What was less pleasant about living in Spain is that it can be quite old-fashioned (decoration, technology on websites or mailboxes etc.)

Website: https://www.uv.es/uvweb/universidad/es/universidad-valencia-1285845048380.html
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL

HEC’s international relations manager Muriel Bequet is very welcoming and attentive. The university is located in the city centre. The majority of the online courses are recorded which allows students to review the courses later on. The courses offered at HEC are of a high standard, although some courses are delivered via podcasts recorded in advance, which makes the courses less lively and interactive. The student office offers many activities to discover the city and its surroundings (from cultural outings to visits to different cities in the country). Uliege offers to help students to find an accommodation and also offers a "buddy program" with an HEC student to guide the student before and during the semester.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All courses of the semester were done online because of the pandemic. No face-to-face classes or even a welcome day on campus were organised (only via zoom). No classes were held on campus for HEC students and ERASMUS students (even when the government allowed a certain percentage). The list of courses offered to third year students is relatively small. I would strongly advise looking at the content of each course in detail to make sure of the syllabus and content for each course. The majority of the courses offer are for Erasmus Masters students, not third year students which made the selection of courses rather difficult.

Depending on the courses chosen, some of them include group projects that count towards the continuous assessment. Other courses are based 100% on the final exam. The course programme starts in early February and finishes in early May. The exams are held quite late, since they take place entirely in June.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET:

865€

My travel expenses to my host university: 120 euros by car
Housing: 540 euros for a flat share in the city centre
Internet & telephone: 0
Food: 250 euros

MY ADVICE-TIPS

Do not hesitate to travel within the country. The SNCB company offers very attractive prices for students, so you can travel without worrying about the financial aspect. The cities to visit are Brussels, Bruges and Namur as well as the city of Ostend along the Belgian coast.

Try to take accommodation with people you don’t know to meet people from different countries and cultures.

Don't hesitate to consult the Erasmust website to find easy and quality accommodation (it is managed by ex-HEC students): https://erasmust.eu/

WHAT I LIKED MOST

Working with students from all over the world
Discover the country and its cultural heritage
Belgian fries and waffles

WHAT I LIKED LEAST

Distance learning courses throughout the semester
The list of courses offered by the university
The weather

Website: http://www.hec.ulg.ac.be/fr/accueil
Oulu University of Applied Sciences is a university located in Oulu, Finland. The campus is very pleasant and modern. In addition, Oulu University of Applied Sciences is located next to Yliopisto University, which means that students can enjoy a huge campus. There are classrooms, photocopiers, rest and relaxation rooms.

In terms of courses, I studied in the Business department. I was able to take Supply Flow Management, International Marketing and English Marketing. Moreover, the assessments are continuous and it is mainly group work.

As far as activities are concerned, Oulu is the ideal city if you enjoy winter activities. In Oulu you can go snowshoeing around the city, but also skiing and running. Moreover, the city is well located: roughly in the middle between the north and the south of the country. You can then visit the top and go to cities like Levi to ski, jetski, look for the Northern Lights. But also the south, for example Helsinki or Tampere.

Make sure you book your ticket in advance so that you can arrive at Oulu airport which will be much easier.

Bring very warm clothes but also city clothes for the summer days from March.

What I liked most was the January-February period of my exchange. During this period, I was able to go on a RoadTrip to Rovaniemi and I really felt I was elsewhere with the snowy forests, the elk in their natural setting, the northern lights and Santa Claus’ village.

What I liked least was that the courses were 100% distance learning. Thus, I did not have the opportunity to meet Finnish students, nor to have a real experience of Finnish education.

Website: https://www.oamk.fi/en/
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL

In the current pandemic situation we had to study online so none of us really went to the campus or had any in person classes. The building is very old and beautiful and there are libraries that we studied in, it’s a very nice student environment where we can concentrate but it's also very beautiful and accessible.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All the courses were held in English but we could choose to take language classes too. The courses are very interesting and there is a large choice. The teachers are very skilled and patient. There's a buddy program we recommend that puts you in touch with a German person and it's a really nice way to start your Erasmus journey. They also organise buddy activities but for us it was online only due to the pandemic. There are many WhatsApp groups for everything created and managed by Erasmus students that helped us get to know people.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 700-800€

My travel expenses to my host university: €150
Housing : Deposit €400 month €257
Internet & telephone : €30
Food : €200
Transportation : €100 for a semester
School supplies : €0 - €40
Leisure : €100

MY ADVICE-TIPS

Go to every event planned, don’t be scared and push yourself out of your comfort zone, do as many activities as you can, travel as much as you can, never miss an opportunity to meet new people or have new experiences, visit the city and do the hikes proposed, enjoy every second. Also if you can choose your dormitory choose WHO fichtenweg. It's the student village and is the core of every student activity and where you will meet the most people.

WHAT I LIKED MOST

The people I met (Erasmus too), the beautiful city, the vibe of the student city, the activities and the overall atmosphere.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST

The weather is mostly bad and it's sad we had to study online but it was due to the pandemic.
Unfortunately, it was impossible for us to discover the university and therefore the classes in person. Our entire semester was spent online, but it went very well! The teaching staff is used to working with software such as Zoom and this made it easier. The classes were very interesting and the teachers are very friendly with their students.

To validate the semester, we had to have 25 ECTS. This corresponds to about 5 or 6 subjects that we chose ourselves among many possibilities. The courses are entirely taught in English but it is also possible to choose, as we did, a Hungarian course to learn the national language! It was quite difficult for us to adapt to this language which is totally different from ours but in the end, we managed well!

As for activities, it was very difficult to live a normal student life because of Covid. However, a team within the BME is there to accompany new students as well as ERASMUS students to facilitate their integration. In normal times, they propose outings, integration days. They are always present if ever there is a need.

The city was really pretty and there is a lot to visit. Culturally Hungary is really beautiful. We could easily organize something in the afternoon to meet other, mainly Erasmus students, thanks to groups dedicated to this despite Covid.

Hungarians don’t like foreigners so much so you should be aware of this. But what I liked least, is the fact that we couldn’t hang out during evenings and that we could not visit all the buildings inside because of Covid.
My school was Turiba University. It is a nice school with a beautiful campus. Because of Covid 19, I never went inside the university but I lived next to the campus. The classes were online and it went pretty well. It was not too difficult, maybe thanks to the situation. It was however a bit hard to concentrate because one class lasts about 3 hours. So it could be long at the end. The website to find the content of classes is well organized and even just with classes online, you can find them easily. All of my classes were with Erasmus students, not with Latvian students.

My courses & activities for international students

I took accounting classes, management, personnel management and business ethics. The accounting classes were with the same, not very interesting teacher. The other classes were better, we had to participate, we could discuss. Almost all the courses had already been seen in France. The exams are oral or written throughout the semester and for the final exam, we had to submit written exams. The marks are not like in France, it is from 0 to 10, but it is very easy to get between 8 and 10.

My monthly budget: 350€

My travel expenses to my host university: 260€
Housing: 135€
Internet & telephone: 20€
Food: 150€
Transportation: 30€ (cabs very cheap)
School supplies: 10€
Leisure: (Covid so not a lot)

My advice-tips

Try to get an apartment (Airbnb) in the center or at Turiba hostel. At the hostel, you will meet other Erasmus students and with Covid, it was almost the only way to meet people.
Take warm clothes and good shoes because there is a lot of snow and forests.
Think to check your timetable because you can have overlapping courses and you need to be organized.

https://www.turiba.lv/en
http://www.hostelturiba.lv/?section=7

What I liked most

Discovering a new culture
Visiting the country and Estonia
Everything is much cheaper there, so you can enjoy more things

What I liked least

The Covid situation at the hostel, we couldn't do anything (so we left for an apartment in the center)
Not discovering the campus entirely and having a normal Erasmus experience.
Everything was closed because of Covid.

https://www.turiba.lv/en
I studied at the UAM in Madrid. This partnership is a great opportunity because it is the best school in Madrid and the second best in Spain. I did my Erasmus during the Covid period so I didn’t go to campus much. It is quite old but very nice when the weather is good. The cafeteria is very good and the prices are reasonable. The school is 45 min by metro from the center.

The distance learning courses are quite complicated as the class is divided in two. The face-to-face course is filmed from the back of the class and the teacher wears a mask. For Erasmus students it is quite difficult to understand everything, but the teachers are very understanding and patient and answer if you have any questions. There is a lot of group work at the UAM which allows you to integrate and work with Spanish people. You discover their different way of working and improve your Spanish. Almost all courses are in Spanish. You have to make sure that you have a minimum level of Spanish, but don’t worry, you will learn the language quickly if you have the courses in Spanish. I studied Gestión de marketing, Estructura y Relaciones Económicas Internacionales, Organización de empresas. These courses were quite interesting and feasible in Spanish. For activities with other Erasmus students I advise to join the Whatsapp Erasmus groups and class groups. Spanish people only communicate through Whatsapp so don’t hesitate to ask for the links of the groups.

Your budget will depend on how you live, if you travel, if you party a lot and if you eat out a lot. I advise you to take an apartment in La Latina, Sol, Lavapies, Malasana, or Chueca, in the center of Madrid. Here everything is done on foot or by subway. When you take an apartment in Madrid, be careful to sign a contract that certifies that your deposit will be returned to you when you leave Madrid. Often the owners never return deposits.

The Spaniards are very welcoming, everyone is always outside having drinks, the weather is always nice, partying in Madrid is incomparable to France, even during the holiday season we had the chance to meet a lot of people. Trips within Spain are not very expensive, you can go from May-June to the south of Spain to enjoy the beach or to Valencia which is 2 hours by train from Madrid. Do not hesitate to visit the cities around Madrid.

Real estate prices and deposit problems
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL

We didn’t really go to the campus. In fact, due to Covid, all our courses were remote.
Only Alexia was able to participate in face-to-face courses. The campus is nice and the rooms are clean and of normal size, they are also equipped.
There is a lot of space to work, it is a nice university to live in.
The university restaurant is also very good, you can eat there for very little money. There is a wide choice and it is very good!

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Due to Covid, many planned activities were cancelled. We had to organise them ourselves.
For the courses, however, we had chosen subjects that we thought would be enriching and we were not disappointed.
We particularly recommend the Finnish language course, which allows you to do your shopping in the supermarket without having to translate on your phone all the time. The Innovation month course is also a one we recommend, you participate in every class and you will learn a lot!
The teachers are attentive, friendly and try to get the best out of each student. They are available and you can even call them if you have a question.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET:

MY STUDIES ABROAD

STUDENT(S): Agathe & Alexia

LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B1
TEST: Toeic

FINLAND - JOENSUU UNIVERSITY

Karelia

MY STUDIES ABROAD

STUDENT(S): Agathe & Alexia

LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B1
TEST: Toeic

Housing : 230€
Internet & telephone : 20€
Food : 250€

MY ADVICE-TIPS

Finland is expensive. 25% more expensive on average. Any activity costs a little money.
So save money if you can, it’s really better to be able to travel without depriving yourself.
Take warm clothes for the winter. The essentials: neck warmer, gloves, hat, warm socks, ski jacket (warm one).
But also think of underpants, under jumpers to be able to have several layers. Also take good shoes !
In Joensuu you can rent bikes (45€ for 5 months). This is much cheaper than the bus (45€ for 1 month) and you can do everything by bike.
It will not only save you money but also keep you warm! :)

WHAT I LIKED MOST

The landscapes, the travel, discovering new things, and then the Erasmus experience. We learned a lot about others, the world and especially about ourselves.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST

The price of the bus, which is very, very expensive and varies according to the time of day. We only used our bikes!
The fact that the Finns are not very sociable and Covid didn’t help.

https://www.karelia.fi/en/front-page/
FINLAND - TURKU
UNIVERSITY
Abo Akademi

STUDENT(S): Diane
LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B2
TEST: TOEIC

MY STUDIES ABROAD

LICENCE ÉCONOMIE GESTION PARCOURS MANAGEMENT

MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL
With 40,000 students, Turku is a very dynamic city for students. There are 6 higher education institutions in Turku, including 2 universities and 4 universities of applied sciences. The University of Turku is the largest university, and Abo Akademi is the second largest. Abo Akademi has several buildings, all located near the city center. There are three libraries accessible when you are a student in Abo Akademi, where you can study, read and borrow books, use computers or print documents. It is possible to use Eduroam in the university to have access to Internet. Abo Akademi is the only Swedish-language university in Finland. As a consequence, the courses are given in Finnish, Swedish and English, and most of the students speak those 3 languages. There are 2 campuses, one in Turku and one in Vaasa. The buildings at Abo Akademi are modern and the facilities for students are very convenient.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
It is important to pay attention to the courses available before coming. Depending on what you are studying it can be difficult to find courses matching. For instance, most of the Marketing courses are given during the first semester (periods one and two). There are not a lot of courses in English for Bachelor students. The average number of class hours per week is lower than in the IAE, and is around 8 hours per week. However, the amount of personal work is greater. An emphasis is given to autonomy, with essays to write, but also group assignments. All my lessons were online, the only time I went to the university was for an exam.

The activities for international students were very limited due to Covid. In normal times, the ESN organizes several events and trips. I had the opportunity to attend an orientation race organized by all the tutors, as well as one trip organized by the ESN. I had the chance to travel despite Covid, but we had to organize it ourselves.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 800-900€
My travel expenses to my host university: 500€
Housing : 375€
Internet & telephone : 15€
Food : 200€
Transportation : 10€
School supplies : 0€
Leisure : 200€

MY ADVICE-TIPS
If you want your Erasmus period to give you a change of scene, without going far from France, Finland is the perfect destination. Don’t be afraid of the cold: we got used to it, but don’t forget to bring warm clothes. In addition to this, it is a good experience when in April-May the days get longer with endless daylight and rather warm temperatures. Nature in Finland is really impressive: renting a cottage in the middle of nowhere with friends was something unforgettable to me.

WHAT I LIKED MOST
The atmosphere in the Student Village where all the students live, meeting people from different countries (all the exchange students are in the same buildings). The trip to Lapland organized by the ESN was also very nice: huskies, reindeer, northern lights etc.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
In the beginning (January) when the daylight was very short, and when it was very rare to see the sun.

Website: https://www.abo.fi/en/
MY STUDIES ABROAD
LICENCE ECONOMIE GESTION PARCOURS MANAGEMENT

LITHUANIA - VILNIUS UNIVERSITY
Vilnius University

STUDENT(S): Pauline & Amalie

LANGUAGE(S): ENGLISH
LEVEL: B1
TEST: TOEIC

MY STUDIES ABROAD

LICENCE ECONOMIE GESTION PARCOURS MANAGEMENT

LITHUANIA - VILNIUS UNIVERSITY
Vilnius University

STUDENT(S): Pauline & Amalie

LANGUAGE(S): ENGLISH
LEVEL: B1
TEST: TOEIC

MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL

During this semester the courses were online and the exams also. We didn't go to the campus except to collect our gifts or to visit. The campus is quite small with a large library. The erasmus administrators are reactive and helpful.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We followed five courses to have our 25 credits. Courses are generally organized as follows: Course, mid-term test, team project with paper and presentation and final test in June. Classes end on May 30 for everyone.
All the class was in english.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 300-500€

My travel expenses to my host university: 150€
Transportation: 5.8€
Housing: 150€
School supplies: 0€
Internet & telephone: 4€/month in dorms
Leisure: 150€
Food: 50-200€

MY ADVICE-TIPS

The city of Vilnius is full of museums. During the winter you can go skiing. When the weather is nice, you can rent a bike and ride along the river or simply get lost in the small streets of Vilnius to discover beautiful places. It's easy and cheap to travel within and outside the country!!

Vilnius university: https://www.vu.lt/en/
Vilnius Business School: https://www.vm.vu.lt/en/

WHAT I LIKED MOST
From January to June, the weather is so variable, which will enable you to see the city from different perspectives. Also, it’s a small country; it’s very easy and quick to get around. You can travel to Latvia, Estonia, Poland, or Ukraine etc. These are accessible by car, bus, plane or train.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
The only thing is that Lithuanian people are not very sociable and sometimes they don’t like to speak in English.
**MY STUDIES ABROAD**

**STUDENT(S):** Morgan and Jeanne

**LANGUAGE(S):** English

**LEVEL:** B1

**TEST:** TOEIC

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**FINLAND - ROVANIEMI**

University of Applied Sciences

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**MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL**

We were at the University of Applied Sciences in Lapland. There are Business and Engineering courses. It is located right next to the student residences, so it is quite practical. Concerning the campus, there are two schools, ours and the "University of Lapland" which is for Law and Design. In both schools there is a university canteen where you can eat even on Saturday. The University of Lapland library is very big and quiet. You can find many books there.

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**MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

We both selected 4 courses to obtain 25 ECTS

- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- International marketing
- Social impact management
- Strategic management

All of these courses were remote and despite this, the teachers made the courses interactive and interesting. Teaching is different from France, they don’t grade you on what you have learned but on your projects and the investment you put into them.

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**MY MONTHLY BUDGET:** 900-1000€

- **My travel expenses to my host university:** 200-250€
- **Transportation:** Bicycle: 50€
- **School supplies:** 0€
- **Leisure:** 100€
- **Housing:** 400€
- **Internet & telephone:** 0€
- **Food:** 150€

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**MY ADVICE-TIPS**

Take warm clothes that can withstand -30 degrees in the worst case. It is very useful to buy a bike as soon as you arrive. You can use it all the time (even when it is cold) and means you can visit the surroundings of Rovaniemi.

A car is available for rent next to the Eero and Lauri establishments which is very convenient for groceries. You can send winter clothes back to France for about 40€ when temperatures warm up.

There are second hand stores, which are very useful to buy furniture, equipment for the apartment or even for everyday life at low prices.

For those who like to party, the best bar in the city center is the Kansaan Pubi where you can find pints for 2,5€ (extremely cheap for Finland).

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**WHAT I LIKED MOST**

The atmosphere in the residences is really good. All students help each other. Proximity to nature and the city.

Teachers are attentive and the courses are different from those in France. We felt very safe, there is no theft, no danger. The landscapes are impressive. Whether it is the Aurora Borealis visible until April, the freezing cold up to -30 degrees or during the month of May, days without nights.

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**WHAT I LIKED LEAST**

Cold weather until start of May

The Finns are sometimes cold and withdrawn.

In winter, it is dark very early which is destabilizing. The sun is very rare until March, most of the time the weather is cloudy or it snows.

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Website: https://www.visitrovaniemi.fi/fr/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjQ0b8212U0
MY STUDIES ABROAD

STUDENT(S): Alissone
LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B2
TEST: TOEIC

IRELAND - Cork
University College of Cork

MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL
University College Cork, Cork (Ireland)

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
During my semester I took: English for Academic Studies, Gender & Development, International Brand Strategy, International Management, Social Media Marketing. I enjoyed all my classes, especially English, International Brand Strategy and Social Media Marketing. International Management is actually more about Economics. Regarding activities, I had the opportunity to travel in County Cork with my flatmates. Ireland is a wonderful country with beautiful landscapes. Go to Galway, Limerick and Dingle. Cork is great too, the city is not very big. I would recommend going to Kinsale, Nohoval Cove, Inchydoney Beach. Also, go to the cliffs nearby and kayak or surf! I recommend Green Frog which is a café just in front of the University, it’s the best! You can get really nice pizzas at Oak Fire and ice creams at Swoon.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 800€

My travel expenses to my host university: 173€
Housing : 650€
Internet & telephone : 0
Food : 100€

MY ADVICE-TIPS
It isn't really worth taking a bus subscription as the student accommodation is located near the center. Renting a bike is a good idea. Renting a car is also really worth it if you want to travel. - Go to Tesco, Tesco Express or Lidl for grocery shopping. Centra is more expensive. - Green Frog is, in my opinion, one of the best cafés in town. Swoon is also really good. You can get the best pizzas at Oak Fire for an affordable price. - Travel as much as possible around Cork and in Ireland in general. Don't take an umbrella but rather a k-way and good walking shoes.
My advice would be to plan all the activities you want to do in advance, and to go even if it's raining because most of the time the rain doesn't stay all day. There are many small showers.

WHAT I LIKED MOST
What I liked most was to travel around Cork. There are so many places you can go to, even really close to Cork, with beautiful landscapes. We went for a week of holiday and visited West Cork as we visited the East several times during the semester, and basically did the Atlantic Way by ourselves which was really nice.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
After one semester in Ireland I would say that what I liked the least was the Irish weather because it is so unpredictable. But generally speaking, there is nothing I didn't like about my semester.

Website : https://www.ucc.ie/en/
First of all, the university itself is very nice, and has a very nice garden where you can come and study when the weather is good. Of course, because of Covid-19, I can't give more information about the rooms, or the classes given live with a teacher. However, if you are looking for souvenirs or jumpers with the school's logo, they are available for purchase in a shop within the school. You also have a large university library at your disposal.

As far as the courses are concerned, I enjoyed most of them, and I strongly advise to take one related to the local culture. However, I took "Celtic mythology and religion" which I thought was very interesting but maybe a bit too complex to be really worth it. As far as distance learning is concerned, it is very different from our French system. At UCC, the professors record their lectures in advance, and then we had to watch them as a video. Then we had a session where we could ask questions, do exercises, and the teacher would often reiterate the most important points of the lecture. I was worried I would not understand my lessons, as the Irish accent is notoriously difficult to understand. Finally after a few weeks you get used to it, and we also had the advantage of being able to listen to the lessons again, or pause them. As for the evaluations, on the whole we had to produce folders of work, which I think is a good thing.

One piece of advice would be to go on the studentpad which is offered after your registration, so you can look for accommodation safely (because it is guaranteed by the UCC). In my opinion, sharing a flat with locals is really the best way to improve your English, while discovering the culture of the country. Moreover, for buying meat you can go to the English market. Indeed, many butcher's shops propose deals which are advantageous.

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I think Covid really tainted my experience so I would be hard pressed to find anything I really didn't like as my Erasmus was a little bit restricted. Apart from that I can't really think of anything negative.
I was at the Quinta do Bom Nome campus at Estrada da Correia, it is 20 minutes away from the city center by metro. The campus is home to the Universidade Europeia together with the IPAM (Marketing faculty). It is a charming place with yellow buildings and many facilities such as a cafeteria where you can have a good lunch for around 6€, green spaces to take the sun between classes, a library to study and use the school’s computers, also automatic distributors for coffee and snacks. The school is quite small but very welcoming, every students know each other and there is a good atmosphere. The school administration, teachers and students are available to help and very nice people.

There was a welcome week for international students to know more about the school and meet each other.

The Management course package that I chose did not fit my academic background because it was focused on Finance and that is not the path I wanted to follow so I asked both mobility coordinators (at the IAE and in my host university) if it was possible to change. They were very understanding and we were able to combine Marketing classes with some Management classes. The courses are very interesting and easy to follow. Our teacher were focused on our needs and doubts and took time to explain some subjects if we did not understand.

Concerning the class format, we started online and when the restrictions allowed it we were able to go to campus and because we were a class of 15, some courses could still be followed online.

Concerning the accommodation, I was located but my accommodation was not that good.

Travel: there are great cities in Portugal, you have to visit Porto and the Algarve at least, you can also go to Setubal for a day. If you like the wild you can also go to the Azores or Madeira, these are islands.

For surfing you cannot miss Ericeira!

Meeting people: don’t be scared to go and meet people, the easiest is students in your class but you can also contact people through the Erasmus Whatsapp group to go for a walk, everyone is open to new people!

What I liked most during my stay in Lisbon was to walk around the city because it amazed me each time. It is full of history and colors and even if it is a capital, you do not feel the stress of a lively capital. People here are very relaxed and happy to live! I also loved to travel around the country and discover new cities like Porto, or Ericeira for the surf.

What I liked least was definitely my housing because I made a wrong choice when choosing my accommodation, my landlord was not very professional and the place I lived had damaged furniture and walls.
MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL

We didn't get to experience classes in the school due to Covid. Nevertheless the buildings are really modern and seemed really pleasant.

Matthieu participated to one simulation game face to face with a little group of students and this was really nice.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

During this semester the classes were online. It was well handled by the university and we didn't get trouble regarding this. There were still activities organised for international students, thanks to ESN. This allowed us to discover the city and meet many Erasmus students.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 600€

My travel expenses to my host university: 300€
Housing: 300€
Internet & telephone: Same as in France.
Food: 200€

Transportation: Free transport for Tallinn residents.
School supplies: 0€
Leisure: 100€

MY ADVICE-TIPS

Do not hesitate to rent a car and to discover the countryside of Estonia, it's really nice ! The highways are free in Estonia, which can be interesting.
It also really nice to participate in ESN (Erasmus Student Network) events, a good way to make friends and meet people.

WHAT I LIKED MOST

I liked everything in Estonia, but visiting the countryside was my favorite part.
Also taking a walk in the old city-center or on the beach is always relaxing.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST

Maybe for some people, the weather can be disturbing because it's -5°C / -10°C on average during the winter, with the wind it can be really cold.

Website: https://taltech.ee/en/
CZECH REPUBLIC - PRAGUE
UNIVERSITY
CZU - Czech University of Life Sciences Prague

STUDENT(S): Yasmine, Nathan, Bastien
LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B1
TEST: Toeic

MY CAMPUS & SCHOOL
With Covid-19, we did not have face-to-face classes on campus. The campus is located 45 minutes by public transportation from the center of Prague. The only time we went to campus was to get our attendance sheet signed. All of our courses were online with Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

MY COURSES & ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Regarding the courses, you must take a minimum of 25 credits, which generally corresponds to 6 courses. All 3 of us chose different courses that included: English for Business Purposes, Czech language, Human Resources Management, Management Skills, Strategic Management, Wholesale and Retail Trade.
The course system is different from the one in France, at CZU you have the choice between traditional courses (1/2 time per week throughout the semester with a project and/or a final exam) and courses called study blocks which are intensive courses that you have for one week only with an exam at the end of this week.
There is a student association in CZU that organizes special events and activities for all the university's Erasmus students however with Covid we couldn't experience this.

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 650€
My travel expenses to my host university: 150€
Housing: 400€
Internet & telephone: 0€
Food: 100-150€
Transportation: 5€
School supplies: 0 (everything online)
Leisure: 50-100€

MY ADVICE-TIPS
I highly recommend you buy the Isic card that the university offers. It's a student card that offers good discounts on different things but mainly on transportation: in Prague and for all the trains you would like to take from a Czech website (even abroad!).

WHAT I LIKED MOST
Prague is a very beautiful city with plenty of things to do.
Transport services in Czech Republic are really good, travelling around Czech Republic and to other countries is really easy.

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
Czech people are not very good in English, in general only young people are able to speak in English but older people do not speak English. But this was only annoying when shopping at the supermarket, otherwise it was fine in everyday life.
Also all products in supermarkets are written in Czech, very few products are translated into English.

We spent our semester in Bulgaria, at the Varna University of Management, on the Varna campus. This is a Business school offering different subjects for different courses. The staff are very friendly and available to answer questions at any moment. They helped us throughout the semester.

We took the online courses. We were apprehensive about it but the online courses went well. Indeed, an internet platform is available so that students can find all the documents made available to them by the professors. A document is always present, whatever the subject, which summarises all the activities to be done during the semester, the evaluation grids, the dates of the work to be handed in and the composition of the final mark. In addition, at the beginning of each week we received an e-mail reminding us of the work to be handed in.

During our semester at the Varna University of Management, we took the following courses:

Lydie, Celia: marketing - food and beverage management - branding & advertising. The subjects were not very difficult. There was just the language barrier which made it a bit more difficult. Otherwise our semester was entirely distance learning.

Ines: English 2 - Intercultural Awareness for Business - Managerial Accounting - Branding and Advertising. In each subject, one mark is dedicated to continuous assessment and another mark, more important for the final mark.

Because of COVID, we did not attend the activities offered by the university, but thanks to group conversations, you can participate in events or activities with all the other Erasmus students.

**MY MONTHLY BUDGET:** 585€

- **My travel expenses to my host university:** one-way ticket 200 €
- **Transportation:** 15€ as we regularly took taxis
- **School supplies:** 0€
- **Leisure:** 200€
- **Food:** 100€
- **Leisure:** 200€
- **Internet & telephone:** 10€
- **Housing:** 275€

**MY ADVICE-TIPS**

- Do not take the accommodation offered by Varna University of Management (poor value for money and far from the centre)
- Taxis are a good way to get around at low cost (take Triumph as they are the cheapest)
- Be careful about the choice of subjects at the beginning of the semester (many subjects overlap)
- Try to get on the Erasmus Varna and Bulgaria groups quickly to meet people and find out about events and organised trips
- Take into account the cost of extra luggage if necessary
- A nice living environment: the possibility to live close to the sea and all this at a low price
- Nice trips: Bulgaria has beautiful border countries and cities
- The courses were very interesting and enriching
- A very dynamic city (bars, restaurants, nightclubs)
- A small town with a lot of Erasmus students
- A cheap way of life that allows you to do a lot of things

**WHAT I LIKED MOST**

- Bulgarians do not speak much English
- Our arrival: we accepted the university accommodation but only stayed for 3 nights due to lack of comfort.
MY STUDIES ABROAD

POLAND – WARSAW UNIVERSITY
Warsaw School of Economics

STUDENT(S): Yanis / Jorys / Timé
LANGUAGE(S): English
LEVEL: B2
TEST: TOEIC / TOEFL

MY MONTHLY BUDGET: 560-600€

My travel expenses to my host university: 150 €

Housing: 200 €

Internet & telephone: Same as France

Food: 100 €

Transportation: 1 ticket = 0.70 €

School supplies: 4 € for the student card

Leisure: Museum = 5 €, restaurant = 10 €

WHAT I LIKED MOST
- Bars, restaurant, and night clubs
- Everything is cheaper than in France
- There are a lot of other Erasmus students

WHAT I LIKED LEAST
- The remote classes, and the classes were not the best
- Polish people go to bed early and bars and restaurants close early
- If you go there in winter, it can reach -20 degrees

Website: http://www.sgh.waw.pl/en/