

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

GABRIELA HENZ, BRAZIL

*"My
time in the
UHK"*



I'm Gabriela Elisa Henz Hammes, I'm from Brazil, and I studied the winter semester of 2019 at the Philosophical Faculty of the University Hradec Králové in the Czech Republic. Living and studying abroad always brings multipolar feelings. It is awesome to live and experience new cultures, while learning a new language (or trying to learn it, when it comes to Czech), traveling, and making new friends. However, it is difficult to be far away from home, not to mention the fact that sometimes cultural shock can be hard to overcome.

I arrived in the Czech Republic on August 10th of 2019. In the last five months that I've been here everything that I've lived was definitely worth the challenges of living abroad. Before the winter semester of 2019 started, I attended the Summer School of the Philosophical Faculty. It was a great opportunity to learn about Czech history and culture, as well as Czech language, which is quite difficult for those who do not speak any Slavic language. In summer school, there were planned short trips around the Czech Republic every Friday, which helped me to

understand and visualize what I was learning at the Czech history classes.

During the semester, the classes were easy to adapt, although dynamics here are different than in Brazil. Also, the subjects were different from the topics that are used to be presented in my home university, but this brought me new perspectives, especially about Central Europe topics, which will be the subject of my bachelor thesis next semester, in Brazil.



Living in the Czech Republic was a brand new challenge. It was an “unknown land” for me, but every new thing that I’ve learned about the country or the people amused me and made me feel very happy about my decision to come here. It has been five really intense months, with lots of learning experiences and adventures. I’m ending this chapter of my life and studies full of joy of my time here in Hradec Králové and really thankful for all the effort and attention of the UHK international office team during my stay.

