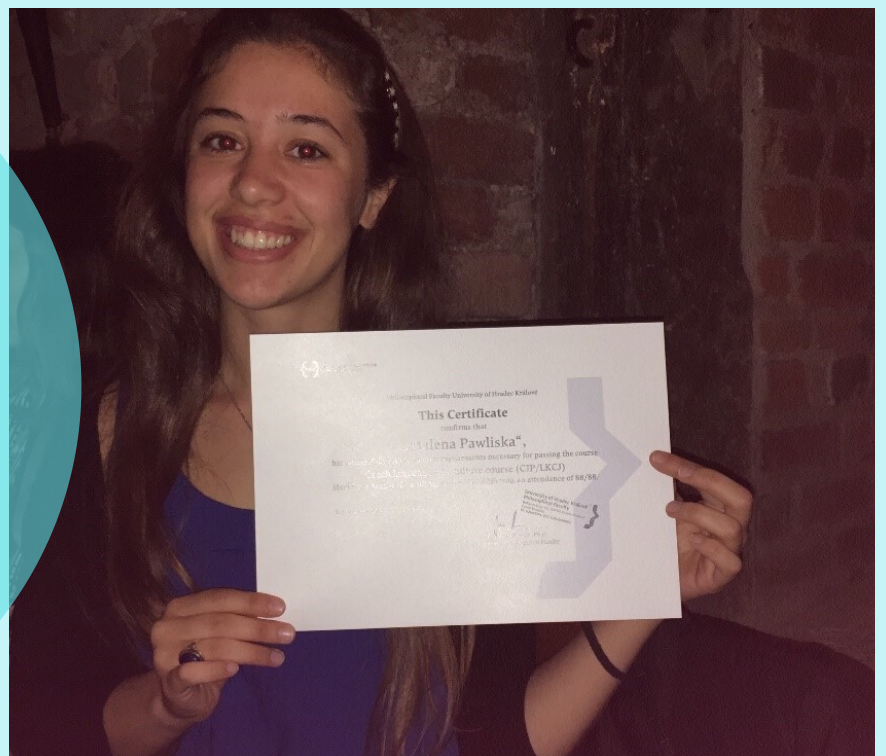


# MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

MALENA PAWLISKA, ARGENTINA

*"My UHK experience"*



My stay in Hradec Králové began with a google search back home in Tigre, Buenos Aires. My international office had sent the information that a scholarship was being offered at a Czech university. I was intrigued about the possibility of living for some time in a place very different from my home. I was sure it was going to be a crazy experience (in the good sense of the word), so I didn't even doubt to apply.

Some months later, I found myself packing my bags to go to Hradec Králové, full of expectations, fears, excitement. Everything would be new, the language, the people, the spaces... I was lucky that my 12 thousand kilometers long trip to the Czech Republic was peaceful and that the people I met on my way were friendly and helpful: I managed to get from Buenos Aires to Palachova (the school dormitories) and didn't perish along the way.

All I can say, now that I have been here for more than five months, is that I am grateful for everything that this exchange has given me. I've made new friends, I've met professors from all around the world, shared experiences with fun and enthusiastic students from the five continents, I've traveled, and learned.

One thing that I will certainly never forget is the first morning I spent in Hradec Králové. It was the Presentation Day, so all the students from the Summer School and I met for the first time. At the time, I was alone in my dorm, so I didn't know anyone. Even though we were all very different, with different cultures and languages, there was a solidarity that was evident among all of us. And so that was when I met for the first time my family abroad.

