



I grew up in São Paulo, one of the largest urban centres in the world, only smaller than Tokyo and Mexico City. I, surrounded by millions of inhabitants, thought that the world could fit in São Paulo.

When I entered the University in March 2015, I realized that I had gone far. I had moved 1100km away from home and now I was away from my comfort zone, in what I saw as a small city in the border between Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay. Facing great diversity I realized that the world was bigger than São Paulo, much bigger! In that moment, I realized that I wanted to go as far as I could, and do what anthropology proposes, understand other cultures, see how my brothers and sisters from the other parts of the world live, eat, sleep, and how they see me.

Coming to Czech Republic was a dream coming true. I had lived by myself before, and I was in foreign country before, but this was unique. I was expecting to go to an exchange program in Latin-America, but I was surprised when the chance of coming to the Czech Republic came up I knew where I wanted to go.



As I walked in the cold winter streets and I did not have a clue of what those people were saying, or when I went to the supermarket or a restaurant and I was not sure of what I was buying was sometimes funny and some other times terrifying,



The UHK was a wonderful place to meet people from all over the world, even though I didn't go to the parties the students would organize every night, I could get along with a lot of students from places that I didn't even

imagined that existed, but the best part was to get to know other latinos, and see how even though our countries are in diferente situations we still have the same issues, problems, and qualities.

My time in the Czech Republic was one of the experiences that taught me the most in life. I experienced the good and the bad, many days walking in the streets of Hradec Kralove I would cry of happinnes realizing the opportunity that was given to me to make a dream come true, as well as some nights I would go to sleep sad missing home or also crying because I was treated badly just for being a foreigner. Still, my time here was great, I have no regrets and I would live it all again.



Raphael Scheffer Khalil