

Final Erasmus Report:

Coming to Hradec Králové was a delightful surprise. In the beginning, when choosing what my destination would be, I wanted to be as far as possible from home, the Czech Republic being my first choice, and in this small town lost in the middle of Europe, I found myself a new home.

In the beginning I was really nervous because it was my first time living abroad, but quickly all doubts were dissipated by the warm welcome I received from my roommates and the entire team from the faculty. I wasn't expecting so much attention from the professors and the Erasmus office, being helped to enter all the University platforms, and even to change the subjects that needed to be changed. The classes I had were exactly what I was expecting in terms of acquired knowledge, feeling that I have a better understanding of this area of Europe, and all the historical constraints that define the people who live here.

This opportunity was completely delightful too, because of the chances I had to see Europe, and the neighbour countries, which have such beautiful capitals and historical artifacts exposed on their streets (Prague as the culmination of that), and in the day-to-day lives of the locals. It's amazing the diversity of cultures that are presented on this part of Europe, and also the common traits that these nations share. I've eaten food that I never tried before, and listened to music genres that I had no idea existed. Definitely going to an underground Czech Punk concert was not on my bucket list, but if I knew early, I would be dumb not put that there.

Talking about Hradec again, I'm astonished by the cultural diversity that such a small town has, and the acceptance of the locals for these cultures. I've spoken to people from all parts of the world, and I feel like I have a home in any direction of the map I chose to go, which is something that I would never expect, this bond that everyone shares, it's like one big family trying to maintain the house always clean (metaphorically and pragmatically, because the cleaning ladies were pretty strict).

I want to thank Erasmus + for this experience, in particular, Iva Rakova from the international office for helping me make my way here safely, Professor Jas from my Ethics class, and Professor Jaroslav Peregrin from the Quine and Davidson class, two different philosophers who really helped deepen the bond that I have with this course.

Everyone should have the right to this experience, Viva o Erasmus!!

Léonard Murys.