

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

PAOLA FERNANDA NAVARRO IRIBE

MEXICO

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My name is Paola Navarro, I come from Mexico, and I am currently studying International Studies with an emphasis in Political Science.

When I discovered I could have the opportunity to come here and study abroad for a semester, I didn't think about it twice and filled out all the necessary forms to get here.

Arriving in Hradec Králové was kind of shocking to me, the city is pretty different from my hometown in Mexico, and being my first time abroad, I was really nervous about how this was going to turn out for me. The first days were to get to know how to move around and meet new people and getting to know my new roomies, certainly one of the best experiences in my life.



At the dorms, you get to know people from all around the world. I met more people in two weeks than ever in my 21 years alive! All of them were very nice and with help of activities organized by ESN HK, we got to know each other better. These events were very important for the integration of the international students, and we had a very fun and entertaining time at picnics, quiz nights, and other events.

The academic experience is also completely different compared to the one I have in Mexico; the study plans and methods are amazing, the lectures and seminars offered by the UHK were all according to my field of study, and since they were being offered in English, this helped me to improve my proficiency at the language; I think I gained a lot of experience to get through the rest of my studies with this enriching experience.

Definitely, the communication between all the departments, professors, and coordinators was very effective. Also, the other students were always willing to help, which made this semester an unforgettable experience for which I am very grateful.

