

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

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The first time I heard about the Czech Republic was when I was a child; I was watching a football world cup and noticed that among the European countries there was one with a name that I had never heard of, it was the Czech Republic National Football team. From that moment, I wanted to get to know this country and now that I have studied and lived here I think that it is a great nation and society. When we were invited to apply for this exchange program, I thought of this experience as something distant, and now that my stay here comes to an end, I must confess that it has been one of the best experiences of my life. The city of Hradec Králové is beautiful both in spring and summer; it reminds me a lot of my hometown, Quito. I am delighted with its standards of living, with the traffic order, with the education of the people, but above all with its green spaces and its nature.



The three main reasons for coming to the Czech Republic were: to study in European academia, to get to know Europe, and to learn a foreign language. Meeting each of the objectives has represented an interesting challenge that I have carried out with the greatest of interests. The European academia is a space full of open minds, heterogeneity, tolerance, and many things to learn. Europe is a region full of history, diversity, and impressive spaces for the dissemination of culture. I had the opportunity to get to know Krakow, Warsaw, Rome, Budapest, Prague, Kutna Hora, Plzeň, and of course the beautiful city of Hradec Králové. The language for me has been a challenge on its own but I can say that I return to South America with many new skills in the English language.



My previous knowledge in Political Science was reinforced by the program I studied here; the teachers I took classes with at the UHK were all highly specialized in their teaching fields. Apart from being specialists, I consider that in the pedagogical part, UHK teachers have many tools that allow them to transmit knowledge with great fidelity. The administrative staff at the UHK have always been very kind to me and I think that being the first people you meet when you walk into the campus, they are a very important component of the university.

In my experience as a UHK student, I met many people from various parts of the world and that has also enriched my personality. All of my international classmates have taught me a bit about their cultures and that is another unique component of studying at the UHK.

Even when I did not spend much time with Czech students and I would have liked to have learned more about the Czech culture through them, the few Czech colleagues with whom I made friends seemed to me to be very kind and intelligent people.

Finally, I must thank you for the opportunity to study and live in the Czech Republic.

