



## IT University Travel Report

**Host University:** École d'ingénieurs ECE (Paris)

**Study Programme at IT University:** MSc Software Development

**Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad:** Exchange Agreement

**Courses studied abroad:** Augmented and Virtual Reality in our Society

**Exchange Period:** Summer 2019

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## Your stay abroad

### **What was it like to study at [the university] (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?**

The University was really nice and provided a good introduction to the campus on the first day. The school is located in a very nice area close by the Eiffel Tower. Classes took place from 9 to 17 every day, with a long lunch break, so there was plenty of time to explore the city in the afternoon and evening. The academic level of the course was not that high. A lot of the other students in my class had no experience in programming, so the C++ we used was really basic and with no sufficient introduction. However, the more theoretical parts about VR and AR, the usage and business model, and the sensors were introduced sufficiently and it was very interesting. The teacher is extremely nice and friendly, and there was a good atmosphere in the classroom. The social life was not that good since we were only 2 people in the class who was not from Mexico. This was very bad organized of the university. If I didn't already have friends living in Paris, I think I would have been very annoyed with this. Likewise the other students were significantly younger than me. All of them between 19 and 22 years old.

### **What was your initial motivation for going abroad and did your stay meet your expectations?**

It was my last opportunity to go abroad like this and experience a new country by living there. I had no big expectations to the course and I am not convinced that I will work with VR or AR in the future. But I was interesting to get a good introduction to this exciting and growing field, and to understand its possible usages and limitations. Overall, I feel that my expectations were met. I had a good summer in Paris, meet new and old friends and learned something new related to my studies. It was in general a very nice way to spend my summer and experiencing French culture up close.

### **Please describe what you got out of your stay, both personally and academically, and how do you expect it to contribute to your further studies?**

I feel that got more out of it personally than academically. The academic aspect of my stay was fine, but personally, I believe that I have learned to be independent. Even

though I thought I already was quite independent and good at meeting new people, I think that a new challenge is always a good experience.

## **Arranging your stay**

### **Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:**

Arranging the stay was quite easy in collaboration with Eva. Not many students know that ITU has an agreement with ECE, so if you are interested you just have to ask for it.

### **What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?**

As mentioned, I primarily planned the stay together with Eva. All of it was very easy and with no complications.

### **How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?**

I booked accommodation through a website called "comforts of home". It is a bit overpriced (700 euro for 3 weeks). However, it is an easy way to find accommodation without spending too much time – The lazy way. I shared the apartment with two American girls. The apartment was in really good conditions, and they provided sheets and towel for us. It was also a nice area of the city (16 arr), a quite neighborhood and only a few metro stops from the university. However, be aware that they have apartments all over the city. We also had a nice kitchen, so that we could cook our own food. This way we could save some money, because we didn't have to eat out every day.

## **Expenses and Financing**

### **Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad**

Flight ticket: 2000 kr.

Accommodation: 5225 kr.

Food & Fund: 3000 kr.

Public Transportation: 600 kr. (navigo one month card)

### **Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?**

Only the ITU travel pool.

## **Recommendations for other students**

If you got the time and energy look for a cheaper apartment. There is a facebook group called "padam padam" for danes in Paris where you could look for rooms for rent.

Write the university to check the diversity of the students before you decide to go - if you don't speak Spanish.

Go! Have fun and enjoy the beautiful city!