

Erasmus+ experience

I am Caroline, and I was a French Erasmus+ student, at Goce Delcev University, in Štip.

In order to summarize my Erasmus+ stay before leaving the UGD, Martina and Sanja, my Erasmus+ Macedonian coordinators would kindly ask me to answer to the following question:

- How would you describe your Erasmus experience at UGD?

Also, I should choose any two of the following six questions and provide my individual answer:

- What was your best moment of the whole exchange?

- What do you think you have learned during your exchange, that you probably would not have learned had you not gone (academically or personally)?

- Do you think your exchange can be useful for you in your future working life? In what way?

- What would you want to say to students thinking about going?

- What does Erasmus + mean to you?

- How would you describe your overall experience in Macedonia?

Thus, I have chosen to answer at these:

1. How would you describe your Erasmus experience at UGD?

At UGD, I had the chance to choose different courses as mine in France, thus, I studied International Relations, International Economic Relations, Political System, Project of Management of EU funds and Administrative Law. These courses were more interesting personally and professionally, than I could have in France. I have learned a lot. Even if the semester was not as I expected, I have discovered another educational system, in Macedonia. Indeed, in France, I used to have lectures with professors, and other students, and interact with him/her. However, at UGD, all lectures were not provided in English, because we were not a lot of Erasmus students, by this way, I should study alone, but it helped me to become more autonomous.

Nonetheless, my routine was to anticipate everything, but at UGD, I also learned to let it go. Indeed, I only communicated with my professors by e-mails, thus, I planned all my exams with them by myself, before to leave, but it was not well-organized. Dates could change two or three days before, thus, it was very stressful.

However, I finally succeeded all my exams. I would especially thank Sanja and Martina for all Erasmus+ events, and their help during my journey.

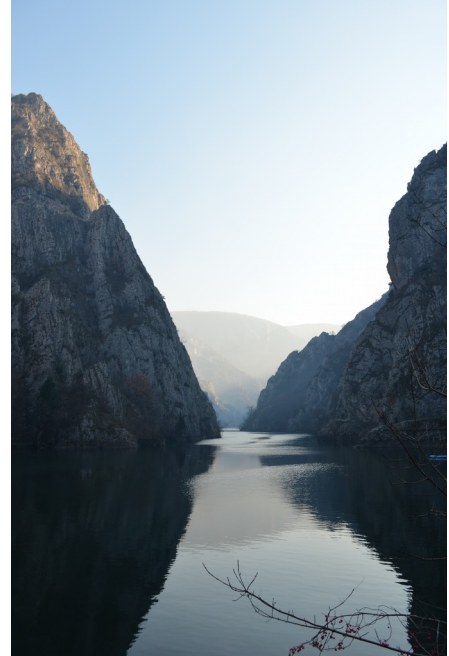
2. What was your best moment of the whole exchange?

All my excursions:

- *Skopje and the Canyon of Matka*



Meeting of Germany, Italy, Romania and France.



Discovery of the Canyon of Matka with Alina, my German Erasmus friend.

- *Thessaloniki*



Atop of the White Tower

- Kocani



Meeting of Turkey, Poland, Croatia, Macedonia, France, Germany, and Spain.

- *Ohrid*



Ohrid Lake. Credit: Lily, French friend met in the plane before my arriving in Macedonia.

- *Bitola*



Centenary of the First World War in Bitola. Meeting with the Ambassador of France and the Ambassador of Germany.

- *Dihovo, Pelister park and Prespa lake*



Pierre and Lily. We found ourselves for a weekend, between French people. Currently, Pierre studies in Romania with the Erasmus programme. Lily made an internship in Skopje.



Prepas Lake

3. How would you describe your overall experience in Macedonia?

My experience in Macedonia was enriching and useful. It was also full of emotions.

I learn a lot about myself, including to be more autonomous and independent. Indeed, before to arrive in Macedonia, I had some problem with my flights in Vienna, and I should fix it without help by someone. I also confronted myself with the language barrier. But finally, everything went well. I have met real friends, with whom we helped each other, and as I showed, we discovered beautiful place with them.