

# Exchange Semester in Barcelona

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La Salle URL

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## 1. Where and when did you study abroad?

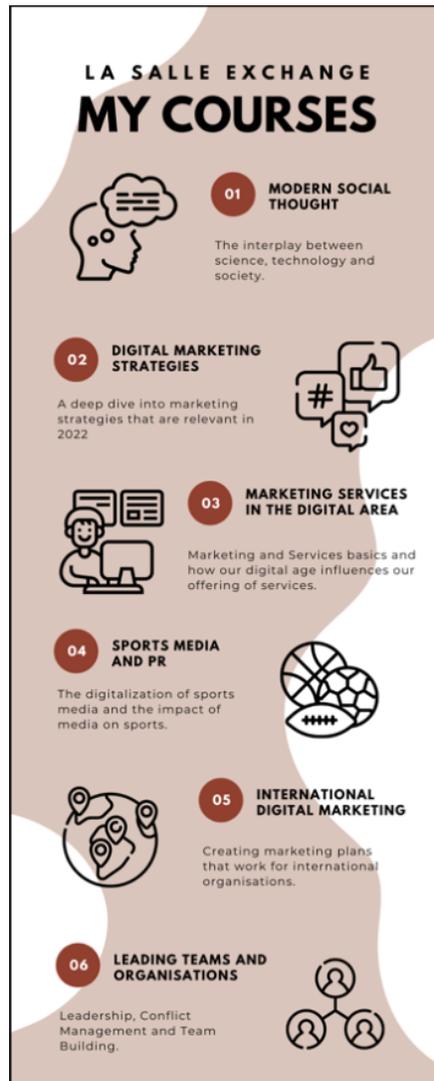
My exchange semester I spent in Barcelona in the Spring of 2022. I visited La Salle URL and the whole experience could not have been better.

## 2. What KEA program did you attend at the time?

I studied my Top-Up Design and Business at KEA.

## 3. What classes did you take during your semester abroad? Please briefly explain what each class was about.

You can find an infographic of the classes I took beneath. My favorite class was the Sports Media and PR class. With the class we went to the Barcelona Open, a tennis tournament, Camp Nou and had a talk with the head of digital channels of FC Barcelona and even got to work on a project for RedBull and present it to them.



## **Academic Experience**

### **1. How helpful was the receiving school in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?**

The school sent me all the info I needed, however they were a little late with answering and until the end of January I did not know if my chosen courses were confirmed. However the first 2 weeks I could visit all my courses and still change them which was great and I actually did that.

### **2. What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?**

As mentioned before, our project with RedBull was pretty amazing. Not only did we get to work on a relevant topic but we got feedback from RedBull's Head of Acquisition. Having this career opportunity is extremely valuable and I am so grateful for it.

### **3. What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?**

Well, I think my Leading Teams and Organizations class was a little dry and filled with lots of theory. Also it was my only class on a Thursday afternoon and the last one before the weekend. So my motivation was not the best.

### **4. What classes would you advice other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?**

Choose the Sports Media and PR class, even if you are not into sports. Also, my marketing services in the digital era course was great. We visited a banksy exhibition, but the best thing was the teacher, Dawn. I always feel a course stands and falls with its professor and I was lucky to have some amazing teachers in several courses.

The international digital marketing course I had high expectations for, but it did not leave me satisfied.

## **Cultural/Personal Experience**

### **1. What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad?**

Well, nothing. By the time I went on exchange I had lived in many foreign countries and I just enjoyed Spanish culture. You eat dinner quite late here, but I got used to that quickly.

#### **a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?**

I did not need any help ;)

## **2. What was the best cultural/personal experience during your studies abroad?**

Being able to live close to a beach. Also I did the exchange together with my close friend from KEA and that made it so much fun. University in Barcelona was a lot more demanding than KEA, with both midterms and final exams in every course, but I loved the challenge and always had enough time to do whatever I wanted.



Beach 1,5h from Barcelona in Costa Brava

## **3. What advice would you give other KEA students going to study abroad at the receiving school?**

Enjoy it from the start. Time goes so fast! Also La Salle is such a great place to study. I loved it!

### **Practical Experience**

#### **1. How was the application process?**

Simple, I just remembered being stressed of not being able to go on exchange.

##### **a. What did KEA help you with?**

Always when I had a question my coordinator answered super quick and helped a lot.

##### **b. What help did you receive from your school abroad?**

They helped me with very clear instructions and informative mails, but I did not need help to fill in their questionnaire.

**2. Did you have any practical difficulties settling down in at your destination?**

It was difficult to find a place to stay but it is not impossible.

**a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?**

Very, they sent a guide with over 50 housing companies, websites, student dorms, etc.

**3. Where did you live?**

In Gracia, for me, the most beautiful part of the city.

**a. Was it difficult to find accommodation?**

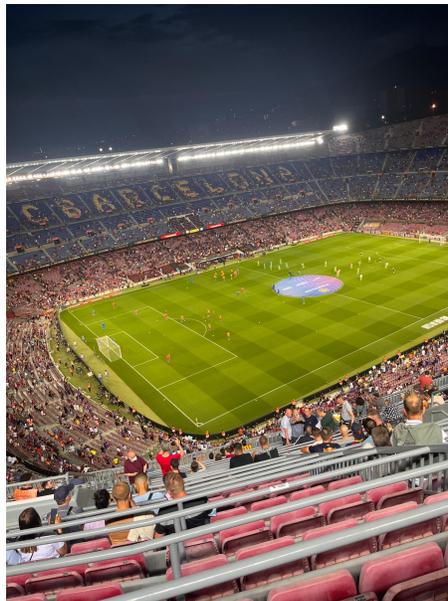
Yes.

**b. Was it expensive?**

Yes.

**4. What kind of expenses did you have in general?**

Rent, Food, public transport, and tickets to sport games.



Not a Barca fan, but to see a game was a must and it was great!

**a. Did you spend more or less money than you budgeted with?**

I did not calculate a budget before. I think Barcelona is not super expensive, except for your rent.

BEST TIPS FOR STUDENTS GOING:

- Download the erasmus barcelona app - lots of affordable day trips to amazing places
- Best websites to find accommodation: housing anywhere and idealista
- Best ALL YOU CAN EAT sushi: Magaro
- Best coffeeshop close to LaSalle: on y va
- 



I lived in a one room apartment and had a rooftop terrace that was bigger than my apartment. You had a great view of the ocean and Sagrada de Familia. Only sucked when it rained..

