



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Plantscience Crop & Ecology
Study period exchange	15-01-19 until 1-09-19
Country (exchange)	France
City (exchange)	Montpellier
University (exchange)	Montpellier SupAgro

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

To have a broader idea of how life is in other countries, to make my own idea on subjects through talking with other people from other cultures.

What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

French is my mother tongue, and the south of France I didn't really know. The main reason was also that I could potentially do my thesis in the famous vineyards.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

By train (ouigo), it start from north of France but it is 5 hours for 11 euro. So it is really cheap, if you are lucky.

4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
1	Collecting Environmental Data	7	This course helps you to form a better opinion on how data is collected and which characteristics can be used in which situations.	4	Very interesting if you want to work with sensors, creating and developing systems for new methods in all kind of sectors. Very useful.
2	Environmental Data Processing and Analysis	7	This course is really intensive and teaches you to use ideal models in different contexts.	5	Very helpful after the previous course. It is really tough but good to have because it will help you in any way if you want to do research in the future and want to justify the correlations that you found.
3	Mobile and Web Management of Environmental Data	7	This course will help you in the coding sector. From working with online databases until creating your own website.	2	I did not appreciate this course very much, because it didn't fit with my personal objectives. But these 3 courses are very good to take together. The chair group Agro-TIC is a really motivated group with young teachers ready to help you.
4	Internship	7	CarbonBee-Agtech; start-up that makes and manages sensors for new generation smart-farming.	6	Really appreciate this internship get due to the help of Bruno TISSEYRE, head teacher of the Agro-TIC chair group.
5					I really want thank the Agro-TIC group, these people will try to fit you to the best subjects and topics that will give you a personal and social satisfaction!

How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

In every beginning "period" (=UE), there is an introduction day, where everything is made for the upcoming 3 weeks. From the total time, 25% you are free and you have time for self-study. At the end of each UE projects, results are presented and are judged by the chairgroup.

What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)

The UE's I took were not done by common students so we had classes of 10 persons, so teachers have a lot of attention for their students. There is less technical support than Wageningen but it really doesn't affect the quality of the courses.

What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)

There are not less facilities, but it is more difficult to do sport at high level. There are many chances to do competitions between other schools and many opportunities to do extra school activities! I really encourage people to do that, one word to represent extra school activities: Crazy.

5. Housing-travelling-living

What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)

The possibilities are generally around the campus where most of all the students are renting a room. I found a room by myself in the city, which makes it easier to meet other people from outside of the university.

What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)

I really like the student life in Montpellier. What I generally tell when I promote Wageningen, is that Wageningen University is a big university in a small city and Montpellier SupAgro a small university in a big city. So, for both students the exchange is really intense in all kind of ways.

Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?

The price indication is between €300 and €450/€500 a month so it is more expensive. Living in Montpellier is not more expensive than elsewhere, but an important detail is that the tram/public transport is cheap and is super good developed in the city and beyond. I went a lot to the sea and also in the countryside to visit vineyards, monuments are doing walking trips. The only expensive costs are housing and the parties.

6. Free time

What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)

- The Mediterranean sea and their famous oyster basins.
- The countryside is really beautiful for walking and camping around.
- Wine tasting can be done everywhere.
- Pic Saint-loup is a famous spot for trekking.

I didn't travel much, because Montpellier is a living city where every weekend the city organizes some event. For example the World Female Football Cup, The FISE, outside theatre. I travelled to the big cities surround Montpellier (Marseille, Toulouse,...) but there is so much to do at Montpellier that I had no time to get bored.

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

There are so many little shops that even someone from Montpellier could not tell you which one is the best. The funny thing of Montpellier is to lose yourself and to visit the city, (the old city is really beautiful). Montpellier is known for her architectural buildings and architects. So the only tip is to go and see yourself.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

Living far from home.

What was your best memory abroad?

Living together with other students.

8. Contact details

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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