



# WUR Goes Abroad

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## 1. Student Information

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<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	MME Consumer Studies
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	07/01/2022 until 27/05/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	France
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Toulouse
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Ecole d'Ingénieurs de PURPAN
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	Global Semester

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I really wanted to live and study abroad.

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

I wanted to go to France and I am so happy with choosing Toulouse. The idea of a Global Semester with lots of different courses appealed to me. Toulouse is a big city with many students and things to do, but at the same time most places are walkable and there is a cosy atmosphere.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

## 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
<b>1</b>	Climate Change	3	Facts, causes, consequences of climate change and climate action.	4	
<b>2</b>	Food resources & Nutrition	3	Food security issues around the world.	4	
<b>3</b>	Biodiversity and Environment	3	Environmental issues and biodiversity	3	
<b>4</b>	Global Gender Issues	3	Gender inequalities & development around the world.	4	
<b>5</b>	Geopolitics & Global trade for French agricultural and agrofood products	3	French agricultural and agrifood products on markets such as USA, SubSaharan Africa, China, Russia and Middle East.	3	
<b>6</b>	Commodities Markets	3	Sugar, wheat, soybeans, coffee and cacao in the international commodities market.	2	
<b>7</b>	Working Across Cultures	3	Cross-cultural communication in international business	4	
<b>8</b>	Better Business	3	Alternative and ethical business models around the world such as fair trade, social economy, circular economy...	4	
<b>9</b>	French language and intercultural issues of study abroad B1	3		4	

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

You follow only one course at a time (every course is 2 weeks). In most courses we had mainly lectures, but sometimes also groupwork/discussions. We had a lot of contact hours, for example days from 9-16.00. However, the workload is not high. Examination was often in the form of presentations.

**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?)**

In the beginning we had courses with a lot of other French students (>100), but as many French students also went abroad/did an internship, in the end we were only a small group of 16 students.

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

There are sport facilities and students organise activities at Purpan, such as an afterwork (cheese/wine tasting) and a few times a 'chouille'; party at the university.

## **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 university offered different kind of accommodations.

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

Food is important, for example visible in the long lunch breaks. The 'bisous' for greeting and to say good bye. They say a lot of 'hop'/'tac' when they do things.

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

I lived in one of the Crouse buildings. These are 9m2 rooms where you have your own bathroom and a private or shared kitchen (€250).

**Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)**

There is a Tisseo card which is only 10 euros a month for bus/tram/metro in Toulouse. There is also the VeloToulouse; you can take a bike from one of the many stations in the city and cycle for free for 30 minutes (after which you can immediately take a new one if you want). This is only 20 euros for a whole year so I highly recommend it!

## 6. Free time

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

Toulouse is a perfect place for so many trips in the area. Cities such as Montpellier, Nice, Barcelona, Carcassonne, Albi, Narbonne are worth a visit! I also really liked hiking, for example at Lac D'Ôo and surfing in Biarritz. Train, Flixbus and renting a car are all good options!

**What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?**

**Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)**

Join ESN Toulouse!

For sure the sunsets either at the Garonne or the hill of Pech David. For going out, the different bars at Place st Pierre are really popular and I liked 'Le Bikini'. (Sunday) markets, and every first Sunday of the month the museums are free.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

The long university days were sometimes quite exhausting.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

The whole time was just one amazing experience. Tip: save some time & money to be able to stay a bit longer and travel afterwards, as I bet you do not want to go home!

## 8. Contact details (optional)

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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