**Rey Juan Carlos Madrid**

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| How does the workload in your classes compare to Strathclyde. |
| Easier |
| the same |

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| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went? |
| Although I don't have actual classes to attend since I am doing a research project it would have been nice to have learnt at least some of the language of the host country. Although not necessary, it would definitely make fitting in and being understood by colleagues much easier. My impression from Erasmus presentations was that we could all 'get by' with just english with no real emphasis on learning the new language. |

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| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away? |
| Private accommodation |
| student housing (private student organisation) |

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| What is your monthly cost for accommodation? |
| 450 euros |
| 470 euros |

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| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation? |
| Help Madrid provide good well priced accommodation but their Calle Preciados flats are just party flats with constant noise and smoking even though both are banned. There is also meant to be a doorman but he is never there. Plus there is currently work being done on two of the floors so the place is a mess. |
| Finding private shared student accommodation in Madrid can be found via Idealista or HelpMadrid, which both offer rooms in various locations across Madrid. Also, the closer to the centre of Madrid the better, much more things to do. |

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| What is the town/city like where you stay? |
| Madrid is a great city, lots to do. |
| Madrid is a beautiful city, I currently live in the dead centre of Madrid which is very lively but often noise continues throughout the night, particularly at the weekends. |

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| Where is your favourite place to go? |
| Retiro Park |
| Retiro Park, this is a large park to the east of the centre of Madrid. It is a great place to relax and enjoy the amazing weather. |

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| How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)? |
| Much older compared to Strathclydes and this campus (Mostoles) is very far out of the city and does not have facilities such as a union, gym etc and there is never many people around campus. |
| The campus is nice although all the buildings are so spread out that it often takes a long time to trek to get the laboratories that I work in. |

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| Do you spend more or less money than you expected? |
| Less |
| More |

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| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)? |
| Everything is more or less the same, some things are cheaper some are not. The cost of sweets, chocolate and crisps are very expensive compared to the UK but is plenty of motivation to avoid those foods altogether. |

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| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? | |
| No idea, probably more than I need to as I have been eating out/going out a lot. |
| Around 800 euros I think. |

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| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students? |
| Not with anyone I have met throughout university. The university offer a buddy to e-mail and organised a welcome meeting that was at the Business campus and it was before I arrived. I do not do any classes here either so cannot meet any people that way. |
| Yes, I live in a shared flat with 11 other students so there is no shortage of conversation. |

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| Would you recommend this University to future Strathclyde students who are considering studying abroad? If not, please explain your response or contact the Recruitment and International Office to discuss. |
| If you are doing a project like I am then yes as you are only here for 3 months and the labs are good. However I would not like to be doing classes for a year here. This university campus does not have many english speakers or any way to meet them. And if you want to live in the city centre of Madrid it is about an hour commute. |
| Yes |

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| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| Yes, its been great living in a different city and the work I am doing here is unlike any I have done before. |
| Yes, the Erasmus Exchange has given me the opportunity to study abroad and experience a different culture without having to take time out of studying and working. |