

## ROMANIA – Bucharest, Universitatea Romana- Americana

### Your overall feeling after your semester abroad

I have a positive feeling after this semester abroad. I got to meet new people, travel a lot but also to experience another culture which I didn't expect to happen before leaving for Romania.

I did not grade the semester abroad with a 5 because my friends and I encountered some issues with local students or even population, especially concerning racism. However, we only had this experience within Bucharest and not somewhere else in Romania, we still didn't figure if the issue was cultural or only in the city.

**GRADE : 4**

*=> 0 (I do not recommend this semester abroad to my best friend) – 5 (I totally recommend this semester to my best friend)*

### Before the travel

#### Preparation

##### Visa

NO VISA NEEDED FOR EUROPEAN STUDENTS, but we are still supposed to apply for a registration certificate as an Erasmus student to the Romanian's EU Citizens office in Bucharest.

##### The flight

I chose to take AirFrance and Tarom from Montpellier's airport with a stop in Paris CDG but cheaper options are possible such as leaving from Marseille with Ryanair or from other airports with Wizzair which is also cheap.

##### My luggage

There is nothing special to not forget, except maybe very warm clothes for those leaving during winter but to also be prepared for hot weather from the month of May until the end of summer.

## Bank account

Romania doesn't use Euro but Romanian lei. Me and all the Erasmus I met were using Revolut app and did not encounter any issues using it.

I traveled in other countries with other currencies (Poland and Serbia) and I just had to add another account on Revolut (which took me 10 seconds) and I traveled without having to worry about bank fees.

## Insurance

I did not have to subscribe to any more insurance than the ones I already have, I only had my European Healthcare Card.

## Housing

### Where to live

I don't have any recommendations on the best areas to live in Bucharest because I chose to live within the University's dorm which is directly connected to the University via the cafeteria.

We are able to apply for rooms in there as Erasmus student. The majority of the Erasmus students in RAU were actually stayed there for their whole mobility.

We are in rooms of 2 or 3 with other students either from the University or other Erasmus students. I personally was with 2 other French Erasmus students which became close friends of mine. We can also meet in the lobby with other students at any time of the day, the dorm is guarded 24/7 by security guards and we can go in and out at any time of the day. We also have a nominative card to access the building.

The biggest flaw of the dormitory is that we don't have a kitchen and have to order a lot of food or go to the MegalImage (Eastern Europe's shop) 5 minutes away.

There are 2 cafeterias, but they are not open for dinner which is definitely not helpful. However, ordering food is way cheaper than ordering food in France while using apps such as Bolt Food or Glovo (around 10€ a meal).

## Cost

The dormitory was 100€ for a 3-persons room, 150€ for a double room without charges. The electricity, water, heating bills depends on our monthly usage, but it's never been more than 40€.

We have an app to pay our bills, and the dorm is pretty flexible when it comes to the rent and fees (ex: we were able to ask to pay less rent on June because we were leaving earlier).

# When I arrived at the university

## Inscription at the university

We were supposed to apply online, but the website did not work so we only had to send our documents to the Erasmus coordinator. The documents were more or less the same than the ones we provided to our home university and on MoveOn.

## Information on the university

### Class

I liked some classes, but it depended a lot on the professor. All professors have been very kind, comprehensive and accommodating.

The classes are definitely easier than the ones we had back in MOMA and thus, easier to pass with the first exams.

### Organization of the Class

The semester is divided into 2 parts (modules). Some courses are offered only during the first module, others only during the second, and still others during both.

It also means that the deadlines for assignments come up very quickly since deadlines are often for the end of its module.

Classes are divided like in France in terms of TD and CM. However, Romanian's CM would last way longer than the French's' (ex : 16:30 – 20:50 for a whole class once a week)

### List of courses and recommendation

*Globalization – International Cases:* Easy class considering what we already learnt in MOMA for 3 years. For the exam, we had an oral presentation to prepare with a test (MCQ + open questions about the course)

*Doing Business with Asian Countries:* very interesting class where we learnt a lot about Japanese and Korean corporate cultures. Highly recommended. For the exam we had a test with open questions.

*International Commercial Law:* interesting class's content but also easy considering the law classes we already got in MOMA.

*Global Supply Chain:* the class is very interesting although hard to follow given the hours of the class, but we learnt a big number of concepts and the teacher made us apply them in a group project. The exam consisted in a group project where we all had to build a supply chain for a product or a service (presentation + report).

*Risk Management in International Businesses:* very interesting class with a clear course. The exam was an oral presentation and an online test.

*Destination Management:* I liked the content of this class which taught me many concepts I never got to study before. To pass this class, we took a test (MCQ + open questions) and had to prepare a project consisting in an oral presentation and a written report.

## Exam

The exams would depend on the teacher teaching the class. However, there are different phases in the exams. For the first exams, we need to get an 8 to pass them and they take place during the module or at the end of the classes (the ones I mentioned before). If we didn't get an 8 or didn't go to the 1<sup>st</sup> exams, we need to go to final exams week in June.

## When I lived there

### Safety

As a woman, I felt pretty safe walking in Bucharest even late at night. It can happen to get comments from men when walking but it is way rarer than in France. I did not encounter any problems linked to safety in Romania.

### Phone and Internet

I did not have to change my phone subscription at all, but it is because I am used to travel so I already had a subscription with unlimited calls, SMS/MMS and internet abroad.

French students almost all used their French subscription with roaming data.

One of our friends mentioned that, after 2/3 months during the semester, her internet provider blocked her phone subscription because she has been located abroad for too long without going back to France.

To solve this problem, she took a Digi SIM Card and it was cheaper than her subscription in France which benefited her after all.

## Go to the university: bus, car, bike

To access the university, there is a bus stop which is served by 2 very frequent bus routes.

Moreover, a major transit hub in Bucharest is located a 5- to 10-minute walk from the university and is served by several tram, metro, and bus lines

## Travels

I traveled a lot during the semester. The 2 international airports of Bucharest are located 20 minutes away from the University by car with flights at low prices to Budapest, Bratislava, Paphos, Athens, Prague, Copenhagen...

I highly recommend going to Warsaw, Belgrad and Paphos.

I also traveled to Romania by train. The train station is 20 minutes away from the University by bus and the train tickets are very cheap and go to major Romanian cities. I also highly recommend going to Sinaia and Brasov, in Transilvania.

## After your semester abroad

### What are you planning do to?

Due to various reasons, I made the decision before starting my 3<sup>rd</sup> year to change my academic path and pursue a career in healthcare.

### Did you apply for master?

No

[remember to fill in the excel : <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11-vB4ABdkzIJR1AQ82drWyAVXfnCpRYr8COkeKihnIs/edit?usp=sharing>]

