




RETOUR D'EXPÉRIENCE

Florence, Italie



UNIVERSITÉ DE
MONTPELLIER

MONTELLIER
MA NAGEMENT



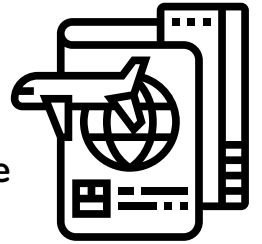
My experience abroad was generally okay, but not as fulfilling as I had hoped. As an international student from outside the EU, I was excited to explore a new environment and meet new people. However, from the beginning, I faced challenges particularly with administrative procedures which made it difficult to settle in smoothly. These issues affected my overall enjoyment of the stay.

In terms of the social environment, I didn't feel entirely comfortable living here. While I appreciated the friendships I formed with other international students, I found that the local community was not very welcoming. This created a feeling of isolation, as if I was living "in a box," rather than being part of the broader student. Since I was only staying temporarily for Erasmus, I often felt like I was treated more like a tourist than a student which made everything more expensive than expected. This financial pressure added to the overall discomfort of living here.



Practical informations

If you are a non-EU student, you need to be very careful with the administrative requirements. In my case, there was a miscommunication regarding my residence permit. I hadn't received the physical card yet, only the attestation de décision favorable by the time I had to leave for Italy.



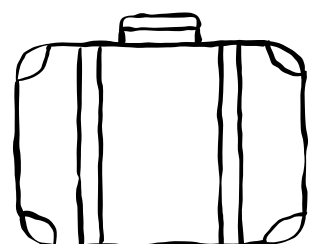
Important to note they do not accept a visa. Your French residence permit card must be valid and cover your entire stay in Italy.

If you only have the attestation or a card that is about to expire, it can cause serious issues with the administration especially regarding your exam registration and your Erasmus scholarship, which may arrive late if your documents are not in order. If you're in this situation you should consider on choosing another university. The university didn't offer much support regarding this process and expected that having the residence card would be enough for mobility. I had to return to France to collect my residence card to complete the administrative process and be allowed to take my exams. Without the card, I would have been blocked.



I traveled with FlixBus from Montpellier to Florence. It was a long journey (around 13 hours) but it was totally worth it considering the savings and flexibility. I opted to get off at the Piazzale Monteleluno stop, close to the city center.

The round trip cost me around 100 euros, and one of the biggest advantages was being able to bring up to 40kg of luggage or more without paying any extra fees. Compared to expensive plane tickets with strict luggage limits, this was a much more budget-friendly, eco-responsible, and convenient option for students.

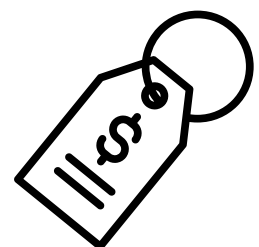




You will be studying at the Novoli campus, so it's a good idea to look for housing around the Novoli area. Alternatively, you can choose to live in the city center if you prefer to be closer to shops, restaurants, and places where you can walk around easily. Both options have their advantages depending on your budget and lifestyle preferences.

Around Novoli, you'll find supermarkets like Coop and Esselunga, gym, as well as a mall with stores, restaurants, a supermarket, and a cinema, all just next to the school. There's also a nice park nearby where you can relax. The area is very accommodating for students. I found my flat through [Roomgo](#), which was a reliable platform for searching shared apartments.

My flat costs **550 euros per month** for a shared apartment with three other people, located just two tram stops away from the Novoli campus, which is very convenient. You should prepare a budget of around 500 euros per month for accommodation. It's possible to find cheaper options, but they are limited and mostly located in the outskirts of the city, which might mean longer commute times. You can also try applying for a dormitory room through DSU Toscana, which costs about 320 euros per month. However, availability is limited and there is no guarantee that you will get a spot. Also, beware of tourist tariffs.



Courses selection

Organizational Design for Well-Being



This was my favorite class because I'm interested in HR management. The professor, Sara Lombardi, was excellent, clear explanations and engaging teaching style. Attendance was mandatory, and you needed to be consistent in class to pass. I highly recommend this course for anyone interested in HR.

Psychology of Sustainability in Sustainable Development



The professor was very kind and had a psychologist's approach. The course was blended (online and offline) and easy to get full marks, I got 30/30. It was cool to analyze sustainable behavior related to the SDG goals. I honestly recommend this.

Fundamentals of Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Business Ethics



This was like an introduction to entrepreneurship. The evaluation consisted of an exam and a group presentation where you create and present your own brand. I found it fun and easy to pass. Attendance was not mandatory, but coming to class helped. The course was useful because it taught how to create a business responsibly.

Sustainable Finance and Responsible Investing

The course was easy to follow and pass, with a multiple-choice exam. It was interesting but required a lot of reading. If you want to learn about responsible banks, especially Italian ones, this is a good opportunity. The professor also invited many experts for online seminars, which attendance was mandatory. Overall, a good course if you're interested in finance and sustainability.

Social Enterprise in Sustainable Food Systems

This class was supposed to be very interesting, but there was a lack of support from the professor, so you had to do a lot of self-studies. The content about farming systems was new and intriguing. The class could be a bit disorganized sometimes, but the exam was very easy to pass. I recommend it if you are willing to read and learn independently.

Notes

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Overall, I found the courses to be easier or at most at the same level compared to the first semester courses at MOMA. Achieving full marks (30/30) is very possible, I felt that the effort required was generally less than what I experienced at MOMA.

What I liked most was the strong focus on sustainable business modules, which made the content very relevant and interesting

Most classes last about 1.5 hours. Be aware that sometimes classes start around 30 minutes late, which is quite normal here. I didn't have full schedules every week, so I had some free time to relax while studying.

The overall workload was manageable. The behavior of professors was excellent, very respectful and professional, likely because all the classes were international. The environment felt friendly.

One thing to note is that lunch breaks tend to start late compared to what you might be used to, so plan accordingly.

Reminder

In Italy, follow the guidelines for attending students

as this will help you finish your Erasmus studies earlier and more smoothly.

Italy

TO DO LIST

- ☐ Follow Erasmus Student Network on social media and IC on WhatsApp
- ☐ Bring your medical certificate from France for your gym membership / sports practice
- ☐ Go to Trattoria Mario or Zaza for a true Italian culinary experience
- ☐ Plan many travels : Puglia, Sicily, Lake Como, Tuscany
- ☐ Get an Italian SIM card like WINDTRE

