



# RETOUR D'EXPÉRIENCE

## Ghent, Belgique



UNIVERSITÉ DE  
MONTPELLIER

MONTPELLIER  
MANAGEMENT



Going abroad was one of the best decisions I've ever made. This experience has truly changed me positively, both academically and personally.

One of the things I enjoyed the most was the opportunity to meet people from so many different backgrounds. The university offered a very international environment where I could exchange ideas, learn about different cultures, and build real friendships.

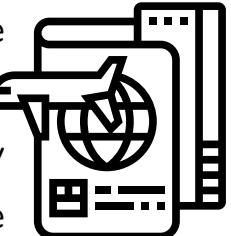
If I could go back in time, I would still choose this university again. It shaped me both academically and personally, and I came back feeling more confident, independent, and openminded. I also gathered unforgettable memories and a new perspective not only on my studies but on life in general.



# Practical informations

As a non-European with a French residency permit, I wasn't allowed to stay more than 3 months in Belgium. I needed a document called ANNEX 33, and it's a certificate of residency that I could get with the help of the university.

An international support officer from the university contacted me by email, after I was accepted as an exchange student, to follow up on the process and ask for documents (Proof of Financial solvability, proof of health insurance, letter of invitation, valid residency permit, valid passport). After the application was approved, I received a "Kennisgeving mobiliteit", which is a document to help register at the city and get the ANNEX 33.

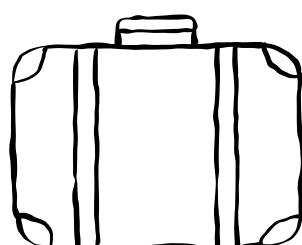


I booked a direct flight from Rabat- Morocco to Bruxelles- Belgium, as I was visiting family after Christmas.

The mobility started the 6th of February with welcome days on 6th and 7th of the university and the faculty. I flew to Brussels the 3rd of February to settle before the start of classes.

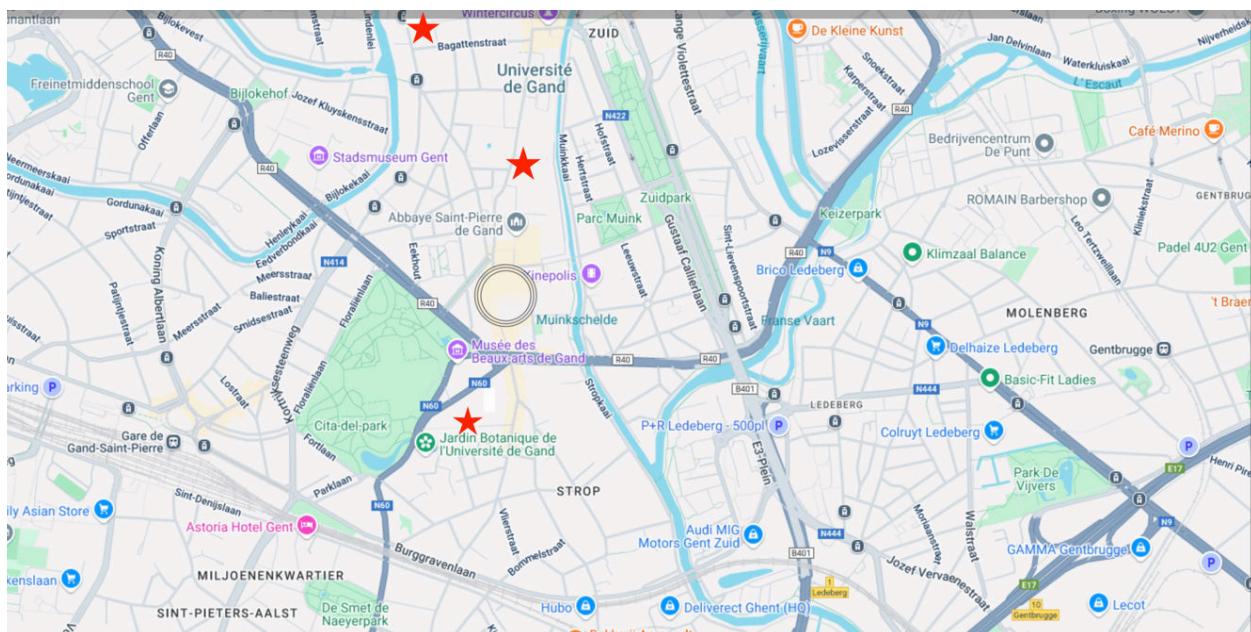
All winter clothes were important, coats, heavy jackets, and pullovers. It was cold the whole time from February to May.

There were some sunny days, but the weather changes a lot during the day. I didn't take boots and that was a mistake because it was snowing for two days, and I couldn't walk on ice without slipping.

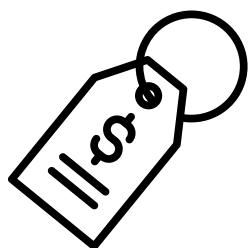


I would recommend staying in the university residency halls. They are so convenient because they're close to most campuses and only about a 10-minute walk from the city center. On top of that, they're secure, clean, and a great way to meet other international students. The places marked with red stars are campuses where I had most of my classes. I had few ones in further campuses (sterre and Mercator) which are 20 mins walk, away from the residences.

The circled area is where the katienberg site (part of the university residences are).



In general, I didn't look for flats in the private market because the conditions in the university residences were much better. They were well-located, secure, and clean, plus only about 10 minutes away from the city center. The application process was very easy as well since it was done through the OASIS platform, where we also handled everything else related to the university, like the learning agreement.



Prices for rooms in the university residency halls ranged from approximately €450 to €650, depending on the room type. The more affordable options were rooms with shared bathrooms, followed by those with private bathrooms but shared kitchens.

# Courses selection

## Introduction to Global Economic History

The course was very rich and packed with information and a lot of historical facts obviously, making it very interesting and giving a deep overview of global economic developments. That said, it wasn't very interactive, and some parts felt a bit disconnected from the core focus of the class, which made it harder to stay fully engaged.

## Business Skills

I really opened my eyes to different management styles and showed me how leadership approaches can vary depending on the situation and the people involved. The class helped me understand the importance of soft skills, such as communication and emotional intelligence.

## Organizational Theory

The mix of online and on-campus classes was an interesting and effective approach. Working independently on case studies and then discussing and correcting them in groups helped me deepen my understanding of the material and allowed for valuable peer learning.

## International and Cross-Cultural Marketing

I enjoyed this class very much as I really appreciated the focus on understanding cultural differences across the world and how these differences influence consumer behavior and marketing strategies. The class was wellstructured, combining theory with real-life examples, which made the lessons both practical and engaging. It also pushed us to think with a global mindset, which I found particularly valuable.

## Corporate Finance

This was a very good class, and the main teacher was interesting and knowledgeable. However, the practical sessions led by a PhD student were a bit challenging. She would do the exercises on her own and explain them in a way that was sometimes hard to follow, which made the practical part less effective. Despite that, the course content itself was valuable and relevant.

# Notes

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Date: **July 2025**

In theory, all the classes were scheduled to last around three hours each week. However, in reality, many of them were shorter, some sessions lasted only two hours or even less depending on the topic of the day or how much content needed to be covered. This flexibility was actually nice in some cases, as it kept the lessons from feeling unnecessarily stretched when the material didn't require the full time.

One thing I really appreciated across all the classes was the attitude of the professors. The teachers were always open, approachable, and ready to answer our questions, both during and after class. Even when the material was complex, they made the effort to explain things clearly and were willing to take extra time when needed. This supportive atmosphere made it easier to ask for help without feeling uncomfortable, which I think really made a difference, especially in the more challenging subjects.



# Belgium

## TO DO LIST

- Follow Erasmus Student Network on social media
- Join any sport activity at Arteveldehogeschool
- Use a bike to explore different parts of the city and get to campus quickly
- Take free guided tour to discover different cities : Brussels, Bruges or Antwerp

