

Zaragoza – SoSe25 – European Master in Renewable Energies

1. Preparation

As part of the EUREC Master in Renewable Energy, I had the opportunity to study the Grid Integration specialization at the University of Zaragoza.

My programme coordinator at the University of Oldenburg was very supportive during this process and played a key role in helping me decide on Zaragoza. At a time when I was feeling uncertain about my options, his encouragement gave me clarity. Looking back, I'm truly happy with my decision – it turned out to be the right choice for me both academically and personally.

2. Travel and Arrival

I traveled to Zaragoza by plane via Barcelona and then took a high-speed train to the city. Since I had to wait for my courses in Oldenburg to finish first, I arrived in Zaragoza a few weeks after the semester had already started. Although I joined the classes a bit late, everyone I met at the university was incredibly helpful and welcoming, making the transition smooth.

Before my arrival, I contacted my Erasmus Buddy – a volunteer student who helped me get oriented with the city. The international office also organized an introduction week, which was a great opportunity to meet other students and get familiar with the university environment.

3. Accommodation

I found my accommodation through [Idealista](#), a commonly used platform for renting flats in Spain. I stayed in a shared flat with other international students. Although the apartment wasn't very close to the university, it was located in the city center and well connected by public transportation. The rent was reasonable, and living with students from different countries made the experience even more enjoyable. I recommend arriving at least a week early to explore housing options and settle in before classes begin.

4. Studying at the Host University

Academically, the experience was very enriching. I took courses related to renewable energy systems, smart grids, and control systems. The classes were held in English and usually took place in the afternoons, typically from 15:00 to 19:00. While some courses required independent study, they were generally well-structured and taught by supportive professors who encouraged questions and engagement.

Throughout the semester, I developed both theoretical and practical knowledge. I had the opportunity to work on academic projects where I learned to use several new software tools, including PowerFactory, MATLAB, and PSCAD. These tools were integral to the coursework and enhanced my technical skills in system modeling and simulation. The laboratory sessions and project-based learning were especially helpful in applying these tools to real-world renewable energy scenarios.

5. Everyday Life and Leisure Time

Zaragoza is a vibrant and student-friendly city. I really enjoyed the mix of historic architecture, lively neighborhoods, and beautiful parks. The local cuisine was excellent – everything I tried was delicious! I joined several events and trips organized by ESN Zaragoza, which were great for discovering the region and meeting new people.

I also met many Turkish students during my stay, which helped me feel more at home while still encouraging me to engage with other cultures. The overall cost of living was more affordable than in Germany, which allowed me to enjoy the city more freely. The locals were friendly and willing to help – speaking some basic Spanish made daily life much easier.

6. General Experience and Conclusion

Studying in Zaragoza through the Erasmus+ programme was an unforgettable experience that contributed greatly to both my personal and academic development. It offered me the opportunity to immerse myself in a new educational environment, strengthen my cultural awareness, and form lasting friendships with people from all over the world.

For future students, I highly recommend starting preparations early, especially when it comes to administrative paperwork and finding accommodation. Participating in student events, such as those organized by ESN, is a great way to meet people from different backgrounds and make the most of your exchange. Engaging actively in classes and asking questions will enhance your academic experience, while taking the time to explore the city and its surroundings will make your stay even more enjoyable.

It's also very helpful to learn some basic Spanish, as it makes daily life and communication much easier. Most importantly, don't hesitate to ask for support – both the host and home universities are always ready to assist. Finally, staying socially active is key to getting the full Erasmus experience – the cultural and social exchange is just as valuable as the academic side.



