

# Exchange report

LaSalle, Barcelona, fall 2024



## Where and when did you study abroad?

I went to LaSalle in Barcelona in fall 2024

## What KEA program did you attend at the time?

it was during my top-up bachelor in digital concept development

## What classes did you take during your semester abroad?

I had 6 classes as I needed to have 30 ECTS points. In my opinion it was a little bit too much and there was a lot of homework.

### Spanish:

I always wanted to learn Spanish, so I really liked this class. It was of course a little hard to learn a new language, but the professor was really nice and very helpful.

### Cross-cultural management:

This class was my favorite. We just talked about different cultures and how it can affect different businesses. It was also very interesting because there were a lot of international students in the class, so it was fun to discuss the different cultures.

### Digital marketing strategies:

In this class we mainly talked about social media and at the end of the course we had to make a website, so it's very similar to what I used to do on multimedia design

### Sports Marketing:

This was also really interesting, mainly because the professor was really cool. For me it was a little difficult because I don't know much about sports, but it seemed very easy for others.

We just talked about everything within sports, sports news and how sports are different across the world.

**Principles of tech project management:**

This was my most difficult class. I feel like you needed to have some knowledge about the subject before starting, so it was really hard for me to follow along. It was basically about everything within project management. How you manage a project, how you manage a team etc.

**Online marketing in digital business:**

In this class we talked about every aspect of marketing. Some of it I already knew beforehand. This was probably the class that was most relevant for my education at KEA

**Academic Experience**

**How helpful was the receiving school in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?**

To be honest I think LaSalle did a terrible job. We didn't really hear anything from them and the first couple of weeks we couldn't attend classes because we weren't in the system yet. We sent thousands of emails, but they never really responded, so the first weeks were definitely very chaotic.

**What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?**

Definitely spanish and cross cultural management. I actually learned a lot of Spanish and I was able to use it when I went out, so that is something I will take with me. Cross culture was really rewarding because I learned about different cultures and how I can use that knowledge in future situations. Especially the teacher, Adam, who made the class really interesting, so I would definitely recommend it.

**What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?**

Digital marketing strategies were fun, but I didn't really learn anything new. It was something I already learned on multimedia design.

**What classes would you advise other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?**

If you want to learn spanish, i can really recommend that class. The professor, David, is really nice and very good at helping.

If you would like to have the project management class I very much recommend having some knowledge about it beforehand. I spent SO much time studying for this class and it was still really difficult.

**Practical Experience**

**How was the application process?**

I think in all of this I really missed help. I kind of just went with the flow, but it's been really frustrating throughout the entire semester, because it's been really difficult to get in touch with anybody.

KEA helped me with everything beforehand, but when I got to Barcelona it was really difficult.

### **Did you have any practical difficulties settling down?**

Besides the problems with LaSalle in the beginning, there haven't been any practical difficulties.

### **Where did you live?**

I lived in the Eixample area. It's a very nice area and a little more quiet, which I really liked. I paid 625€ for my room with a balcony. I think that's a very normal price to pay for a room in Barcelona.

I found the room through a friend of mine who's from Barcelona, so for me it wasn't so hard to find, but I know for others it's been really hard because there are so many Erasmus students coming to Barcelona.

### **What kind of expenses did you have in general?**

I actually didn't have a budget before coming and I didn't have big savings either, so I tried not spending too much money.

The cost of living in Spain is really cheap compared to Denmark. Going out to eat or for a coffee can be extremely cheap if you eat locally.

For transportation you can buy a card that's valid for all the transportation in Barcelona (Train, metro, bus etc.). It was valid for 3 months and it was 45€, which was really cheap.

So overall expenses per month:

Rent: 625€

Food: 200€

Other stuff (partying, going out dinner etc): 250€

Transportation (for 3 months): 45€

**= 1.120€**

I think it's very individual what you spend. You can live very cheap if you want to, but if you wanna experience stuff and go out, it's of course gonna add up.

### **What kind of income did you have during your exchange?**

I did not apply for any grants, so I had my SU and then my Erasmus. You get 70% of the Erasmus in the beginning and then the rest when you finish, so that definitely also helped.

## **Cultural/Personal Experience**

### **What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad?**

I would say it was a little hard to settle down. I feel like I had an advantage, because I already did a semester abroad on my multimedia degree, so I already knew what it was like studying abroad in a foreign country. I do think it was a big challenge to be in a country

where you don't speak the language. Not a lot of people in Barcelona speak english, so that has definitely been the most difficult in my opinion.

**What was the best cultural/personal experience during your studies abroad?**

I think studying abroad is an amazing way to develop as a person and to create memories for life. There are so many erasmus people in Barcelona from all over the world, so I met so many people and that has been really rewarding. Also being able to get around such a big city and starting to feel at home there is also an amazing feeling.

**What advice would you give other KEA students going to study abroad at the receiving school?**

I would say that Barcelona is an absolutely amazing city and there are so many international students and so many opportunities to meet so many different people.

Be prepared for a lot of chaos. They really use the term "Spanish time" and things take time. It can be really frustrating, especially the first couple of weeks, so be prepared for that.

Also, the more Spanish you know beforehand the better. You will get surprised about how little English people know.



If you want to see pictures or have any questions you are more than welcome to contact me on my instagram: Albertethelin