My name is Delphine, I am studying my bachelor in Global Management at Stockholm Business School. From the very first day of my bachelor, I was given the possibility to do a semester abroad during the third year, and from that day, I knew that I was going to take that chance. Since I speak four languages, French, Swedish, English and Spanish, and that the lastly named is the one I had to practice, I decided to apply for a University in Spain, preferably in Madrid or Barcelona.

I went to ICADE (Universidad Pontificia de Comillas) in Madrid, which is located in the heart of the city, which was great as many universities are located in the outskirts of the city.

My business classes were in English but I took a Spanish course too. In order to be placed in the right Spanish class, I had to do a language test online. Once at ICADE, I tried the class they thought would fit me, but the level was too low for me, so I talked to the language manager and she put me in a class that suited me better.

Concerning the courses, there is a rather wide range of courses, I chose International Business, Negotiation, Leadership and Business Start-up. They were all very interesting as they were practical and offer us the chance to participate and learn more efficiently. The classes are much smaller as you are maximum 30-40 students in a course, which gave us the opportunity to participate. The teachers were great as they were fully engaged, which created an optimal work atmosphere. Apart from the regular business courses, there is extra curriculum courses as film directing and drama, which I chose, and they are all in Spanish. The teacher was once again very engaged and did a lot for the students in order to help them, even outside the university.

Madrid is a bubbly city and Malasana (where I lived), is even bubblier. The neighbourhood counts an enormous number of bars and restaurants, creating a joyful atmosphere and I always felt safe as there is people on the streets, no matter what time is. The prices are much lower than in Sweden, which lead to the fact that my room-mate and I went out for dinner very often.

Concerning the housing, finding an apartment was tougher than I thought. I arrived in Madrid with two friends and we jumped from Airbnb to Airbnb for approximately two and a half weeks. The leases are usually 6 months to one year long, but it is possible to find a way to fit your needs. My friends and I lived in the same building, I shared the apartment with one of my friends and two other persons.

My exchange semester gave me the chance to study in another university system, which in some cases suited me better. I am very happy that I chose ICADE and Madrid and I would gladly recommend the university and city to others.