

2<sup>nd</sup> year master, Aerospace Engineering

Madrid, Spain

Polytechnic University of Madrid

11-03-2023-18-03-2023

ATHENS course Spanish navigation and economy of the 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century

### **Preparation**

Applying for the programme just requires you to take the steps indicated on the website and fill in your top 5 universities. I got my first choice which was great. The only problem that arose was the earthquake in Turkey, so at the end I was not able to go. Luckily I got to choose again and ended up in Madrid. I booked a hostel, which was reasonably priced. The only disadvantage was the cost of the flight, because you are booking quite late.

### **Study program**

I had class from 10:30 to 17h every day. The professors were quite passionate about their topic which was cool to see. The lectures in Madrid were very chaotic though, as the professors would often arrive late and not always communicate, so some topics were covered twice. Being an aerospace engineer taking basically a history course, it was interesting to see this other side. The grading was really chill, as you just have to write half a page what you thought about the day and do a presentation at the end.

There was a visit to the Naval Museum, where the professor talked a lot about all the ships, cool!. After a week I have a lot of specific knowledge about Spains naval history. Maybe not the most useful, but definitely interesting!

### **Funding**

I paid 200 euro for my flight ticket and 210 euro for my hostel. Madrid is much cheaper than Delft, but all the social activities (read drinking beer) come up to like 10-20 euros a day. All in all I think I spent 500 euro more than I would have spent in Delft.

### **Free time and social activities**

The week started with a city tour, where we walked through the city for a few hours. The local student guide had a lot of cool stories and it is a great way to meet a bunch of people. We ended the day with some drinks in the park, as the weather was really great. The next day we had a museum tour and





Overall I met a lot of great people and had a lot of fun the whole week! I would certainly recommend the experience to everyone!

visited the market.

On Monday the lectures began. We ended up getting tapas at the end of the day. The next day there was a sunset party (see the pictures). It was cool to see everyone again and hang out with a beautiful view. The next day we went to a shots bar.

Wednesday was the city rally and we did all kinds of little assignments in the city. Again a good way to meet people. Thursday was time to chill a bit. Finally at Friday was the goodbye party. They rented a club and it was a really fun last night and good party.