

STUDENT REPORT

Name of the University: Audencia Nantes, Grande Ecole de Management
Specialisation in Corporate Finance

General information about the school

Audencia Business school is located about 20 minutes outside the city center of Nantes, it is located in a big area, which hosts 3 universities in total.

Audencia is one of the most renowned business schools in France, giving education to about 4,000 students. It is ranked among the top seven business schools in France. With foreign students representing 45% of the total amount of students, it is a very internationalized university. The several curricula the university offers not only in French, but also English, makes it a very international place. The most prestigious program the University offers, is the Grande école program. This program requires all students to gain experience abroad, by studying abroad or even doing an internship abroad. Hence, the students are very open minded and friendly towards students with different origins than their own. I attended the majeure in corporate Finance which is an available specialization within the Grande Ecole program.

Studying at Audencia is quite different from the Liechtenstein structure, both the amount of subjects and the style of teaching. The classes are very small and during the semester, comparable, to Liechtenstein, there is continuous evaluation through projects and tests. Attendance is obligatory. We had classes almost every day of the week, compared to Liechtenstein the studies are very time intensive in terms of lecture hours. Unfortunately my class, consisting of 40 students, was entirely made up of non-French students, which made it harder to get in touch with French students.

The application process was very complicated, because the French administration tends to be unpunctual and very inflexible, especially compared to the Liechtenstein standard. Fortunately, the international office at Audencia is very friendly and once everything is settled, it paves the way for a great experience abroad, academically, but also in terms of extracurricular activities. I played Rugby with the university team and regularly went to the university-wide gatherings on Monday evenings and parties organized by the culture association of the university, on Wednesdays.

Experiences made abroad

The exams start in decembre. However, there are numerous presentations, weekly tests, group projects and mid-terms during the semester. So there is never any time to just drift away from university entirely, which teaches students to find a good efficiency and a harmonic balance between the numerous offers for the free time and the work for university..

The time in France was as cool as expected; Nantes is a city with many students and therefor with many offers for students. The cultural scene, but also the culinary scene offers lots of space for exploration. The university and the integration team for students offered parties and travels. We also organized our own excursions to the beaches and to little towns nearby for wine tastings, also a little village, called Clisson has a very beautiful castle, which we visited with friends. During the Autumn vacation we had a short break before the last part of the semester, and we took the opportunity to travel to the South of France with a group of mixed students from all over Europe and Asia. I can only recommend anyone else to come to France and especially France, because it is a very beautiful place. In hindsight I am very thankful for the great university and the opportunity the University of Liechtenstein gave me to study abroad. I made many friendships and had many unforgettable moments.



Picture from the excursion to Saint-Malo, September 2017



Picture from an Excursion to Bordeaux, October 2017