## **SHAKE** THE FUTURE.



# Célia JALON MANZANO

Double Degree General Engineering Master Centrale Nantes, France Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (ETSIAE), Espagne 2015-2017

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#### 1. Why did you choose to do a Double Degree abroad? Why Centrale Nantes?

First of all, studying abroad is a very enriching experience that I had already lived. When I listened to the proposed double diplomas at my university I thought it would be amazing to live again this kind of experience and obtain a diploma from another university. I really wanted to go to France to learn French and I had had positive comments from the charming city of Nantes. which did not disappoint me at all!

#### 2. Your classes were in French: was it a big challenge?

It's clear that it's a challenge! However, it's just a little bit hard at the very beginning and, you get used to it incredibly fast. Besides, teachers and students know that you are a foreigner and that your French level might not be perfect so they are always willing to repeat or to help you with anything you need. You will see that thanks to this "challenge" you will get a high level of French very fast!

#### 3. What about life on campus at Centrale Nantes?

I have never seen a more active campus life in any other university, especially for the associations. There is a wide choice of activities to do during lunch break and after classes in the evening. Sports, art activities, international events, parties and much more. Besides, there is an important grass area in the campus, very useful to rest and chill when the weather is good.

#### 4. Did you feel well integrated at Centrale Nantes?

Yes, since the first week! I didn't know anybody before getting to Nantes and Centrale makes it very easy. The residence, where all double diploma students stay, is already a really good point which gives you the opportunity to meet a lot of people and also French students! Besides, the international student's association "Accents" organizes a lot of activities for the new students.

#### 5. Can you tell us more about your studies?

I was studying Industrial Engineering in Spain; I did a bachelor degree and I had already started my master when I came to Centrale Nantes. I was specialized in Energies, specifically in Renewable Energies in Spain but in order not to repeat the same studies. I decided to do a different specialization at Centrale Nantes, Information Technologies, which I really liked. The university offers a very wide choice of specializations which, I find, is a strong asset of Centrale Nantes.

#### 6. Would you recommend other students to live this experience and do a double degree abroad?

Of course! Studying abroad is an experience that every single student should have. It gives you the opportunity to learn a new language, to experience another way of teaching, to know new cultures, discover a new city and country and the most important: it will make you find a lot of good friends!

#### 7. What surprised you the most while studying at **Centrale Nantes?**

The way of teaching was different for me. During the theoretical classes, a lot of information and new concepts are presented. Right away, maybe just the same day, we have the practical classes where we are supposed to apply what we just learned with the theory. So, you have to learn very fast; this was a change at the beginning but after all it's good because it forces you to learn by yourself.

And French people are very punctual, be careful if you come from a country where you are not used to it!

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