

SHAKE THE FUTURE.



**CENTRALE
NANTES**

**Mari Carmen SALAZAR
HERNÁNDEZ**

Master 1 Civil Engineering, Centrale Nantes, France
Instituto Politécnico Nacional , Mexico



1. You are currently registered at Centrale Nantes. Could you describe in few words your studies?

Right now, I'm getting involved with all the techniques, criteria, theories and laws useful for solving problems in civil engineering regarding materials and soils. Also it is quite interesting to discover new techniques mostly to get images on very small scales for everything that is used in civil engineering. There is another subject that I like very much where the professor tries to give us some advice when you present a project where the voice, the presentation and gestures are involved. Finally, I'm getting so familiar with French as a language which is very cool – so although courses are given in English we can talk and develop our French.

2. What's your academic background?

In Mexico I finished the seventh semester of ten in civil engineering where we develop all the aptitudes needed for an engineering career. As here, the first year is a general engineering curriculum and in the third semester you really start with all the subjects that you need to develop for your professional life.

3. What is life like on campus and generally in Nantes (accommodation etc)?

In the master courses there are no French people, at least in my master, so I think that it will be pretty cool to create club or something where you could live together where French

people. I do like Nantes: "la ville verte" is a quiet and peaceful city where you can visit part of the ancient French culture but also enjoy the modern life in France. My accommodation is perfect! I'm in Max Schmitt and I do love being so close to Centrale Nantes and not to have to take the tram.

4. What are your career plans?

Right now my purpose is return to Mexico and for my career I want to work as an engineer because that's what I love, but also I think that will be great to continue studying and have a master. May be in 2 or 3 years and I would love to return to Nantes to get it. You get knowledge as an engineer, but also as researcher and I think that is great to have tools that allow you to follow your chosen path.

5. If you had to describe Centrale Nantes in 3 words, which ones would you choose? Could you give one sentence per word to explain?

Theoretical. Sometimes I get really frustrated because during the courses I don't see numbers!! I don't solve practical problems and that is a little bit complex, because when you have a problem and you can apply the theory that you learnt you understand the things better.
A challenge. Things are so much different than in Mexico so, it is always a challenge to do your best and show that you are able to get ahead in another country.
Important. Centrale Nantes is one of the best six universities in France so it is a pleasure to be here and learn as much as I can to return home and apply the knowledge acquired.