



All I wanted is to see the world and try new things, just like any other young person. As a soccer enthusiast, Spain was one of the nations I wanted to visit. So, this Erasmus mobility was exactly what I needed to fulfil one of my ambitions. After being placed on the reserved list on my first application, I went on to submit a second application and was selected.

The excitement of going to a new country and seeing new things was overwhelming, and it took me many days to believe I had made it. The preparation went quite well because I had friends who helped me and the international office leading me. The day arrived when I had to go for the exchange mobility in Valladolid, Spain, and saying goodbye to friends was as exciting as taking on a new task and embarking on a new journey.



My trip from Durban to Valladolid was fascinating, and I had no difficulty getting to my apartment when I arrived in Valladolid. Because of the language barrier, the first week was



difficult. It was tough to communicate because I didn't know how to speak Spanish, and this made it difficult to find most locations. I remember walking around the international office for an hour since no one could point me in the right direction and no data was available to use the map. Those were the recollections that made the trip intriguing. Meeting new people from all around the world with diverse cultures, languages, and backgrounds enhanced the experience. Wonderful coursemates and lovely housemates are the memories I cherish and long for.



Working with experts in my field, the school activities were equally enlightening and beneficial. Working as an intern in one of their labs and collaborating with established researchers made it all worthwhile. Taking the Spanish class was excellent because the class was fascinating, and the professor made the language simple to learn. I had a terrific experience studying Spanish and being able to express myself was equally heart-warming. Aside from these events, I had the opportunity to visit other cities with my friends, which was the most exciting part of my tour. Overall, my time in Valladolid was fantastic and insightful.



It was time for us to return to our own countries after five months of amazing experiences and learning new things. The difficult parts of the journey were the goodbyes but making new friends from all around the world made it all worthwhile. Going back to Durban and seeing my friends again was incredibly heart-warming, and it felt great to be back.

To me, it was not just about the studies, but also about the exposure, meeting new people, learning a new language, and working with individuals from different cultures. I would do it all over again and I am grateful to my professors, colleagues, and friends for making this journey interesting and educational. Thank you, Erasmus, for providing us with these chances. It's a great opportunity and well worth participating in.