

# My ISAT experience

## University

I had the pleasure to study at the ISAT in Nevers for 4 months. Without previous knowledge of the French language, I wouldn't recommend it, because in many everyday situations this language knowledge is of great importance. Firstly, when I met my fellow students, I was a bit perplexed because I assumed, that I was going to study with French people. But my 20 Indian colleagues quickly turned out to be very collegial, helpful and motivated, and I made friends with whom I still maintain contact.

## Lectures

Initially, my courses were focused on combustion engines (Professional Conference, Engine Components and Alternative fuels and pollutant reduction), but I quickly found out that the university offers many interesting lectures and exercises on electric cars / electric motors (Electrical powertrain, Energy Hybridization / Storage, Vehicular Networks). Switching courses and the learning agreements was not a problem at all, even though I was a little late. The teachers were very helpful and always had an open ear. For me, the project, in which I was able to help program the lane line detection via the camera of the autonomous car, was very interesting and motivated me to deal with the new programming language Python. Vehicle Networks with a focus on vehicle communication was completely new for me, but I was quickly able to get enthusiastic about this topic. Electrical Powertrain was also very practical. In exercises, we were able to acquire knowledge with the help of Simulink / Matlab, starting with the dimensioning of batteries, through hydrogen fuel cell dimensioning, to the modeling of parallel / serial hybrid vehicles.

## Free time

As far as leisure activities are concerned, Nevers also had some things that were interesting for me. For the sports programmes you had to have your own insurance, but once you had it, there were many possibilities. I myself went to boxing regularly. On Mondays there was also the possibility to play poker in a cosy atmosphere with one or two drinks and to get in contact with the other students. There was also a small theatre/opera where concerts were offered. La Médiathèque, the "city library", was very versatile, as a large repertoire of books, CDs and films were lent for free. I also visited the race track Magny-Cours twice with my Indian colleagues to do our laps with the karts. Paris, Orléans or Dijon would have been the next bigger cities to invite us to visit.



However, I had the possibility to drive with my car to the west to La Rochelle. In November the big event, the ISAT Gala, was scheduled, where all students had the opportunity to wear their ball gowns.

Looking back, I have very positive memories of my semester abroad, made some friends and was able to improve my French language skills a lot. It was very varied and the small but charming Nevers has more to offer than it seems at first glance.

**Alexandra HOESELE**  
**Fall Semester 2019/2020**

**FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences  
Austria**

