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Since I started university, I have always wanted to have the opportunity to study abroad during my student years. For me, this was not simply about going to another country; I wanted to experience what studying in a different environment is like, meet new people, and get to know myself better. I fulfilled this wish during the fall semester of 2026, when I had the opportunity to study in France at the University of Angers as part of the Erasmus+ program.

The period I spent in Angers became one of the most interesting experiences for me. Living in a foreign country was a little challenging at first, as many things were completely new to me. Every day, I had to make decisions independently and deal with situations that I had rarely encountered while living in Georgia. All of this made me realize that I had become much more independent and confident than I had thought before.

The academic experience was especially important to me. As a Tourism student, it was very interesting to study my field at a university in another country and experience a different learning environment. In addition to the knowledge I gained from lectures, I looked at many topics from a practical and different perspective. One of the best parts of this semester was also meeting new people — I met students from different countries, made new friends, and shared many interesting and fun moments with them.

Being in France also gave me the opportunity to travel. Visiting different cities and places deepened my interest in travel and cultural tourism even more. Seeing new places with my own eyes and experiencing different cultures was not simply a way to relax for me; it was an opportunity to better understand the field I have chosen as my future profession. The semester I spent at the University of Angers became a very important part of my student life. I will definitely use the knowledge and experience I gained here in both my studies and my future career. Most importantly, this period left me with many memories, new friends, and the feeling that stepping outside our comfort zone is often the very step that helps us grow the most.