



BLUE BOOK
2013 - 2015

EDITORIAL



DEAR READER

Welcome to the Blue Book for the Erasmus Mundus Globalisation, Journalism and Media class of 2013/15.

The theme of this year's book is 'Breaking Barriers' and I'm sure you will see when you read each profile that this is a group which doesn't just break barriers but demolishes them. Each Mundus student was paired up with a classmate and we challenged them to find out as much as they could about each other. They were paired up so that each partner came from a different country and was taking a different specialism, in this way we hoped that the barriers between us would be broken and that we could increase our collective awareness and appreciation of the huge diversity within our group.

Organising this project and collecting photos, information, interviews and biographies for 101 students was a challenge. It could not have been achieved without the help of the dedicated editorial team who broke barriers in their own ways to meet deadlines, and create written and video content in English. I am immensely proud of them all. We hope that you will enjoy reading our Blue Book and that you will overcome any barriers of your own by applying to our program.

All the best, Ellie and the Blue Book team :)

THE BLUE BOOK TEAM

Ellie Sellwood, Scheila Silveira, Cate Nosdo, Margaryta Kirakoshian, Irene Dominioni, Greta Jankaityte, Svanlaug Arnadottir, Oumaima Azzelzouli, Sofia Lotto Persio, Ondra Menzel, Patricia Alonso Sande, Sherry Yan Shi, Adil Mahmood, Nkwain Vandoline Kiawi, Lotte Kamphuis, Daniel Szabo, Victorine Sandkuyl, Meng Wu, Jasmin Koerber, Madalina Paxaman, Fiona Huijie Zeng, Ina Zhou, Adilya Zaripova

“ It may seem to be really challenging to leave your home and those closest to you behind, to come to an unknown country. But if you have decided to be a journalist, you are ready to break barriers and explore the world behind them. I am very happy to be part of the Mundus Journalism family. You could never imagine how open minded you can be before you get a chance to laugh, cook, drink, dance, sing with people from all over the world. If you are eager for new experience and ready to use the word “global” 1000 times a day, Mundus Journalism is the best choice for you! (Adilya Zaripova)

“ By the end of the programme, you will be a specialist not only in journalism, but also in international culture, cuisine and music; you will travel all around the world without necessarily moving. Believe me, even if you have been abroad before, you have not experienced something like this, so enriching. Here, you will learn how to be a citizen of the world. The best way possible, with the best people. (Patricia Alonso)

“ Although my contribution to the Blue Book 2013 was marginal, I got a lot out of it. It was just amazing to read first hand some of our classmates' past adventures and beautiful expectations and dreams for their futures. They are positive, romantic and ambitious with a free spirit. As a huge class, chances are that we might not be able to get familiar with everyone, but with the Blue Book, we are closer to each other without doubt. Everyone came here with an expectation, to enjoy, to discover or to redefine themselves. Even though we are in an era of increasing globalization, differences in culture, language, and educational backgrounds sometimes get lost in a new environment. Those invisible barriers like reef in the sea, resurface unexpectedly. They linger on and on, reminding us who we are, how and why we came here. These are hard questions to answer, but at least, give yourself a chance to face a real you, here. (Ina Zhou)

BREAKING BARRIERS



All 101 students who have forced the fences and have started the 2013 group of Mundus Journalism students have broken barriers in order to be able to travel for the adventure of Mundus Journalism.

Barriers have differed for all students representing more than 49 different countries. One of the first barriers was to be convinced that this was the course and path to follow to prepare for all future barriers within both work and further studies. This barrier has been especially hard to force for those coming from countries in which it is difficult to get information, and the life of a journalist is a balance on a narrow line every day.

By breaking the barriers and being admitted to the Mundus Journalism Masters one of the greatest advantages is the opportunity to utilize the great network in which everybody is a part. This is a network across countries and different backgrounds. The opportunity to break barriers together with others in one Mundus Journalism body is a strong force.

The Mundus Journalism Masters is the only Mundus Masters in Journalism with the support from the Mundus Programme. In this way students have entered a program which has broken barriers since the first group of Mundus Journalism students started in 2005. We now see a programme with a broad alumni covering more than 100 different nationalities who are helping each other and future Mundus Journalism students.

The consortium of the Mundus Masters covers nine higher education institutions from around the globe with dedicated staff who in a cooperation with Mundus Journalism students are prepared to break as many barriers as possible to enhance and enrich the Mundus Journalism programme so it continues to be a programme which keeps a high bar professionally and also continues to be a programme which is fun to teach and administrate.

We give the Mundus Journalism 2013 group a warm welcome in the Mundus Journalism family, and hope everybody else will enjoy the reading of this Blue Book as much as we did.



INGER MUNK & BETTINA ANDERSEN

Mundus Coordinators from Danish School of Media and Journalism / Aarhus University

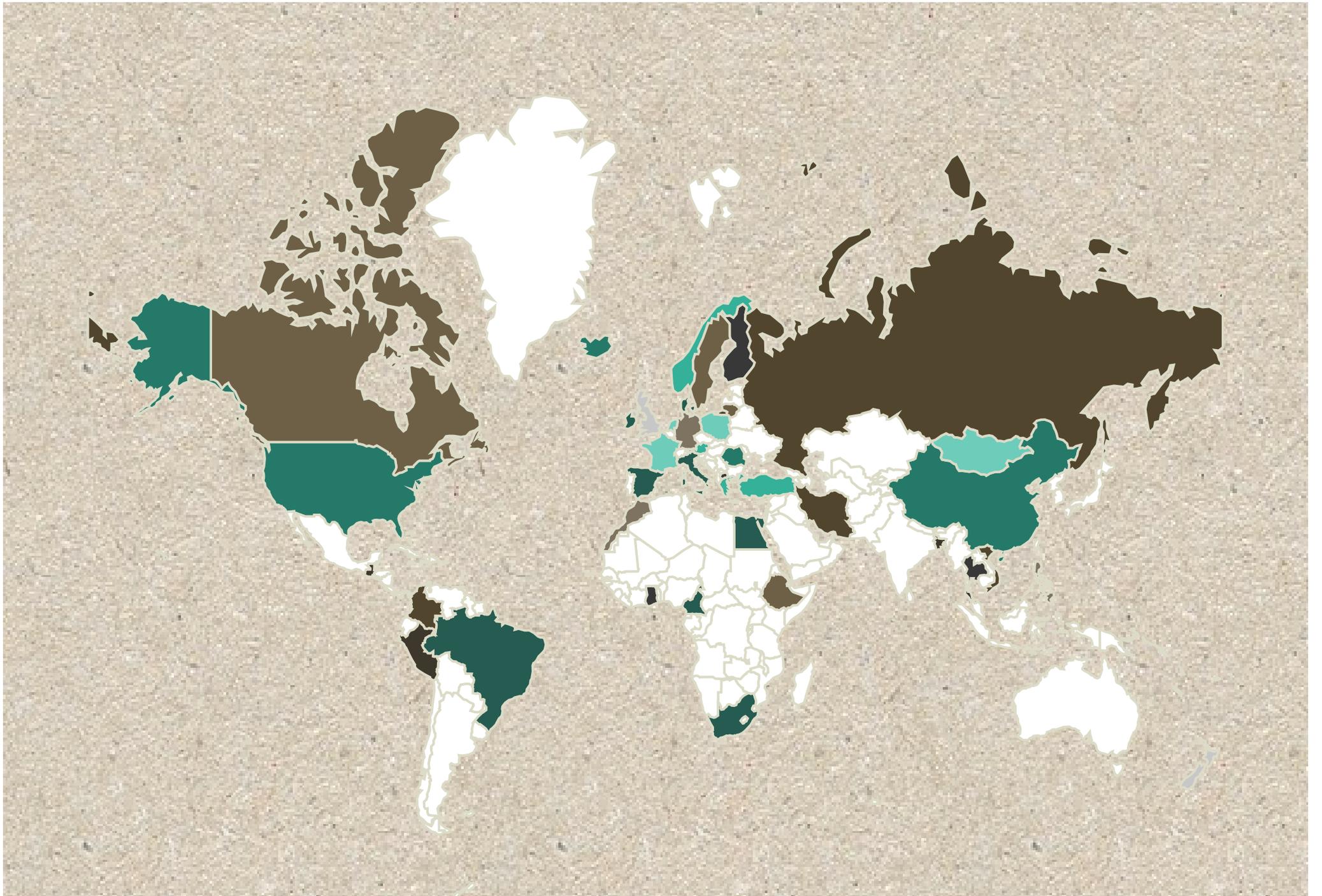
101 STUDENTS 48 NATIONALITIES 1 GROUP



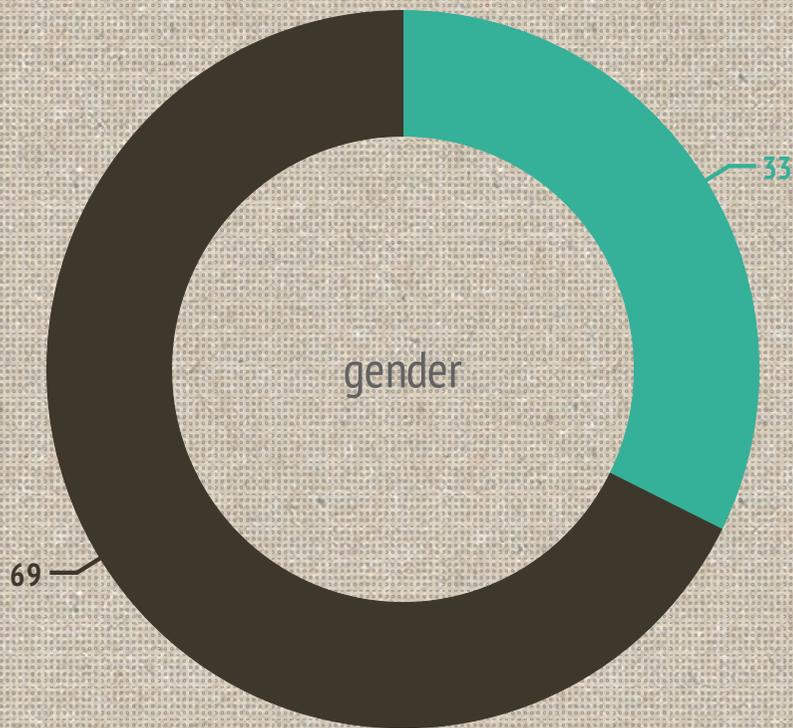
MUNDUS JOURNALISM CLASS 2013

In September 2013, 101 students from 43 countries of the world set out on a quest -

- to respatialize journalism...



**TOP 3 COUNTRIES
(COUNTING DUAL
CITIZENSHIPS): GERMANY
(12), UK (11) & DENMARK
(9)**

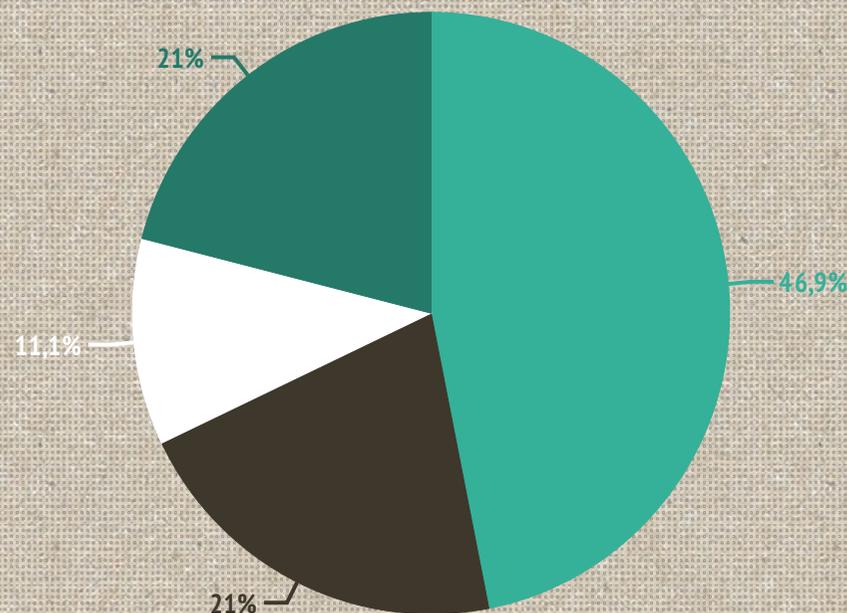


male female



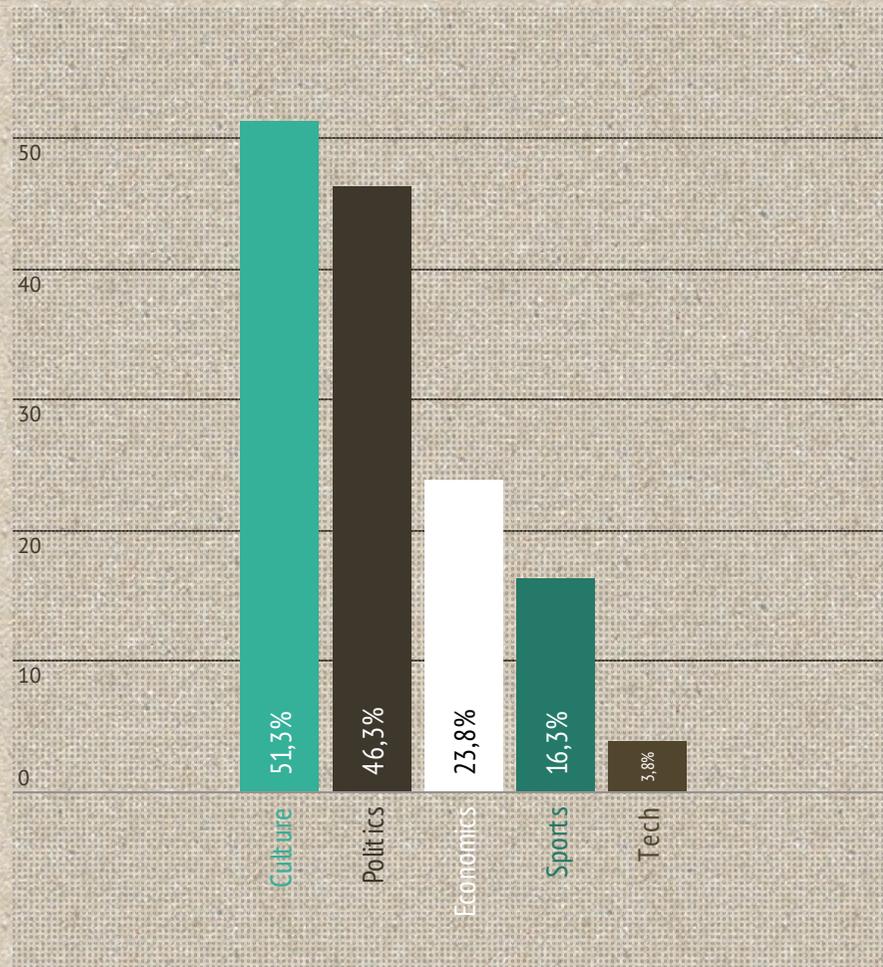
of students have earned their living with journalism before

THE AVERAGE MUNDUS STUDENT HAS BEEN WORKING IN JOURNALISM FOR 3.3 YEARS, MOSTLY IN:



Print TV Radio Online

WE BRING EXPERTISE IN EVERY MAJOR JOURNALISTIC FIELD...

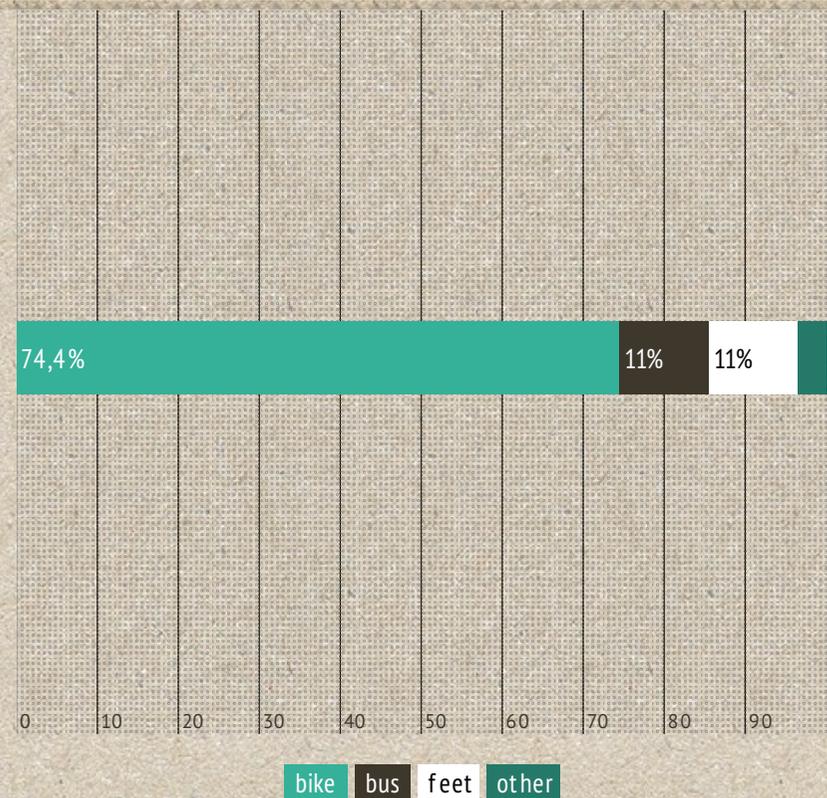


... AND IN MANY, MANY MORE (E.G. EDUCATION, TRAVEL, QUEER ISSUES & PHOTOJOURNALISM). SOON ENOUGH, WE WILL SPREAD THIS EXPERTISE ALL OVER EUROPE:



Amsterdam Hamburg London Swansea

**THE AVERAGE MUNDUS
STUDENT DOES NOT ONLY
KILL 2.15 CUPS OF COFFEE
PER DAY, HE/SHE IS
ECOSENSITIVE. THIS IS HOW
WE GET AROUND:**



**WONDER ABOUT THE
"OTHER" CATEGORY? WELL,
SPACE SHIPS WERE
MENTIONED...**

created by Jasmin Koerber

TABLE OF CONTENTS



13. Adil Mahmood
14. Adilya Zaripova
15. Adriana Diaz Martin Zamorano
16. Aida Pelaez
17. Alex Westcott
18. Ana Escaso Moreno
19. Anja Pil Christoffersen
20. Anna Maria Link
21. Anne Odendahl
22. Antoine Panaite
23. Ariane Osman
24. Barbara Konturek
25. Bryan McLure
26. Charlotte Ekstrom
27. Cherie Chan
28. Christine Wendel
29. Collins Atta Poku
30. Daniel Szabo
31. Daniela Guzman
32. Daria Sukharchuk
33. David Anthony Fleming
34. David Nelson Perez
35. Debora Dongo-Soria Saito
36. Dilara Kenber
37. Dimitra Drakaki
38. Ellie Sellwood

39. Emnet Assefa
40. Fenne van Loon
41. Fred Bonatto
42. Giacomo Galardini
43. Grae Minors
44. Greta Jankaityte
45. Hannah Spysma
46. Huije Zeng
47. Ina Zhou
48. Ingunn Dorholt
49. Irene Dominioni
50. Ivo Bosilkov
51. Jasmin Koerber
52. João Grando
53. Johannes Perterer
54. Joseph Cox
55. Katherine Dunn
56. Kathleen Nosdo
57. Katrine Obel-Grønbæk
58. Kirsten Dall Hjøllund
59. Kultida Yee
60. Laura Myllymäki
61. Léo Gack
62. Lisa Duhm
63. Livia Vázquez Segre

64. Lotte Kamphuis
65. Louisa Field
66. Luis Eduardo Barrueto
67. Luis Manuel Gil Perez
68. Madalina Paxaman
69. Magdalena Skrzypek
70. Magnus Erik Scherman
71. Marc Kushin
72. Margaryta Kirakosian
73. Maria Wokurka
74. Mariana Campos
75. Marianna Duarte de Aragao
76. Meimei Qin
77. Meng Wu
78. Mitra Amiri
79. Nele Goutier
80. Niklas Jakobsson
81. Nouran El-Behairy
82. Ondra Marie Menzel
83. Oscar Guell
84. Oumaima Azzelzouli
85. Pascale Müller
86. Patricia Alonso Sande
87. Paul Mornon
88. Pedro Henrique Leal

89. Phan Dieu Thu Ha
90. Rachel Barr
91. Raphael Schleuning
92. Rebecca Thorning Wine
93. Robert Born
94. Sam Richardson
95. Scheila Silveira
96. Sebastian Koskinen
97. Seifeddine Mattoussi
98. Shorouk El Hariry
99. Sofia Domingues
100. Sofia Lotto Persio
101. Sofie Ejdrup Larsen
102. Søren Otto Simonsen
103. Svanlaug Árnadóttir
104. Tinus Elsig
105. Tobias Widmann
106. Undral Amarsaikhan
107. Vandoline Nkwain
108. Victorine Sandkuyl
109. Viktoriya Rinkeviciute
110. Viral Shah
111. Yan Shi
112. Yasmin Wolkow
113. Zoë Robertson

ADIL MAHMOOD



I SLEPT AND DREAMT THAT LIFE WAS JOY
I AWOKE AND SAW THAT LIFE WAS SERVICE
I ACTED AND BEHOLD, SERVICE WAS JOY

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NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

FACT

Despite all the corruption, human-made and natural disasters, Bangladesh actually achieved Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) two years before the deadline...

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

September 11, 2001. The extensive coverage by all the media outlets in my country and across the globe changed my whole view of the media. I was finishing high school back then and I decided around that point of my life that I wanted to 'do the news'.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I want to travel around every corner of the globe with my backpack and camera and report or blog about people, society and issues.

What would you like to do after the course?

I am still employed. So I have to go back home and start working again [Hoping to get a raise too!!].

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It's one of the best journalism Masters courses in the world. Besides, in order to apply for it, one doesn't need to have a journalism/social science academic background.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I can recall a very recent one. On April 26 this year, a building, which housed five garments factories, collapsed with around 5,000 people inside. 1,131 people died in that incident and hundreds were severely injured. The rescue operation went on for weeks, and especially in the early period of the operation, hundreds of people were being brought out from the rubble and either they were dead, or seriously injured they had lost limbs and were bleeding. It was really a hard thing to witness as a human being, let alone as a reporter. I was at the site live -blogging for our website. I don't know how many times I have cried watching the whole devastation and misery of the people and their loved ones.

Adil was born and raised in the small town of Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh. He moved to Darul Ihsan University in Dhaka, where he studied for his BA in Business Administration and Human Resource Management. Adil has been working as a journalist since sophomore year at University. He first worked part time for Financial Express, a daily financial newspaper in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka. In 2007 he started working full time for The Daily Star as an online journalist and reporter for the Business and IT page. Thereafter he got employed at The Independent. From the end of 2012 onwards Adil has been working as a web editor for the website of the national daily Dhaka Tribune, where he is in charge of the international pages. Adil has a broad range of interests, for instance in photography, football, cricket, history, music, movies and traveling.



ADILYA ZARIPOVA

ЕСЛИ В СТАКАНЕ НЕТ ВОДЫ,
ЭТО НЕ ЗНАЧИТ,
ЧТО ОН ПУСТ - В НЕМ ВОЗДУХ

NATIONALITY

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-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

In Russia we have a great tradition of hospitality. Like in the southern regions for example, the Caucasus people won't even ask your name before inviting you for dinner. And it will be the best dinner of your life!

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I started working as a journalist when I was 14 years old, after I saw a small advertisement in my local newspaper that talked of a journalism school. Afterwards, I started working as a journalist for free, and now I couldn't imagine myself as something else.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

When I was in Thailand, I decided to ride a motorbike for the first time in my life, which was an awful decision. Of course, I ended up falling off the bike in the mountains late at night. But a nice German guy helped me.

What would you like to do after the course?

I hope to stay in Europe for some time to get more practical experience and then use it in my own country. Speaking frankly, my plans are too huge to fit in one sentence.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I decided to apply for the course the very first moment I saw the summary of the program. It perfectly fits my academic interests. I felt like it had been organized just for me.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Learning the names of all my fellow students is quite challenging in itself. I hope to make a lot of good friends here. I am really excited about the fact that I might have friends all over the world and can visit them. But I also really want to learn how to ride a bike with no hands.

Adilya was born in the small town of Kimry, Russia. After graduating from school in 2004, she sent applications to six different universities and was accepted by Moscow State University. She received her BA and Specialist degree there. Even before graduation Adilya started to work full-time for the newspaper Российская газета as a special correspondent in the social department which meant she often traveled across her country. During one of the most interesting trips that she undertook as a journalist, Adilya spent four days climbing in the mountains of Ingushetia a southern region in Russia. In 2009 and 2010 she took part in an exchange program for young journalists and took an internship in the German media – Rheinischer Merkur and die tageszeitung.



ADRIANA DIAZ MARTI ZAMORANO

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TU TOURNES AVEC ELLE

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NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

FACT

It's totally normal to dip a biscuit, a muffin or even cereals in your coffee. It makes it warm and soft and nice to eat.

Tell us about one experience, which changed your life/career?

I think it's not about one singular experience that changes your life, it's more a process of changing. It also depends on which stage in life you're in. After finishing my Bachelor degree, I started thinking about what I wanted with my life, about the future, I guess this was one of those processes.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

This one time, my friend and I decided to book a Ryanair flight for only 12 euros. We thought, "Let's go to Paris!" so we just did it. We left early in the morning, walked around all day, went partying at night –we didn't sleep at all – and early next morning we took the airplane back to Barcelona. We were in Paris for less than 24 hours!

What would you like to do after the course?

Many things! But for my career, I want to create media or work in the media, which can contribute to the construction of a European public sphere.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

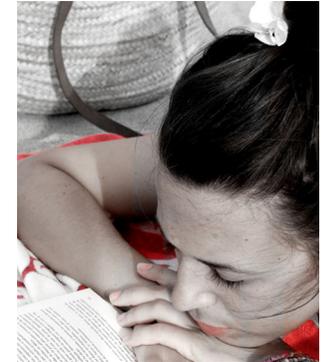
For me there were two reasons. First, I really like the international aspect of this course. You can meet people from all over the world. Second, this master is very specific, especially in the second year when you have to choose a specialism, and that was what I was looking for.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The test you have to take for your driver's license! I took it twice and I failed twice as well. But I am a good driver!

Adriana was born and raised in Barcelona. She went to Autonomous University of Barcelona where she obtained her BA-degree in Journalism. She has lived in Barcelona all 22 years of her life. This is the first time she has left Barcelona and it is her first time living abroad.

Adriana has a very peculiar hobby: she likes to record sounds. From recording the sound of rain-drops outside her home, she has also recorded her teachers talk in class. Interesting isn't it? You may want to know that she has a special folder on her desktop, called the 'Map of the Sounds'. Adriana's map of sounds contains various folders named after the cities or locations where the sounds were recorded. In her words: "I love to combine different kinds of sound to create a new space of sounds."



AIDA PELAEZ-FERNANDEZ

QUEDA PROHIBIDO LLORAR
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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My time working as a nanny and a waitress in UK. I decided to go on my own and I saw that I was stronger than I thought. Even if I am back to my journalism career, there are some lessons I have learned that will affect my future life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I have always wanted to go to South America, stay there for a few months and travel all around the different countries and cultures over there, more or less like Che Guevara did when he was young.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would love to work in the communication department of an international institution, like the UN, Unicef, the European Parliament. I know it is a big dream, but if I don't dream big there is no way I will get far.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It was related with my career in journalism but also included globalization and communication, which I am really interested in. Also, it is a great opportunity to study in an international atmosphere.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

In Aarhus: cycling all the way to school without falling down too often. In my life: learn how to miss people that are not here anymore and at the same time enjoy my life every day.

Aida Pelaez is from a small beautiful region called Asturias in the north of Spain. She studied Journalism in Spain and obtained her BA. at the University of Valladolid. She has fond memories of the dorm in which she lived and the friends she made there as she shared many funny experiences with them. In the last year of her BA. degree she won an Erasmus Scholarship for the small University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom. There, she was surrounded by people from different countries in an environment which is very similar to the one in the ongoing Erasmus Mundus Masters.

Aida loves music, even without realizing it; she spends most of her time singing. She also loves traveling, but her real passion is her friends, family and all the good people she has met in the different places where she has been. She wants most of them to continue being a part of her life.



FACT

The North of Spain is green and it rains pretty often there, most of it during spring.

ALEX WESTCOTT

EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON
WHICH YOU CAN USE TO
CHANGE THE WORLD

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NEXT YEAR
Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Moving to the United Arab Emirates when I was 22 changed my life. It was the first time I had left South Africa, and it opened my eyes to the rest of the world. In terms of career, shooting the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix was a game changer; I learnt the true meaning of a hard day's physical labour... and deadline pressure.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I bungeed off a swing bridge in Nepal; they had to stall my jump to allow for a few donkey carts to cross; the bridge swung violently. After I'd taken the plunge, I had to pull myself across the gorge with a bamboo pole while still upside down. In terms of the future, I'd like to circumnavigate Africa in an old Land Rover. (Don't tell my mother...)

What would you like to do after the course?

Freelance and focus on independent multimedia projects, and possibly study further to work in research, if my brain doesn't fail me.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I became interested in this course in 2009 but at that time I was too "skint" to consider studying again. I applied last year because I was (symptomatically) bored at work. I felt I needed to 'sharpen the sword', and I pined for the library. Studying in an international environment is the best possible education one could ask for; it's about more than academics.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I believe in saving that for the shrink (or a bottle of wine) but I will say that being away from home for the past five years has had its share.

Alex was born in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, but grew up in the Karoo – a vast, desert-like area in the Eastern Cape province. After attending boarding school, she studied a Bachelor of Journalism with a focus in Photojournalism at Rhodes University, in Grahamstown. Once she graduated, she interned as a sub-editor for six months and then moved to the United Arab Emirates where she worked as a photo-journalist for a daily newspaper. After three years in the UAE she went traveling for six months through east and southern Africa, New Zealand and Southeast Asia, concluding the year in Singapore, where she lived and worked for two years. Her background is in multimedia, having worked in editing, writing, photography, photo editing and video. She is most proud of the fact that in the five years since leaving South Africa for the first time, she has visited approximately 40 countries [and counting].



FACT

The only street in the world to house two Nobel Peace prizewinners is in South Africa - Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu both have houses on Vilakazi Street in Soweto.

ANA ESCASO MORENO

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NEXT YEAR
London

FACT

Spain leads the world in organ donations: a total of more than 4,000 organ transplants were carried out in 2009 and the rate of donors has increased from 14 in 1989 to 34.3 in 2009, the highest in the world.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The first time I moved abroad absolutely changed my perspective of life. A wide world was opened to me. It was the first time I experienced freedom, in its broadest meaning, and I am sure that fact modified the course of my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Crossing the border between the States and Mexico with an expired passport.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to find a job as a journalist or photojournalist, maybe in South America.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I thought it was a unique opportunity to develop my skills as a journalist in Denmark in one of the best educational systems in the world. Also to improve my English and to understand a bit better how the world works nowadays.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I guess the biggest one could be the first time I went to live on my own when I experienced fears, loneliness and responsibilities for the very first time.

Ana was born in Fuente del Maestre, a small town located in a rural area of Spain. When she was 18, Ana moved to Madrid to study Journalism and lived there for the next 5 years. After finishing college, Ana went back home and realized that if she wanted to be a journalist and she needed to learn English – at that time she barely could say a word. So Ana decided to go to Ireland and stayed there for one year, working as a waitress amongst other things. After that, she went back home again, trying to figure out what to do with her life. As she couldn't give her life a sense of meaning, Ana gave it some emotion instead and went to California for 5 months. At that time Ana was informed that she has been accepted to Erasmus Mundus Master's Journalism and now she's part of our team.



ANJA PIL CHRISTOFFERSEN

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

FACT

In Denmark, we do not have one single exciting, wild animal.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Deciding to switch from law to journalism was a big and very exciting change in my life. And Game of Thrones!

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Once I sang acapella in a jazz club in Baltimore. It was a song I have written myself. That was the most terrifying thing I've ever done. But very rewarding.

What would you like to do after the course?

I have no idea. Maybe work within Danish news reporting. The only thing I'm very sure of is that I don't want to do law anymore.

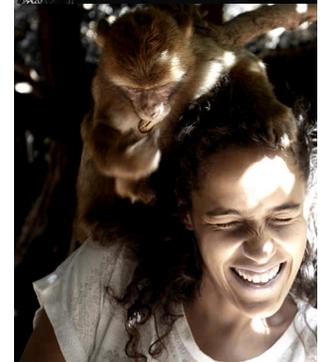
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Actually because of my internship. It made me realize that journalism was more my field of interest than law. I think this Master is a wonderful opportunity. The international aspect really appealed to me.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I am so new to journalism and have so little experience. Therefore this Master program is a real challenge to me. I have to try to match people who have been into the topic for years.

Anja was born in Naestved, Denmark, close to Copenhagen. Five years ago she moved to Copenhagen to study at the University Of Copenhagen. She has a BA in Law. During her university studies, she interned at a newspaper called Politiken. She is very proud of the work she did at Politiken, although she was only interning there for five weeks, she worked as a full-time journalist. In her free-time she likes to write songs. "I would call them soul". But most of all, she likes to sing them. She is passionate about coffee, wine, cheese and chocolate which she considers to be the best stuff in the world!



ANNA MARIA LINK

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DER UNS BESCHUTZT UND DER UNS HILET ZU LEBEN

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I believe that various people I have met influenced and enriched my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I went bungee jumping in New Zealand, which cost me quite an effort.

What would you like to do after the course?

After finishing the course I would like to work as a TV journalist.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose the Erasmus Mundus program, because it is a perfect mix of journalism, politics, cultural and media studies. Moreover, it is extremely exciting to study in such an international context.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I think I experienced the greatest challenge when I was living and working in the Costa Rican jungle, which was a great contrast to my previous life.



Anna was born in one of the biggest cities in Germany, Frankfurt am Main. She spent most of her life in Germany, but has also had the opportunity to travel in the USA and Spain. Anna took her BA in Regensburg, in Comparative European Ethnology and Business Administration. She gained her journalistic experience working as an intern at German TV Sat.1 news and Hit Radio FFH. She has also worked for the foreign editorial department of the German TV station ARD in Washington D.C. and German TV Science magazine "Galileo". One of Anna's passions is traveling. The other one is, of course, chocolate.

FACT

There are over 300 kinds of bread and also bread museums in Germany.

ANNE ODENDAHL

AFTER ALL
TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY

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-

NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

FACT

In June 2013 the longest German word was abolished: Rindfleischetikettierungsüberwachungsaufgabenübertragungsgesetz (special kind of law)

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I can't say that one experience changed my life. It is rather the story of my life as a whole which has been created by me and shaped by the people surrounding me which has led to the person I am now.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I can't tell you the craziest thing I have done because it hasn't happened yet.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work as a journalist in the field of foreign politics.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I want to back my journalistic experience with a theoretical background. Additionally, I want to get to know lots of new people from countries all over the world and find out their personal stories.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge was to go to a foreign country and leave everything familiar behind so I could dive into the new and unknown.

Anne was born in Neuss, Germany where she lived most of her life. She also had the opportunity to spend one year in London, England. Anne studied English and Sociology for her BA in Düsseldorf. She has worked as a lexicographer, researcher in a consulting company and a tupperware consultant. She has gained journalistic experience working as a freelancer for the German newspaper Neuss-Grevenbroicher-Zeitung and for Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, a publication supported by a German political foundation. Her passions are English literature, creative handcrafts and traveling.



ANTOINE PANAITÉ

NOTRE MÉTIER N'EST PAS DE FAIRE PLAISIR
NON PLUS DE FAIRE DU TORT
IL EST DE PORTER LA PLUME DANS LA PLAIE

NATIONALITY
French

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The experience that changed my life was getting born. It was pretty useful event in my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I'd like to be the gynecologist for the royal family of Denmark.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work for TV, radio, international news (what a surprise).

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

See answer above.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Not to destroy Louisa's iPhone during the interview! Proving to be difficult.



Antoine was born in Paris on February 8th 1992, which he describes as "a great day for France!" He spent most of his life in the beautiful suburbs of Paris. His passion for journalism emerged as he grew up. Whilst studying for his BA in Paris he became more and more involved and engaged with the issues of the world. As a young journalist, he started to work for the French Radio station Public Sante, addressing subject related to health problems in France. Antoine considers that his most successful chronicle was a piece on erection problems - a hot subject in France. In 2013 he was accepted in the Erasmus Mundus Master Program in Journalism Media and Globalization "to the great joy of many Danes who can now enjoy my French charm and magnificent voice".

FACT

We LOVE to complain, and practice it all the time. And we DON'T eat frogs.

ARIANE OSMAN

QUAND L'APPETIT
VA TOUT VA

NATIONALITY
French

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

FACT

French people moan when tourists try to speak French because they feel their language is being desecrated, they also moan if tourists don't try to speak French because they see this as lack of effort

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The first time I traveled. It may not seem like a big deal but it gave me an enormous sense of freedom and I've never looked back...

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing I want to do is to change the world. Pretty crazy, right...

What would you like to do after the course?

I guess getting a job would be a start... Seriously, I'm really passionate about women's rights so my dream would be to travel around the world and cover women's rights issues. If I could put this topic at the forefront of the world agenda and contribute to improving the lives of women and girls around the world, my life would be complete.

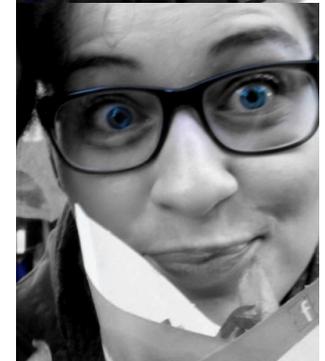
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I was really drawn to the opportunity of studying in two different countries learning about the complexities of globalisation and its effect on the current media landscape. The mix of cultures on the course is also absolutely amazing, which creates a truly global perspective.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Well...figuring out what to do with my life!

Ariane is from "London, Babay!" but she's not English. In fact she's half French, half Turkish Cypriot but she is a Londoner who has lived in London, France, Cyprus, Berkeley and California. Ariane took her BA in English Literature at the Queen Mary University of London. She actually claims to have never worked before which is not true at all – she has interned and has journalistic work experience in student journalism, marketing, business/technology, lifestyle and photography. This multicultural girl is proud of the fact that she survived growing up in South East London and is passionate about women rights and – wait for it – cheese... Her passion for cheese goes hand in hand with Ariane's inspirational French quote "Quand l'appétit va tout va", which means "when your appetite is good, everything is good."



BARBARA KONTUREK

EIN ECHTER WIENER
GEHT NICHT UNTER

NATIONALITY

Austrian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

Austria is often mixed up with Australia, so we have a quote in Austria: "There are no kangaroos in Austria, just Mozartsound and Muhlkuhs."

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I decided to go abroad and I met a lot of interesting people who changed my life in a very positive way. But there were a lot of different experiences changing my life – very personal things – and I'm glad I had the possibility to experience them because they made me the person I am today.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

What's not crazy? The whole life is full of crazy adventures – just take them as they come...

What would you like to do after the course?

I don't know yet for sure. I would love to work as a journalist but I don't know where i will live or for what kind of magazine I will work. I'm open to a lot of things.

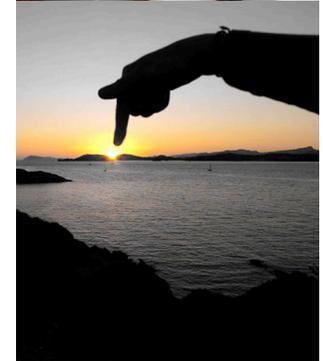
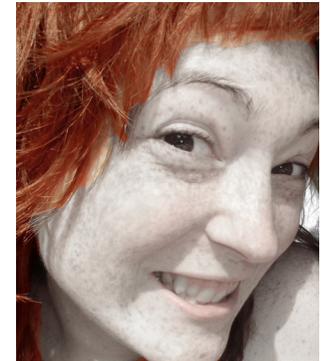
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Because it is different from all the other programs. You get to know a lot of different people from different countries. Which other program has more than 45 different nationalities in one class?

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

To get everything for my application for this Mundus program. It was very hard to convince people at University of Vienna to provide me with all the documents so I could apply on time. That was a big challenge – but I made it and I'm very glad to be part of the program.

Barbara was born in the wonderful city of Vienna in Austria. She spent most of her life in Vienna, with the exception of the few months she spent in France. She studied Mass Media and Communication Science at the University of Vienna. Most of her journalistic experience was gained by working in print media. She has also worked for a publishing company, in the media departments of several NGOs and a private TV station, all in Austria. She believes that journalists can make a difference and she takes great pride in working in this field. She is passionate about giving a voice to those who can't speak for themselves - that's what journalism should be about. "And that's why it is so important to think about the power you have as a journalist."



NATIONALITY

British (Scottish)

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

London

FACT

Scotland is not part
of England.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Walking outside of my university campus in Edinburgh, I happened upon a friend that would open a door into university fundraising, a field that I would specialize in for the next twenty years.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Whilst many chose a more conventional continuation of their studies in the United Kingdom, I opted not to complete my Honors year in Business Studies, instead almost immediately getting involved in the entertainment industry as a concert hall manager. Pulling spectators out of the grand-stands, dodging hurled beer bottles, and trying to set some sort of order within the crowd during the 90's punk era was "just wild".

What would you like to do after the course?

I'd like to be a journalist first, and a fundraiser second. After a career of raising money for other people to do interesting things, it's time to do something for me. And if I can do even a little something for the rest of the world, too, so much the better.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

With previous reporting experience, I feel confident in solidifying my background through the Erasmus Mundus Journalism program, allowing me yet again to continue writing my own story.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I now face the biggest challenge to date, hopping from a solid career at 54 straight into a new academic endeavor, but there is a reason I made this choice - I'd like to be a journalist. I'd like to do something for myself and for the world.

Bryan was born in Fife, Scotland, and has lived in Scotland, England, and Denmark. He studied Commerce/Business Studies at the University of Edinburgh, and also has postgraduate qualifications in Voluntary Sector Management (City, London) and Journalism (Birkbeck, London). He worked at the Universities of Edinburgh, Oxford, London and Hertfordshire before joining the Erasmus Mundus journalism program. Bryan has worked for a student newspaper, worked as a freelancer for The Scotsman newspaper, ran a press office for a London college and worked with the Centre for Investigative Journalism at London's City University on fundraising and business development. Bryan fulfilled one dream when he proved sceptics wrong, bringing in millions of pounds for the University of Hertfordshire, against what seemed like almost insurmountable odds. His main passion right now is this course – doing what little he can to expose some of the crushing inequality that represents the unacceptable face of capitalism/globalisation in the 21st century world.



CHARLOTTE EKSTROM

NÖDEN ÄR
UPPFINNINGARNAS
MÖDER

NATIONALITY

Swedish

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was 16 I spent one high school year in Paris which changed my perspective of life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I would still love to travel to places in Asia and Africa where I have not yet been.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to create a consultancy company. If that does not work out, I would like to work for the UN or UNESCO.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The modules in the program sounded very interesting. I wanted to pursue a master's degree and I was looking for a new experience.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

From a professional standpoint, it was to set up my company. From a more personal standpoint, it has been to decide and understand how I want to live my life and what kind of person I want to be.



FACT

Sweden is set to become the first country in the world to phase out petrol for biofuel.

Charlotte was born in Lund in Sweden, but grew up in Gothenburg. She has a double BA in Psychology and Global Communications. She has lived in France and the US for the last 9 years, after graduating she worked in communications for a luxury car brand and then in a Paris based PR agency. The last 3 three years she has been working in the real estate company Entrée Paris that she is also the co-founder of. Her work in the company is the thing she is most proud of professionally, but she is also very proud of her family. She has an adventurous spirit and she has a passion for discovering new things, traveling, and developing new projects and ideas.

CHERIE CHAN

DON'T FORGET THE PEOPLE WHO CREATED
THE PRESENT YOU
OR THE THINGS THAT SHAPED HOW YOU ARE TODAY

NATIONALITY
Hong Kongese

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

FACT

Hong Kong is not a country, but it is not the same as China.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I took an Erasmus Exchange in Switzerland for 1 year. The people I met and the experiences I had there were very inspiring and encouraging. Since then I have been determined to become a journalist.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Once I was going to take an over-night train from Romania (Cluj-Napoca) to Budapest, but I got on the wrong train. When the person who checked my ticket came she was using all her body language to tell me I got on the wrong train. Then the 4 of us were talking to every single person on the train to ask what we should do. Suddenly the train driver stopped the train, and the other train next to us, which was going in the opposite direction, stopped as well. The driver instructed us to jump off the train, ran through the track, and went on the other train.

What would you like to do after the course?

Foreign correspondent! Like everyone in this class does (haha). It would be cool if I could represent Hong Kong, where people do not pay much attention to international news. It would be my mission, to let people know that this world is big and there are so many things going on, apart from the stock market and celebrity gossip.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Because I heard that Aarhus is amazing!

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Hmmmm I don't know... to keep my room clean and tidy maybe?

Cherie was born and raised in Hong Kong. After her secondary education she went to the University of Hong Kong to study her BA. She majored in English Literature, with a minor in Journalism. Cherie left Hong Kong to live in Switzerland for a while. Prior to the Mundus program, she had already gained a lot of work experience. She was employed at a local news channel both as a reporter and translator. She was also a freelancer writer of travel and cultural articles for a Hong Kong magazine. And last, she was employed part-time at an interior design magazine and travel website. Cherie is passionate about travelling and being with good friends. She is very proud that she got accepted for the Mundus Journalism Master and is therefore looking forward to progressing in the two years of study.



CHRISTINE WENDEL

GREAT LOVE AND
GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS
INVOLVE GREAT RISKS

NATIONALITY

American

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TWITTER

@stinesocool

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Moving to Belgium to do an internship for Reuters. After that, I wanted to stay in Europe.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I don't know how crazy it is, but it was really cool to road trip around the country of Oman. I still have scuba diving on my to-do list!

What would you like to do after the course?

International reporting about environmental issues, discoveries.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It is a very good opportunity to grow as a journalist and a person. The idea of being in a course with 99 other students from all over the world with the same passion for journalism is really awesome.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding a job in Aarhus.



Christine grew up in Iowa, USA, and moved to Missouri when she was 19 to study Broadcast Journalism. Alongside her studies Christine worked as a reporter at KBIA radio station, KOMU8 News Station and Reuters Television. She also lived in Brussels for 5 months, where she took an internship. Before her European experience, Christine had visited the continent once – for a winter trip to Berlin and Amsterdam. After her first trip, she knew she wanted to come back to Europe, which meant her internship in Brussels was the ideal opportunity. After a semester in Belgium Christine went back to the States to finish her degree and graduated with a BA in Broadcast Journalism. Christine wants to move on to global environmental journalism eventually as she loves nature. She has enjoyed hiking, jogging, photography and numerous sports growing up which have always kept her outdoors. Christine also loves animals, which also explains her interests in environmental issues.

FACT

In the United States
there is no official
language.

COLLINS ATTA POKU

ABUBURO KOSUA
ADE3 A 3B3 Y3 YIE 3NS3E DA

NATIONALITY
Ghanaian

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@PapaPoku

NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

FACT

Ghana is the second largest exporter of cocoa and prides herself as the second African and first sub-Saharan African country to produce the UN Secretary General (Kofi Annan).

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I served as an executive of the Students Representative Council (SRC) when I was doing my first degree in Ghana. One evening I found out there were about ten students sharing a meal meant for three. I had money on me and just had to give it out to them when I heard of their predicament. I have since respected the plight every human being I come across go through because I was a bit self centred growing up.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I would like to jump onto a moving train as I loved seeing Chuck Norris do it watching Delta Force as a youngster.

What would you like to do after the course?

Take a three month vacation and ready myself to embark on yet another academic journey for a PhD afterwards.

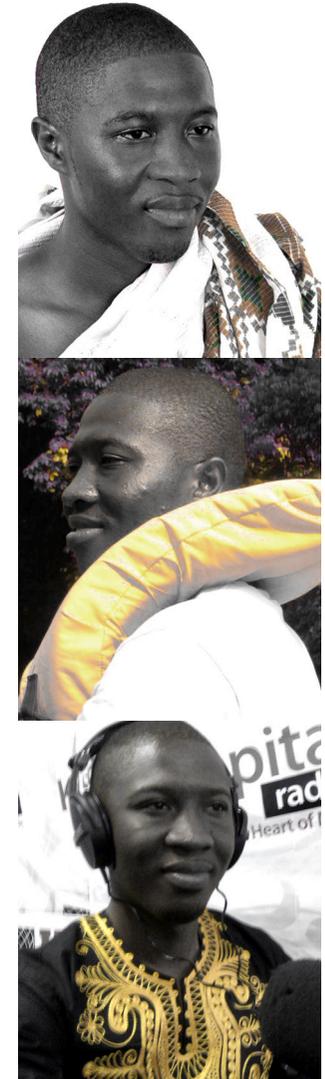
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I saw this platform as an opportunity for me to become a better person, acquire more knowledge and enhance my potential and capabilities in practice and also in academia.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge thus far is living with the knowledge of the fact that I was initially supposed to have a twin sister who died. The knowledge of this and seeing a complete set of twins walk around has been my biggest challenge thus far. I believe my wife will be my twin sister when I marry and also will be blessed with a set of twins of my own by God when I begin to have kids.

Atta was born on an October day in Sefwi-Asafo. He always becomes animated by the beautiful and coloured autumn scenery and sky. He has lived in Sunyani and Kumasi. In the latter he took his BA in Communication Studies at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Prior to the Mundus program Atta gained journalistic work experience at the breakfast show DayBreak at Kapital Radio 97.1 FM. He has also been employed as a content writer for the Ghanaian portals of both footy-ghana.com and goal.com. Atta is very proud that he is part of a twin, although unfortunately his twin sister died at birth. This is something that hurts him to date. Finally he is so passionate about the British Liverpool Football Club and he 'loves them'.



DANIEL SZABO

HA AZ ERZEKELES AJTÓI MEGTISZTITTATNAK
A DOLGOK VEGTELEN VALÓJUKBAN TUNNEK MAJD FEL

NATIONALITY
Hungarian

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TWITTER
@danielszabo1989

NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Two words: Erasmus Mundus.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I want to do a backpacking tour around Peru and visit Macchu Picchu.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to travel to all continents and visit my fellow Mundus students living there.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Because of the specialism „European studies” in the University of Amsterdam, the possibility to go to California, and the opportunity to meet interesting people from all around the world.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I studied International Studies at Eötvös Loránd University and Communication and Media Science at Corvinus University. It was a challenge, because I had to complete two final exams at two different universities at the same time.

Dániel was born on the 30th of August 1989 in Szikszó in North-East Hungary. Located in the countryside this is a town with only six thousand people so he realized that he had to make an effort to meet new challenges elsewhere. After finishing high school there, Dániel went to study and started a new life in the capital, Budapest. He lived in that amazing city for four years during which he studied International Studies, Communication and Media Sciences, and successfully completed those two majors at ELTE and Corvinus University.

He has gained his journalistic experience as an intern for Kitekinto.hu, a Hungarian foreign policy portal. But after living in Hungary for 24 years, Dániel needed new adventures, so he applied for the Mundus Program and was admitted. He has never lived abroad but he's really looking forward to experience the Danish and the Dutch ways of living.



FACT

Hungary has one of the most important thermal spring cultures in Europe. There are as many as 1,500 spas in the country, adorned with Roman, Greek and Turkish architecture. Hungary also boasts of 450 public baths.

DANIELA GUZMAN MARTINEZ

IF YOU ARE BRAVE ENOUGH TO SAY GOODBYE
LIFE WILL REWARD YOU WITH A NEW HELLO

NATIONALITY

Colombian

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

FACT

95% of world's emeralds are Colombian.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Last year I had the opportunity to personally meet Lynne Twist, a global visionary committed to the end of poverty and hunger worldwide. Her experiences working with Mother Theresa in Calcutta and in refugee camps in Ethiopia gave me the strength to continue pursuing my own goals. Her words made me realize everything is possible.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

To date, the craziest thing I've ever done is leave my comfort zone, my family, my friends and my hometown and move to an unknown place. An experience that now I'm willing to repeat as much as possible if all other unknown places bring me so much happiness and knowledge as Denmark has done so far.

What would you like to do after the course?

After the two year program I would like to visit some of the places that were discussed in class, as I'm sure they will give me the perfect closure and will allow me to move to a next academic/career step. Once I have done that I would love to write about childhood and the relations with conflicts, wars and disasters worldwide.

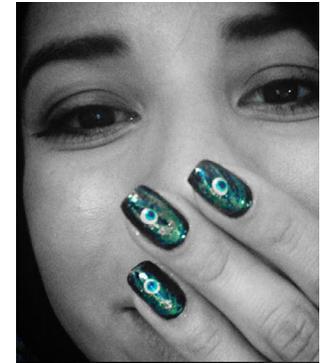
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Erasmus Mundus was the only master program that allowed me not only to be part of a group of students from more than 40 nationalities but allowed me to do a specialization in a subject that isn't very common; War and Conflict.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Learn as much as possible from every module in this course, enjoy every single moment in Aarhus and keep on welcoming new and beautiful people into my life.

Daniela was born in Bogotá, Colombia's capital city, and has lived there the most of her life. During high school she had the opportunity to spend one year in Georgia, USA. She then returned to her hometown to study Social Communication and Journalism at Universidad de la Sabana. She has completed an internship at one of the most important national radio stations (La Fm – RCN Radio) before working there as a journalist. During the last 10 years she has worked with vulnerable children and communities both from around her city and from other regions of the country. She has worked primarily as volunteer in projects and institutions of social inclusion. During the last year she worked as a Manager of a program for the international adoption of kids with special needs in an orphanage in Colombia. She is also very proud of her family, her home country and all the elements that characterize her Colombian culture.



DARIA SUKHARCHUK

Улыбайтесь, господа, и помните,
что самые большие глупости
на земле совершаются с
серьезным выражением лица

NATIONALITY

Russian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

It is believed that the Russian prince who Christianised the country was choosing between Islam and Christianity, but decided against Islam after he learned that Muslim people are forbidden to drink wine.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The time I spent in China, the difficulties I faced, and the opportunities I had, which made me want to become a journalist.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I decided almost overnight to go to Brazil for a summer volunteering project. There I walked alone at night in Rio de Janeiro, which people there thought was a crazy thing to do!

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to find a job in journalism in Europe, somehow related to China.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to travel to different places, and to live in Europe. Also, I was interested in obtaining journalism skills and in a Master that would be coherent with previous studies. Hamburg was the perfect option, the optimal combination between new and old interests.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Surviving in Changsha, a city deep inside the mainland China, that foreigners rarely visit. It was an unusual environment, I stuck out like a sore thumb and the people were not friendly. The challenge was to keep a positive attitude throughout and make something good out of the experience, without letting the difficult situation get me down.

Daria was born in a small town called Borok, near Moscow. She moved to the Russian capital in 1994, and she's lived there ever since. As she studied Chinese Studies for her BA at Moscow State University, she also spent time in China, studying in the city of Changsha first, and later in Shanghai. There she worked for a digital agency and advertising company, and the experience and all the writing that it involved made her realize she wanted to become a journalist. She started writing for online publications about her travels in China, and later as a freelancer for an education and innovation website. Her first published article dealt with Moganshan, a former factory turned into an art district. Because she never had formal journalism training, she is proud of having been accepted to the Mundus program. Besides writing, in her spare time Daria enjoys beadwork.



DAVID ANTHONY FLEMING

THE GREAT APPEAR GREAT
BECAUSE WE ARE ON OUR KNEES
LET US RISE

NATIONALITY
Irish

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It was more of a steady process of change that culminated in my decision to return to University at the age of 24. Meeting a number of friends with views similar to mine certainly had a big impact on me.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

There are a number of things that I hope to do in the future such as traveling to South America and trying my hand at some type of comedy writing or acting.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work as an investigative journalist possibly for the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. I also hope to travel as much as I can and generally live my life helping people at home and abroad.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The course material seemed to conform to my main interests. I was also interested in studying abroad and when presented with the opportunity to study in two separate European cities I could not refuse.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Trying to get the money to come to Aarhus and support myself while also leaving behind everyone I know and love was a big decision. I am glad I have decided to come here and hope that I can make it all worthwhile.

David was born on February 22nd, 1985 in Dublin, the capital of the Republic of Ireland. He lived in Dublin for the greater part of his life before moving to Kildare, a town in County Kildare - Ireland to take a BA. in Media Studies and Anthropology at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He loves travelling and one of his dream destinations is South America to visit the ancient Mayan ruins. There, David plans to try his hands at comedy writing/acting whether stand ups, satire or sketches.

He views himself, in the near future, working as an investigative journalist possibly for the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.



FACT

Most of the big towns and cities in Ireland were founded by the Vikings beginning in the 800's.

DAVID NELSON PEREZ

WHEN YOU WERE BORN, YOU CRIED AND THE WORLD REJOICED
LIVE YOUR LIFE SO
THAT WHEN YOU DIE THE WORLD CRIES AND YOU REJOICE

NATIONALITY

American

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TWITTER

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The first time I lived abroad in England changed my life forever. I haven't been the same person since.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I legally adopted four foreign kids so that I could take them abroad to assist in running a summer camp in Sweden where I ended up adopting 44 more kids! If I could relive any of those days I would TOTALLY do it!

What would you like to do after the course?

Live. Love. Travel... but if I have to be an adult... Hopefully run a newsroom somewhere.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

My first stint abroad was one of the best experiences/greatest challenges conquered. This time I get another chance/challenge!

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Living in Denmark, obviously :p haha!



FACT

David will be studying in London, England next year. Though his state of California is three times the size of England. The population of London is nearly 3 times larger than that of Los Angeles.

David was born in the San Fernando Valley, and studied his bachelor degree in Theatre at California State University, Northridge. David has lived his entire life in CA except for one year abroad in Hull, England, a month when he lived in Malmö, Sweden and a month in Philadelphia, USA. He loves travelling and is very excited to rediscover Europe again.

When David is not travelling, he enjoys: swing dancing (Lindy Hop), playing the Ukulele and Kazoo and has an interest in films, music, movies, food... and above all hanging out chatting over a nice drink with friends.

Before starting the Mundus course David worked as an Assistant House Manager for the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons in Valencia, CA and as a New Media Journalist at AMI 220 KHST, a local AM radio station in Santa Clarita where he interviewed local celebrities, local politicians, and wrote/recorded news stories for air and online involving anything Santa Clarita.

DEBORA DONGO-SORIA SAITO

LOS AÑOS ARRUGAN LA PIEL PERO
RENUNCIAR AL ENTUSIASMO
Y A LOS SUEÑOS ARRUGA EL ALMA

NATIONALITY
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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Reporting from the United Nations headquarters in New York and volunteering in Peru's poorest cities helped me to grow both as a person and as a journalist.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In 2010, when I was in Prague, I wrote a letter to myself saying all the things I learned during my trip to Czech Republic. Six months later, my professor at the time sent it to my home address. Every time I read it, it challenges me to become a better person.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work for a top business media outlet with international scope and to become a professor of journalism in my home country.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

For its rigorous academic and truly international program.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Learning Danish!

Débora was born and raised in Lima, Peru, but has spent some time in France and the US as part of her studies and career. She majored in Journalism at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú and started working at El Comercio, the largest newspaper in the country, soon after graduation. She worked there for almost six years, where she filed stories for the Politics, International and Economics desks.

Business reporting was what Débora enjoyed the most, that is why she will be going to London next year, where she hopes to get the boost she needs to become an outstanding reporter. Débora enjoys traveling and learning foreign languages. She speaks Spanish, English, French, Italian and some German, and hopes to learn Danish during her time in Aarhus. She also enjoys reading and sports.

She is a proud Peruvian citizen and is very thankful for the support of her family.



FACT

The Inca Empire, centered in Peru, was the largest and most powerful civilization South America has ever known. It stretched from Ecuador to Chile, connected by a very sophisticated infrastructure system

DILARA KENBER

WHEN YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

NATIONALITY
British/Turkish

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

In all honesty I can't think of any defining moment that made me want to choose journalism as a career path, however I think it was the summer I was travelling in Indonesia and I was on a boat in the middle of the Togeian Islands where it just came to me...I didn't want to be a lawyer. I felt so constricted. I didn't know what else I would be good at, so when I arrived back for the start of the new term I just knew I had to start writing for the university paper and I did. The rest is history.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I want to dance with the Turkish Prime Minister to the song "No Woman No Cry".

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to go into broadcast, either become an anchor woman or an executive producer.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I like the course outline and the idea of specialization. Most importantly it is internationally oriented as opposed to most journalism courses directed at domestic media - which I find restrictive.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

This course.

Dilara was born on a rainy Tuesday evening in London, but she lived most of her life in the rural corners of North Yorkshire, as her parents wanted their daughters to grow up in the countryside. She studied for her BA in History and Law at Aberdeen University. Journalism is a recent ambition of hers, cultivated by working at the university paper. She now knows that this is what she wants to do for the rest of her life. She is passionate about the power of global media. She hopes one day to have a career enabling her to be in the world, to be part of something huge in the world. The only glorifying moment that she can recall is awkwardly standing up to a police officer during the Gezi Park protests in Istanbul. She defied the police officers orders to move from her observing position, an act of defiance which the whole street applauded.



FACT

Turkey is on two continents.

DIMITRA DRAKAKI

Μέσα στη θλίψη της απέραντης μετριότητας που μας πνίγει από παντού, παρηγοριέμαι ότι κάπου, σε κάποιο καμαράκι κάποιοι πεισματάρηδες αγωνίζονται να εξουδετερώσουν τη φθορά

NATIONALITY
Greek

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NEXT YEAR
Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Working as a teacher made me realize that it is not my field of interest. Since we only live once I decided to do something that I actually love: Journalism. This passion brought me to Aarhus.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Greece is a pretty crazy place to live so I can't really pick one experience. I would like to take some time to do a road trip alone in Botswana.

What would you like to do after the course?

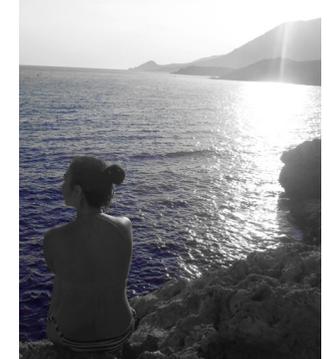
I'd like to become a war reporter for an international agency.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I believe it can be a good way for me to evolve as a journalist, mainly by getting a theoretical background that could add to the practical experience that I had.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The biggest challenge in my life so far has been the decision to leave my job and make a shift in my career.



FACT

Even though it doesn't have a large territory, Greece has the longest coastline among all countries in Europe. That is due to its 2,000 islands. You should definitely be able to find a beach that suits you there.

Dimitra was born in Crete, the largest and most populous of the Greek islands. In 2005 she moved to Thessaloniki to study. After she completed her studies in 2009, she moved to Athens. She took her BA in Primary School Education and has worked as a primary school teacher for four years. Last year she attended journalism classes at a private institution, which helped her in deciding to leave her old job and start a new career as a journalist. So far she has worked in different news websites as well as hosting her own radio show which dealt with everyday cultural life in Athens. The thing she is most proud of is the interviews she managed to arrange with bands and theater directors. She is passionate about everything that requires investigation and further analysis.

ELLIE SELLWOOD

LET'S DARE TO BE OURSELVES
FOR WE DO THAT BETTER THAN
ANYONE ELSE CAN

NATIONALITY

British

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

About 25% of Londoners were born outside of the UK and can speak over 300 different languages.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I was Editor of my University magazine and about 4 months into my editorship the Students' Union decided to have a Referendum. This period was extremely intense. I had to negotiate and compromise to produce impartial coverage but learned that I could never please everyone. I learnt a huge amount about myself and about journalism.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing I want to do is crowd-surf at a gig or festival, I haven't plucked up the courage yet but it would have to be during the set of one of my favourite bands.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would love to get a job with a magazine in the UK, I'd especially like to work for The Economist or New Statesman. I haven't ruled out the possibility of working in broadcast journalism.

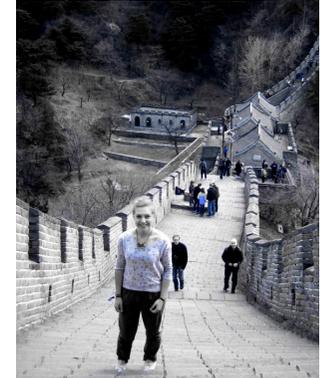
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I found the course whilst searching for other similar MA courses but this one sounded the best. Two years of studying in two different countries with classmates from many corners of the world sounded too good to be true.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I genuinely think that my biggest challenge so far has been the move to Denmark. The challenge was making the move happen as I was so nervous before the course started. I'm actually very proud of myself for doing it.

The Blue Book's Editor, Ellie is from Hampton, in South-west London. She studied her BA in English literature at the University of Southampton. In 2011 she visited China for a month's study program and learnt Mandarin at Jinan University in Shandong province. Ellie has gained a lot of journalistic experience through voluntary work at her university. She was a radio DJ for three years at her university's radio station. It is therefore unsurprising that she likes to go to gigs and festivals and that she has seen a lot of bands live. Ellie was the Editor of her university publication the Wessex Scene, for one year. Her publication was nominated for the Ones To Watch Student Publication of the Year 2012/2013 for the year of her editorship, it placed in the top 3 student publications in the UK, her proudest achievement to date. Ellie also loves sport and used to be an athlete competing in regional and county competitions for 100m, 200m, 400m and long jump from the age of 16 to 19.



NATIONALITY
Ethiopian

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NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

FACT

Ethiopia is home for 85 ethnic groups each one with their language and its home to 9 UNESCO World Heritage sites, more than any other country in Africa.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

A life changing experience for me was the time I travelled to the northern part of Ethiopia, where I witnessed the environmental degradation and the people's struggle to bring their environment back to life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I am not sure if I have ever done anything crazy but I am looking forward to one, maybe get rid of my fear of heights...?

What would you like to do after the course?

After the course, I want to have an international journalistic experience. My past experiences weren't that satisfactory due to several reasons but mainly the media condition in Ethiopia. I am still looking forward to something inspirational.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I have always wanted to know more about world politics and media and Erasmus Mundus courses come with a great theoretical materials and excellent lecturers in the field.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I am trying to work on the weather challenges that I will face in a couple of months, but biking is one other thing that I still haven't managed to do here in Aarhus.

Emnet was born and raised in Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia. From an early age she has been looking for something different in her life. To her, journalism appeared to be that something different. Therefore Emnet went to Addis Ababa University to study her BA in Journalism and Communications. As a consequence of her hard work and good results, she graduated with high distinction. After finishing her BA degree Emnet started working as a senior reporter for a daily English newspaper. Later she joined a Communications Department at an International NGO, thereafter she went back to journalism and worked for a monthly magazine and an online publication, Addis Standard. Alongside Emnet's obvious interest in journalism, she is also passionate about life and travelling.



NATIONALITY

Dutch

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

The colours of the Dutch flag symbolise red for the people, white for the church and blue for the nobility.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

In high school I went to a European Youth Parliament conference in Istanbul. This was a very inspiring and wonderful event. I met people from all over the world who believed they could find solutions for world problems together.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Jumping out of a plane from 16.000 feet (4.8 km) to skydive above a huge lake and beautiful mountains was crazy. Trust me, a minute can be pretty long...

What would you like to do after the course?

Explore the world. I have already heard so many different stories from everyone in our course, that now I want to experience these different worlds myself. If I could make a meaningful documentary during my travels, that would be great.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I was uncertain about my Masters degree for a long time because I could not choose between Media Studies, Sociology and Journalism. Taking our course I could simply have it all. I especially like the diversity of both the program and the students.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Biking up a hill trying to balance a way-too-heavy torn grocery bag on the back of my bike in the pouring rain. Also trying to pronounce something in Danish besides "tak" and "hej".

Fenne was born on the 21st of November 1991 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. She acquired a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre, Media Studies and Literature at the Roosevelt Academy Honors College and also minored in Sociology. Before the Mundus programme, she was taking a Journalism internship at Omroep Zeeland, a broadcasting station for radio which also hosts a television channel and a news website. Fenne has been interested in Theatre and the Media since High School where she focused on a Theatre Orientation course at Hogeschool voor de Kunsten in Utrecht. However, she has also taken courses in dance/movement, writing, singing and acting. She is passionate about creative writing, literature, travelling, nature, outdoor sports, music and film. Speaking Danish is still a challenge for Fenne but watch out for her in the days ahead.



FRED BONATTO

WAKE UP TO FIND OUT THAT YOU ARE THE EYES OF THE WORLD
THE HEART HAS ITS BEACHES, ITS HOMELAND AND THOUGHTS OF ITS OWN
WAKE NOW, DISCOVER THAT YOU ARE THE SONG THAT THE MORNIN' BRINGS
BUT THE HEART HAS ITS SEASONS, ITS EVENINGS AND SONGS OF ITS OWN

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

FACT

Despite many people thinking otherwise, Brazilians do not speak Spanish (though we manage).

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My father's work as an engineer has seen me making eight big moves already, between the family's New Hampshire base and Mexico, Brazil, England and, now, Denmark. But it was the trip to Burma in 2012, living with and photographing monks that convinced me that I wanted to be a photojournalist.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Following a group of monks around for a week, without much communication, and with no idea where they were taking me, is also the craziest thing I've done so far. It's a long way from Burma to vintage racing cars, but that's my next project – so if anyone reading this, and that probably means you, Niklas, knows Jackie Stewart, Fred would love to hear from you.

What would you like to do after the course?

For now, though, this is where I need to be.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The grey concrete walls of the Danish School of Journalism, are "lined with pretty high level work" and I'm enjoying being bombarded with new ideas and perspectives and, above all, "the opportunity to be involved with so many nationalities" on this Mundus Journalism program.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

If I can just cope with being so far away from family for so long.

Fred was born in Nashua, New Hampshire, USA, and has lived in the USA, Mexico, Brazil, England, Denmark. He studied International Relations at Ibmec University, Brazil and worked at Nitro Imagens before joining the Erasmus Mundus journalism program. Fred's dream is to continue to pursue a career in Photojournalism and to bring stories to a wider audience. His passions change from day to day.



GIACOMO GALARDINI

LA VITA È PROPRIO STRANA
TI METTE IN MANO CARTE CHE PUOI LEGGERE
SOLO DOPO AVERLE GIOcate O SOLO DOPO
CHE ALTRI LE GIOCANO PER TE

NATIONALITY

Italian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The experience which changed my life is the Erasmus semester I took in Berlin during the third year of my undergraduate study. The Erasmus exchange is a life changing experience that encourages you to take off in your personal life and career.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing I've done in my life is diving in the sea with a bike from a trampoline, which was 7 meter high and I did it at night! It really made me feel alive.

What would you like to do after the course?

The same old story: travel the world.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I really think this course could give me the chance to acquire theoretical basis in journalism, boost my CV and I also enjoy the atmosphere of studying with people from all around the world.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge to date is to arrive at the age of 90 without one single regret.

Giacomo was born on January 22, 1989 in Livorno, a port city in Italy. His BA studies were in European Literature (German, Italian and English), Publishing and Cultural Management at Università degli Studi di Pisa, Italy. After graduation, Giacomo decided to challenge himself by writing as a journalist in a local newspaper, and ended up working as web content publisher for a start up - computer company based in Berlin and worked there from January to July 2013. In Summer 2012, he also worked as a Tour Guide in Tuscany and during the winter of 2012/2013 he worked at a newspaper entitled "Il Tirreno" which is based in Livorno. He loves writing and reading and is good at sports. You are welcome to challenge him in a swimming race or football match.



FACT

Speaking about Italy, it is of course the same of speaking about its cuisine, so here's a rule: putting Parmesan on fresh tomato sauce is a faux pas; putting it on fish would be considered an outrage.

NATIONALITY

Bermudian/American

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

Bermuda has the shortest drawbridge in the world, about 12 inches long and just wide enough for a sail boat mast to pass through.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

A life changing event that also influenced my career was my first reporting gig – covering my cousin's murder less than 48 hours after leaving the hospital.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I'll get back to you on both of those...

What would you like to do after the course?

Hopefully land a high profile job as a television news presenter / anchor.

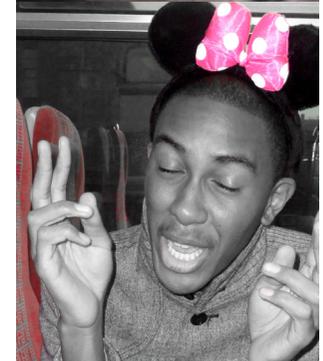
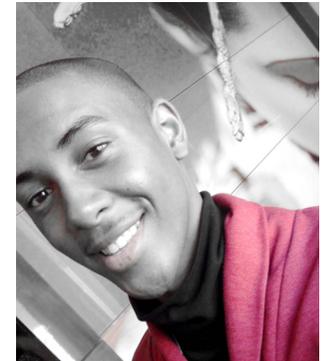
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The Erasmus Mundus course provides not only an international platform, but a forward-looking curriculum which highlights the interconnectedness of news reporting and globalization. Students will have a strong theoretical understanding of the stories they're covering, which will in turn allow them to operate more organically in their chosen field.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The biggest challenge I've faced so far is attempting to keep up with the rapid changes that are happening across the globe. I've become so reliant on computers for the most basic tasks (bus schedules, nearest grocery store, weather updates, WIKIPEDIA / GOOGLE) that it's a bit disheartening when you realize your brain can't compete with your iPhone.

Grae was born on the small North Atlantic island of Bermuda. While island life was peaceful, Grae thought that it was boring and hoped to see more of the world. In 2003, at the age of 12, he got his wish when his family relocated to Sacramento, California in the United States of America. Upon graduating from High School in 2010, he moved to London and attended Kingston University for three years, earning his BA in Sociology with Honors. Grae has worked as a part-time Reporter and News Presenter for Bermuda Broadcasting's Power 95 FM and ZBM TV 9.



GRETA JANKAITYTE

DIDZIAUSIA RIZIKA GYVENIME
NERIZIKUOTI

NATIONALITY
Lithuanian

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I don't believe in one life changing experience. Almost everyday I have little experiences and little by little they constantly change my life. Those little experiences are the people you meet, places you see, books you read.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Once in Italy I asked a policeman if I could use the bathroom in police station. It happened at 3 am while I was wearing a tiger costume, and I also had Sangria under my arm.

What would you like to do after the course?

Some day I would love to open my own news blog and start a better media tradition in Lithuania than it is now.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to study journalism master abroad, but couldn't decide where: in UK or in Scandinavia? Now, I have a possibility to study in both.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

This question seems a bit of a challenge itself. But I think the biggest challenge is to keep faith in naïve things. For example, that I can make a difference and change the world. Even if I don't manage that, it is still worth believing in.

Greta was born in Vilnius, Lithuania. Almost all of her life she lived in Vilnius with a short and delightful half-year Erasmus trip spent in Florence, Italy. Greta studied Political Science at Vilnius University. Before the course she worked for a Lithuanian business newspaper for a year and a half. She has written a lot of articles, interviews and news pieces on local and international business and economics. Greta is proud of her ability to go and live in another country without any stress or fear. Almost. Greta is most passionate about other passionate people because they are a wonderful source of inspiration. In her spare time she likes taking pictures with film in her camera and playing the guitar.



FACT

In XIV century Lithuania was the largest country in Europe.

HANNAH SPYKSMA

HE AHA TE MEA NUI O TE AO?
HE TANGATA HE TANGATA HE TANGATA

NATIONALITY

New Zealander/Dutch

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

New Zealand was the first country in the world to officially give women the right to vote.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

As a fresh journalism graduate, I decided to save my first few months of pay and join a sailing expedition exploring remote islands in the Pacific Ocean. That trip has affected my career direction and shaped the past three years of my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I think deciding to sail from Kiribati to Hawai'i, an eight-day sail aboard a 72-foot yacht, was pretty crazy... There is nothing like being woken at 3am to a rogue wave washing salt water through the window and drenching your hammock.

What would you like to do after the course?

The ultimate goal is to be a freelance journalist, while also working on grassroots projects that empower and give voice to minority communities. Oh, and writing for National Geographic is definitely my dream!

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I am fortunate to have dual New Zealand/Dutch citizenship but have been living in New Zealand since graduating. I have always wanted to make the most of my European heritage by living and studying in Europe. And I couldn't pick a better course!

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

It is an on-going process of self-acceptance and dealing with sexuality while also trying to remember that my challenge in this respect is small. I am always reminding myself to keep that concern in check.

Hannah grew up in a small beach town called Mangawhai in Northland, New Zealand. After finishing school she lived in the North and South Islands of New Zealand as well as England, France and now Denmark. She completed a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies at AUT University in Auckland and has worked as a journalist, both in communication organisations and in the not-for-profit sector.

She aims to become a freelance journalist, while also working on grassroots projects that can empower and give a voice to minority communities around the world. Hannah is especially interested in queer and trans-equality and human rights in the Pacific region. Writing for National Geographic is definitely one of her biggest the dreams!

Hannah plans to make use of her dual nationality, Dutch and New Zealand to attain higher heights both in the media world and in advocacy for equal rights for all.



NATIONALITY

Chinese

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

People are getting confused about China.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I passed an interview in order to get the job in Chios. The president of an NGO interviewed me, which I could tell right away was something special. The president taught me a whole lot about many different things, he and all the Greek artists and professors I met on my journey inspired me a lot. This experience made me go to Europe and study instead of staying in China.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I once slept in the streets of Paris alongside homeless people. Two Polish and two Turkish friends accompanied me. The original plan was to sleep at a train station in Paris, but it was closed during nighttime, hence we were kicked out on the streets.

What would you like to do after the course?

I either want to do a PhD degree and become a Professor somewhere around the world or work as a volunteer somewhere in the world, preferably for an NGO.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The contact with people from various countries around the world and the clash of different cultures benefits the study environment to get a broader and more nuanced perception of the world

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I have overcome many challenges in my young life, but backpacking throughout Europe within 20 days was one of the biggest.

Huijie was born in a small town in China called Guixi. Aside from Guixi she lived in several big cities in China before moving to the Greek island of Chios. In the summer of 2012 she worked as a journalist in Chios, interviewing artists and professors about Greek culture. She worked together with the President of a Greek NGO, who ended up motivating her to study in Europe. Back home in China Huijie majored in Advertising and she has a double-degree in Economics from Wuhan University, China. During her stay in Greece though, she discovered that her true passion was to travel the world and explore the world's many people and their diverse cultures. This is why Huijie is going to Hamburg for her specialism year. She is very proud of her parents who have an amazing appreciation of life.



NATIONALITY
Chinese

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I come from a small village in the southeastern part of China. When I was 14, my parents sent me to Shanghai to get a better education. It changed the course of my life since I was given more opportunities in terms of education and jobs in the big city than in my hometown.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Actually, giving up my job and coming to Denmark is the craziest thing I have done so far. People usually expect a woman to settle down and have babies at the age of 30, which I think is not necessarily how things should go. I'm saving it for later.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work as a financial journalist for an international news organization, covering stories on Chinese economy and society.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The truly transnational nature, which enables us to experience two European countries in two years, seemed irresistible to me.

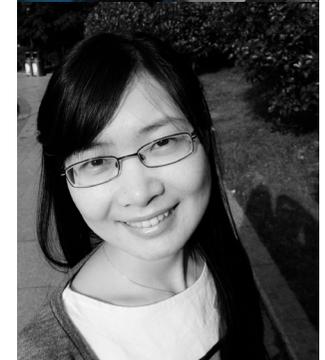
Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

When a challenge is overcome, it is no longer a challenge. The biggest one is yet to come. Get exam passed, get work done and make life better, are just trivial.

Ina Zhou was born in a village in the south-eastern of China and moved to Shanghai at age the of 13, where she had studied and worked for 17 years. She studied Philosophy at Fudan University, but she has been fascinated by journalism since high school and was determined to be a journalist when she graduated in 2006.

In the past 7 years, she has been covering business and financial news in China, serving for both domestic and international news organisations. Before joining the Mundus program, she was a financial reporter with Dow Jones Newswires China.

The first few years in reporting financial news was really tough, since she had a non-economic background. But she made it. The suffering became what she is proud of – a fast learner and a good storyteller of the economic world. In her leisure time, she loves reading and traveling.



NATIONALITY
Norwegian

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NEXT YEAR
Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

After High School I went traveling in South America, southern Africa, Hong Kong and South East Asia. This trip changed my life in the sense that I got completely addicted to traveling, and have spent several years traveling since then. I love to see different parts of the world and meet people from cultures different from my own.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing I want to do is to buy a car and drive from Cape to Cairo.

What would you like to do after the course?

I have a lot of things in mind, I would like to be "The journalist" the Norwegian government sends out to report on how aid is carried out in Third World countries, I would also like to cover global meetings at the UN, furthermore, I'd like to report from conflict areas around the world. There are so many interesting options!

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I was looking for a Master that combined my interests in the best possible way, and I found it in the Mundus Journalism Course.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Figuring out what I wanted to do, career wise. Luckily, I feel I'm on the right track with this course

Born in Porsgrunn, city of Telemark, Norway, Ingunn moved to Oslo to study her Bachelor in Development Studies at Oslo University College. She has lived there for seven years and travelled on and off in between. Whilst studying for her BA, she visited Syria to find out more about the situation of Iraqi refugees for her Field study. As well she has studied the failure of the Oslo Accords, the initiative to create Peace between Israel and Palestine.

She is proud of her curiosity, as she thinks it is real source of wisdom because it will encourage her to learn lots throughout her life and enable her to meet a lot of wonderful people. That's why one of her hobbies is traveling – and she travels a lot. In her own words, she is passionate about injustice and human and animal rights.



FACT
It is as far from Oslo to the arctic Norwegian city Kirkenes as it is to Rome.

NATIONALITY

Italian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

FACT

Italy is the only state in the world which contains two other states in it: the Republic of San Marino and the Vatican State.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It may sound too romantic – but meeting my boyfriend has changed my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I dream to visit every single country of the world.

What would you like to do after the course?

Too many things. I would like to become a foreign correspondent for the most famous Italian newspaper, or work in a radio station, or work for the UN. Dreams must be big – and as many as possible. Otherwise it's not worth dreaming.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I thought an international programme would open my mind and give many more chances to do what I want – be a journalist.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Mundus Journalism – in every sense!

Irene was born and raised in Milan, Italy. She graduated from an Italian High School with a specialism in foreign languages and during those years she spent six months on an exchange program in San Bernardino, California. She recently took her BA degree at the State University of Milan in Communication and Society. During her student years she worked various jobs and wrote for the university magazine, Acido Politico. She has also worked as a babysitter and hostess. Irene is a creative and enterprising person, she is a great admirer of art, photography and music. Last but not least, she enjoys writing.



IVO BOSILKOV

I SEE THE WORLD AS AN AREA FOR
CULTURAL COMPETITION
BETWEEN NATIONS

NATIONALITY
Macedonian

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TWITTER
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NEXT YEAR
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FACT

A Macedonian court once convicted a bear of theft and damage for stealing honey from a beekeeper who tried to fight off the attack by playing loud folk music.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Joining Facebook. Just kidding. I don't believe that incredible incidents can make a dramatic turnaround in the way you see the world. Only people can do that, and I had the fortune to meet a few extraordinary ones. I owe the most to my first mentor whilst working in media, who showed me the essence of ethics.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I went to the Madrid derby in a Real shirt, as an away fan. Felt like swimming in a sea of sharks. I'd like to spend 24 hours with Mario Balotelli. That man gives the word crazy a whole different dimension. And yes, I really, really like football.

What would you like to do after the course?

First thing would be to wave my diploma in front of everyone's face, saying 'Now, I am the master' in Darth Vader's voice. After that I hope to bring Macedonia into the European Union. If that doesn't work out, I'd be happy with a job that can make a difference in improving democratic society.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It's a once in a lifetime opportunity. I wanted education that is different from what I've had so far but can complement my profile. This course covers important things and has prestige. Meeting new people and having fun would be the icing on the cake.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

To answer these questions. No, to understand 'Inception'. No, to raise just one eyebrow. This program, Mundus Journalism. Life is only good as long as there are still challenges.

Ivo was born and raised in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia. After finishing his High School he enrolled in the Communication Sciences program at the South East European University in Tetovo. He obtained his Bachelor's degree in 2008 with a thesis on 'The Influence of New Trends in Technology and Ownership on TV news Programs'. After his graduation, he was employed at the Macedonian National Television station Kanal 5, firstly as a Foreign News Reporter and from 2011 onwards as a Sports Editor and News Anchor.



JASMIN KOERBER

FIN MANN DER HERRN K LANGE NICHT GESEHEN HATTE
BEGRÜßTE IHN MIT DEN WÖRTEN
SIE HABEN SICH GAR NICHT VERANDERT
OH SAGTE HERR K UND ERBEEICHTE

NATIONALITY

German

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

FACT

Just like the British with theirs, Germans have an expression involving our favorite beverage: "Das ist nicht mein Bier", meaning "That is none of my business!"

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I was an intern for a small start-up in San Francisco. They wanted to change the westernized perspective of media outlets and put issues of global relevance on the agenda. I always felt like I needed to get out of my home country but actually doing it, meeting new people and seeing the big picture made me realize: I saw way too little of the world.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Standing at a railway station in the middle of the Portuguese outback for two hours with nothing but my backpack, waiting for a couchsurfer to pick me up. As for stuff I want to do: skydiving? Backpacking through every country in the world? Name it and I will do it!

What would you like to do after the course?

Become the world's most famous and prestigious radio journalist. I definitely want to travel a lot more and spend as much time as possible in the US.

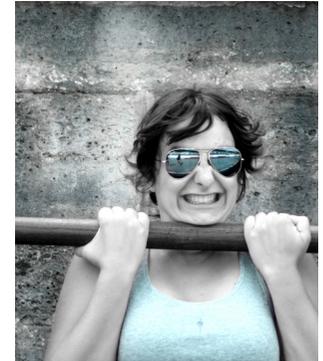
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It is one of the very few journalism programs that allowed me to move around while studying. I also love meeting people from all over the world and hear about their perspectives on things.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I want to leave my comfort zone for things that I would otherwise have missed and to find a well-paid job in journalism.

At the age of 23, this smiling girl, born and raised in Nuremberg, Germany, has tried almost all types of journalism during her student and professional life. She has a BA degree in Communication and Politics from Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. Jasmin has worked for several different media in the past few years, including television, newspaper, online, and radio. This broad experience – combined with her passion for traveling and learning – landed her a job last year at the San Francisco-based start-up Fair Observer, a global media platform that focuses on analysis and different perspectives on news from around the world. After two years of studies in Aarhus, Berkeley and Swansea, Jasmin plans to explore the world before pursuing a career in radio broadcasting.



JOAO GRANDO

WHISKY IS MAN'S
BEST FRIEND
— A DOG IN A BOTTLE

NATIONALITY
Brazilian/German

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I hope this experience, living and studying with 100 people of almost 50 different nationalities is going to change my life!

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Nothing that would really shock you!

What would you like to do after the course?

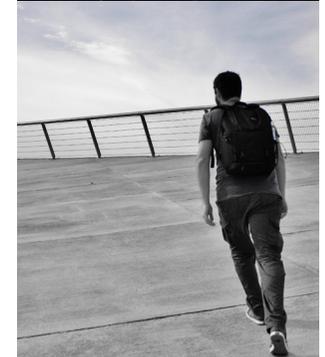
I would like to work for an international media outlet.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

To become a better journalist and experience life in a multicultural environment.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I had the courage to leave my country, my job, to live in a different continent and take part of a master that is held in a different language.



FACT

What you really should know is that no country won the World Cup as many times as Brazil. Five, in case you've forgotten.

João grew up in a small town in the southernmost state of Brazil. To get his BA in Journalism he moved to the capital of the state up North. He headed North again four years ago to work in São Paulo becoming a reporter for a magazine specializing in business and economics. And now he has made a big jump to the Northern Hemisphere to attend this Masters programme. After a few weeks in Denmark he thinks the cold might stop him from going North again. Instead, he dreams of becoming a journalist for an international media outlet so that he can report about both the North and the South.

JOHANNES PERTERER

I BELIEVE THAT UNARMED TRUTH AND UNCONDITIONAL LOVE WILL HAVE THE FINAL WORD

NATIONALITY

Austrian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Studying acting has shown me that I don't want to surround myself with egocentric crazy people, but rather just with common crazy people. So yeah, that changed my life: for the better.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I did a lot of Graffiti when I was a teen. Can't go into details (obviously), but I was quite the rebel (laughs).

What would you like to do after the course?

I'd like to work as a correspondent in the Middle East for an Austrian or German TV station or newspaper.

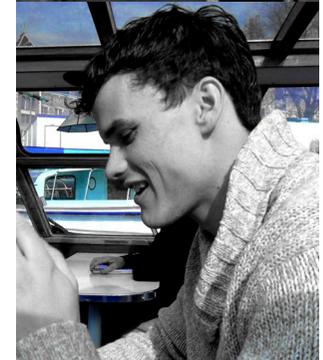
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I didn't want to study history for the rest of my life, and the goal from the beginning was to become a journalist but there was no appealing formal way of becoming a journalist in Austria, so the plan was to look abroad. I heard about the Master's degree and the rest is history!

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding a flat in Aarhus. I've even had to resort to my musical talents in this difficult search.

Johannes was born in Salzburg, and has lived in Salzburg, Brussels and Vienna. He studied acting at First Film Academy in Vienna and then studied for a BA in History at the University of Salzburg. Then Johannes took three different apprenticeships at Austrian TV stations, ranging from writing news stories to working as the Director's Assistant. When working as an assistant, he happened to have the opportunity to direct an hour of TV while the director went for a long smoke. Besides directing, he has had many acting roles, he played the main character in Clockwork Orange in a theatre play in Vienna. That's not all, Johannes has had a few gigs rapping and he's going to record his first album in the winter holidays. To stick to the subject of journalism, Johannes is most passionate about politics and war journalism, so no wonder he will go to Swansea next year



FACT

Coffee shops in Austria serve beer.

JOSEPH COX

YOU SHOULDN'T BELIEVE
EVERYTHING YOU READ ON THE INTERNET

NATIONALITY
English

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I went to India and found myself.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I once took a bus without referring to the timetable first.

What would you like to do after the course?

Continue my descent into all-encompassing debt.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

HHH(Hans-Henrik Holm).

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Google 'The Impossible Quiz'.

FACT

The longest river in the United Kingdom is the River Severn. Located in England and Wales, it stretches around 354 kilometres (220 miles) in length.

Joseph is a journalist specialising in the intersection of security, technology and culture. Besides being a writer and researcher, Joseph codes with HTML and CSS, works as a web publisher and creates data visualisations. He previously worked with NGOs including like Beckley Foundation and the e-zine open Democracy. He is a regular contributor to VICE.

He has interviewed Guardian columnist Glenn Greenwald on the media's response to the Woolwich stabbing; investigated British Telecom's facilitation of drone strikes in Yemen and exposed how the War on Drugs has created new cocaine markets in Africa.



KATHERINE DUNN

ALWAYS READ SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE
YOU LOOK GOOD IF YOU DIE
IN THE MIDDLE OF IT

NATIONALITY

Canadian

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NEXT YEAR

London

FACT

The second premier of the province of British Columbia had his name legally changed to "Amor De Cosmos".

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I joined an exchange program at the Danish School of Media and Journalism in 2010, which was my first time living in a foreign country by myself. Without this experience, I would never have had the confidence to go to Europe later for studies, nor done so much freelance reporting – they would seem too intimidating for me.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Last winter, I lived on a boat called Pandora near Amsterdam for four months. That old boat wasn't totally set up for winter. Its heating and water was always broken, posing many challenges to a non-handy person like me.

What would you like to do after the course?

I expect to get a journalist job somewhere, anywhere. I want to write feature articles for magazines like Business Week and Bloomberg, or become a radio producer. I think eventually I will go back to Canada.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I really loved the last time I studied in Denmark, and I took so much from it. Also, this two-year program seems a good fit for me. Next year I'll study in London. I'm horrible at maths, but I really appreciate business reporting, which will help fill the gap in my knowledge.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

When I interned at the Toronto Star, I had to work a 24-hour shift listening to police scanners in a radio room, and write initial reports whenever someone in the district got shot, stabbed or run over. I learned much about being a good journalist.

Katherine grew up in Calgary, but she has also lived in both Toronto, Ontario. Apart from these Canadian cities, she has also lived in several big cities in Europe, including Amsterdam, Stockholm and Aarhus. Katherine studied journalism and political science at Carleton University in Ottawa. Three years ago she undertook an exchange to Aarhus, so she knows this Danish city pretty well, which gives her a head start in comparison to her fellow Mundus students. Katherine has worked as a journalist for the Canadian Press (the Canadian news wire service), the Toronto Star, and also at Frame Publishers, an art and design publishing company in Amsterdam.



KATHLEEN NOSDO

ANG DILI KAHIBALO MILINGI SA IYAHANG GIGIKANAN
DILI MAKAABOT SA IYAHANG PADULNGAN

NATIONALITY
Filipino

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

FACT

The world's largest discovered pearl was found in the Philippines, in the Palawan Sea. It has a 24-centimeter diameter and weighs 6.4 kilos. It is estimated to be worth more than 40 million US Dollars.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I was thrown into the radio industry at 18. I started as a voice talent and then was promoted and given a spot as a regular radio host. There's something about reaching out to people — being able to communicate and share what's going on. That concept made me decide that I wanted to be a part of the industry.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I'm not much of a thrill seeker. I guess the craziest thing I've done is pack up everything I own, and move to Denmark to pursue my education. This is, so far, my biggest adventure.

What would you like to do after the course?

Hopefully write for a magazine or a newspaper, and maybe —if given another opportunity- go back to radio.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

When I came across the Mundus Journalism program, I thought this was, by far, the best I've seen. I guess one of the perks (aside from studying in Europe and traveling) is being able to experience what it feels like to be a part of such a diverse class.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The biggest challenge is being here. Everything is different. One of the harder things to deal with is being away from my family. Thank goodness for technology, communicating back home is a lot easier. I've since learned to take it one day at a time and try to enjoy everything.

Cate graduated with a BA in Mass Communication from Ateneo de Davao University, in Davao City, Philippines. She loves dogs and has no less than 10 at home! Cate initially wanted to pursue Fashion Illustration and Design but fell in love with Broadcasting and Journalism so we can enjoy her company here in Aarhus. Pursuing her passion, Cate tried herself as a radio host and eventually worked for five years at an English-speaking radio station. She started as a Voice Talent and then was promoted and given a spot as a regular Radio Host. It was Cate who helped the listeners survive tough mornings since she hosted a daily morning show called "The Breakfast Club". In her free time she loves watching sitcoms from the 90's, her favorite ones include Frasier, Friends and Seinfeld.



KATRINE OBEL GRØNBAEK

AT REJSE
ER AT LEVE

NATIONALITY

Danish

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Up-rooting my life and moving to England was a big experience for me: Getting out of my comfort zone and being completely on my own helped me realise what I want from life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I once rode a horse in the mountains in Costa Rica without a saddle. It was completely uncontrollable and insisted on galloping and riding away from the rest of the group all the time.

What would you like to do after the course?

I'm not completely sure yet – my philosophy is to do whatever makes me happy and not worry too much about the rest. More on the serious side, I love exploring other cultures, writing, and English so if I could find a job that combines those three and intercultural communication that would be amazing.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The combination of getting to study international journalism and at the same time being part of a social course that has more than 48 nationalities represented very much appealed to me! I love the unique dynamic that arises when people from all over the world come together.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding shoes! I'm a children size 32 and it is therefore a constant struggle finding shoes that aren't either pink or plastered with Hello Kitty – or both.

Katrina was born in Odense, the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen and third largest city in Denmark. She lived most of her life in Odense but has also lived in Manchester and, recently, in Aarhus. She studied English with a minor in Communication, Media and Dissemination at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense and at Manchester Metropolitan University in England. She has a variety of work experience but her last job was as student assistant at the Corporate Communications Department at the University of Southern Denmark. She was also part of the Press Liaison team at the Communications Department at SDU and had to seek out news stories for their news page and official webpage. She produced written articles and small videos for the site, among other things. She is very proud to have finished her BA and have been accepted in the Erasmus Mundus Master Program. She loves to travel.



FACT

Danes are ranked the happiest people in the world.

KIRSTEN DALL HJØLLUND

HVO SKAMMER SIG VED AT SPØRGE
SKAMMER SIG VED AT LAERE

NATIONALITY

Danish

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I was 8 when my mom advised me to consider journalism as a possible career, so I guess that advice changed my life/career.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

There are so many things I want to do. For instance, I would like to try skydiving. But I guess that is not really crazy. Jumping without parachute, that would be crazy. I am not that kind of person.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to find a job where I can do the kind of journalism I find most interesting and important.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It sounded very interesting and I hope it will give me some knowledge I can draw on later in my career.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

For my final project, my partner and I had to reach immigrants and refugees who chose to leave Denmark and travel back to their home countries. It turned out to be very difficult, so that was probably one of the biggest professional challenges I've had so far.

Kirsten was born in the city of Ringsted, Denmark. She lived in Ringsted for the first 19 years of her life, after which she moved to Esbjerg and then Aarhus to study at the Danish School of Media and Journalism. During her studies she did a semester exchange at the University of Missouri, USA. She achieved her Bachelor degree in journalism in the spring of 2013. After her graduation, she worked as a freelancer for the Danish Broadcasting Corporation, DR. There she mostly did regional radio news, but also some live radio. She is happy when she does a good job, but she rarely uses the word proud. She cares about the people around her, and each summer she volunteers at a Red Cross Youth-camp for kids from struggling families, asylum centers, etc, where she tries her best to make sure the kids have a great time.



FACT

Denmark has no mountains. The highest point in Denmark is only around 170 meters above sea level – yet it is still very hard to ride a bike in Aarhus!

NATIONALITY

Thai

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

We celebrate our traditional new years in April, the hottest time of the year, by having a three-day national water fight. You can splash anybody on the street with water and no one will get offended.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was 16, my parents sent me to a high school in the US. It was a big change for me. Since then I have developed a passion for traveling, gained more perspectives, and become more independent. Thank you Mom and Dad!

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I would like to go sky diving soon!

What would you like to do after the course?

Too early to tell, right now I plan to do some more travel and see where it will take me :)

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I worked in a national television as a co-producer for a year, and my interests in various aspects of media started to grow from there. When I saw the degree description, I knew it's what I wanted to explore. I also wanted to live in Europe as well :)

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge right now is to find out what do I really want to do with my life. I am in the journey of figuring out a career or (careers) that will makes me feel a sense of purpose and feel like making contribution rather than fulfilling obligation. I hope to find them soon!

Kultida was born and raised in Thailand. She graduated from Chiang Mai University, Thailand with a BA in English with concentration in Linguistics and Economics. She loves traveling and exploring new places. During high school Kultida spent a year in the US where her love for traveling was developed. During her undergrad, Kultida also did an exchange semester in Japan and since then she have travelled to more than 23 countries. Regarding her journalistic experience, she worked as a co-producer for the environmental news program in a Thai national TV. In her spare time Kultida likes to play sports, especially Ultimate Frisbee. That's also one of the reasons why she likes to travel so much because playing Ultimate internationally is kind of a passion for her. Respatialization at its best!



NATIONALITY

Finnish

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NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

FACT

The longest palindrome in the world is a Finnish one: saippuakivikauppias. It means 'the seller of a soap stone'.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I can't reduce anything to just one single moment, but I recall an occasion that encouraged me to pursue the field of journalism. During my first stint as a reporter for a local newspaper, I was unsure of my performance and what the editors thought of my writing style. When the editor approached me at the summer's end and told me that he hoped to see my writing published elsewhere, I was convinced that this is my thing.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Again, it's hard to name only one thing. In general, I tend to act not so rationally, but intuitively.

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to pursue investigative journalism, although, there is no single topic I would like to go into in more detail. Fundamentally, I'm interested in story-telling and communicating.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

My decision to join the program was based on a gut feeling. Like I mentioned earlier, I tend to act intuitively. It wasn't something I had planned for a long time.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My editorship was one of the biggest challenges I have faced to date, since my responsibilities included not only journalistic but also financial administration, but it was also one of the most rewarding. I'm pretty proud of the outcome.

Laura was born in Turku, Finland, and spent her childhood in nearby Mynämäki. She returned to her birthplace to study a BA in Media Studies at the University of Turku, where she also studied Sociology, Political Science, Gender Studies, and French.

Her journalistic experience includes a position at Turun Sanomat, the third-largest morning newspaper in Finland, and an editorial position at Turun ylioppilaslehti, a fortnightly newspaper focusing on student culture, politics, music, and city events.

After completing the Erasmus Mundus Master program, Laura wants to pursue investigative journalism. Fundamentally, she is interested in story-telling and communicating. While she admits, "I don't have a master plan after this course," Laura intends to stay abroad and do freelance work after completing the program.



NATIONALITY
French

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TWITTER
@LeoGack

NEXT YEAR
London

FACT

France invented the Minitel, an online service accessible through telephone lines, and was considered one of the world's most successful pre-World-Wide-Web online services.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I happened to be in the San Francisco area during the Occupy Wall St movement, to cover what was happening on a daily basis, absorbing the whole ambiance: this was when I felt it was what I wanted to do, being in the field of events, not behind a desk.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I wanna travel in a spaceship steered by David Bowie.

What would you like to do after the course?

I'd like to become a documentary director. Unlike daily news assignments, visual media are more long-term projects that get journalists genuinely involved in the topic they're unraveling. They spend more time talking to people, delving deeper into their subject, and traveling.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Apart from my love for travel, I had already started a journalism Masters degree in France, but it didn't give me the perspective I was expecting; it was more French-oriented, while I needed a more international scope.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I was working on a documentary for an American TV station in Normandie, about WWII, when the US debarked on the French shores in 1944. I had to deal with seasickness and with living on two boats of twenty people each, 24/7, to work on the documentary. Confined on a boat constantly moving wasn't exactly my idea of fun, but I ended up enjoying it a lot after the first days passed.

Born and raised in Normandie, France, Léo studied Political Science at Sciences Po Rennes. It was during his undergrad years when he started getting involved in journalism, especially when he visited California for an internship and worked as a field reporter for KPFA Berkeley's evening news. Apart from his experience in Radio Léo worked as a freelance Human Rights reporter for Opinion Internationale, a French news website. He also did similar work for a newspaper created by the French-speaking Tamil (Sri Lankan) community in France. The thriving musical scene in Caen, a town in Normandie, grabbed Léo's attention for a 26-minute documentary he created with his colleagues during his undergraduate degree. With no funds and little resources, they managed to shed light on how a momentum of music and culture could be created within the city, giving a voice to various music genres and reshaping the music environment. Léo complements his deep passion for music by playing the drums and the guitar.



NATIONALITY

German

EMAIL

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Obviously coming to Denmark has been a huge change. I've lived abroad before, but the longest was five months. It's strange to have your definition of "home" changed. However, it's very exciting to me.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I think it was travelling through China without speaking a single word of Chinese. I wasn't even able to read the names of the streets. I really liked it there, though. At one point during the journey I spent 24 hours on a train – but we had only made it one centimeter on the map.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work as a journalist. Maybe in Hamburg, but that might change. I would like to work with printed media, or on a high-quality online news site. If that doesn't work out, I'll open my own little café and bake cakes all day.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I felt that it was a great opportunity and a great challenge. I really wanted to challenge myself by studying abroad.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I still have it ahead, I think. I face the challenge of not losing contact with my home, but also not being too closely connected to home. I need to define my new identity, which is not based on my boyfriend, my horse and Hamburg.

Lisa Duhm was born in Wedel, which is a small town close to Hamburg. At 19 she moved to Hamburg where she studied American Studies and Politics. She gained her journalistic experience working as a part-time for the local newspaper in Wedel, called Wedel Schulauer Tageblatt. She also did an internship with the NDR, which is a Northern German state-funded broadcasting station. Recently she did an internship with a magazine called Geolino, which is the biggest children's magazine in Germany. Finishing her Bachelor thesis, displaying discipline and work ethics, gave her a sense of pride

Lisa loves to cook, and it's important for her to cook and eat good food. Her passions include her Icelandic pony Gunnar. He's very fluffy.



FACT

Hamburg has very strange dish called Labskaus. It's cooked and later blended pork or beef, beetroots, pickles, onions and a fish called "matjes".

LIVIA VAZQUEZ SEGRE

QUANDO EL CUERVO VUELA BAJO
HACE UN FRIO DEL CARAJO

NATIONALITY

Spanish

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

More than 90%
of Spanish people
doesn't like
bullfighting.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Living in Norway definitely changed my life. It was the first time I lived alone in a foreign country and the experience taught me a lot about myself and how I wanted to live my life. Plus, I met several of my closest friends during that period.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I'd say acting in a theatre play in Beijing. I was invited to interpret a character in a theatre play to raise money for the LGBT community in Beijing. Before the premiere, I had terrible stage fright, but I did it. And had so much fun!

What would you like to do after the course?

My interests are quite diverse but at this moment, I'd like to make good documentaries (love them!) or write a novel.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I was working in Beijing and felt that even though I was doing some kind of journalistic work, I was not learning new things and I didn't even have the time to reflect on what I was doing. I wanted to stop and think, and to learn something about real journalism outside China.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Moving to Beijing with my few savings and without any acquaintance or job offer was kind of challenging. You struggle to find your way around, to communicate, and to find a place to live, look for a job... It is really discouraging at the beginning, but eventually things start falling into place and you build your little life amidst the crowds.

Livia was born in La Coruña, a town in the north-west of Spain, but moved to Barcelona at the age of 14. She studied for a BA in Journalism because of her love for writing. After finishing her degree, Livia decided to move to Norway, where she worked in the famous and tourist-friendly fish market during the summer and taught Spanish for more than a year. When she was 24 she returned to Barcelona and joined an IT-network, focused on creating multimedia content for several web pages. She coordinated a team of 4 young journalists and even if it was very intense, she recalls learning a lot during that period. At the beginning of 2008, after learning Chinese for three years, she left for Beijing where she eventually got a job with CCTV. She worked there for 5 years. After living in Norway, Scandinavian countries hold a special place in Livia's heart so she is happy to be living in Denmark for the next year.



LOTTE KAMPHUIS

ALS JE NIET ELKE DAG MET EEN STOK
IN JE ZIEL ROERT
VRTEST HIJ DICHT

NATIONALITY

Dutch

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

FACT

The highest point in the Netherlands is only 323 meters high and more than a quarter of the country lies below the sea level.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

That would be the opportunity I was given to work as an editor for Amnesty International. I found out how much I enjoyed working for a good cause and it brought me a lot experience and rewards. Also I got to meet a lot of inspiring people.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In the unlikely event of me running for Prime Minister one day, it might be better not to share the craziest thing I have ever done. And in the unlikely event that I WILL run for Prime Minister one day that would be the craziest thing I will ever do.

What would you like to do after the course?

In my dream scenario I would like to find a job within the media field for which I have to travel around the world a lot.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The course gives you the opportunity to focus more on journalism and specialize in a distinct area, study abroad, be part of a selective group of students from all over the world and have the time of your life. Do I need to say more?

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

To make my mind up about what I would like to do for a living and at the same time how I want to contribute to the world in the future. There are so many options and possibilities these days and unfortunately you can't be everywhere at the same time. In addition, I would like to travel as much as possible

Lotte was born and raised near Eindhoven, in the South of the Netherlands. When she was 18 she left to Amsterdam to study Media and Culture. Whilst studying for her BA she went on an exchange to Brighton in Great Britain. After Lotte's return to Amsterdam she worked as an editor for Amnesty International The Netherlands and finished a Masters Degree in Media Studies. Although Amsterdam has always felt like home to her, she questioned this feeling when she once ended up on the magical territory of Lotte World in South Korea.

She is passionate about music, photography and traveling and is grateful for all the people that she has met from all over the world. It's unsurprising then that she dreams of getting a media job that will help or require her to travel around the world.



LOUISA FIELD

ET LANDS OPFINDelser FORTÆLLER
MEGET OM DETS BEBOERE
DET ER NÅRPE TILFÆLDIGT
AT DET VAR DANSKERNE
SOM OPFANDT ANTABUS OG KORKBÆLTET

NATIONALITY
British/Danish

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-

NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I think that opening my own company was a quite life-changing event. But two events were important for me as well. The first one was when I started to dance at the Theatre Archauz. The second one was when it shut down.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I've run totally naked across a stage in front of 300 people...five to six times! So around 1500 people saw me naked. It was quite disturbing thinking back; especially when you know that my dad sat on the front row.

What would you like to do after the course?

I'd like to work for some kind of nature or scientific magazine. Or perhaps do some cultural journalism but I definitely want to do print.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Maybe my main motivation was because I did not want to study with bunch of boring Danes (no offense to my Danish fellows).

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Surviving a whole hour interview with Antoine (he tried to break my iPhone). As well last year I was hired to teach minuet dancing to 100 people (minuet dancing is 17. century french folk dancing). Quite a challenge, specially because I had learnt the dance of youtube some days before

Louisa was born in Bristol, England. She has experienced cultural diversity first hand as she has lived in England, China (when she was 2), France (when she was 4) and Denmark. She studied Media for her BA at Aarhus University. She worked at the Theater Archauz and at "a whole lot of random bars". As a journalist, she has mainly worked for magazines and blogs. Louisa produces dance theatre with her company "The Lulu Art Group". Here she works and collaborates across many different artistic genres. They collaborate with dancers, artists, musicians, composers, designers and film-makers. Humble, when you ask her what she is the most proud of, her answer is "PASS". Louisa is very passionate about dance, culture and art.



FACT

First country in the world to legalize pornography (in 1969, to be precise).

LUIS EDUARDO BARRUETO

LIKE WRITING, READING IS TO PROTEST AGAINST THE INSUFFICIENCIES OF LIFE. WE INVENT FICTIONS IN ORDER TO LIVE SOMEHOW. THE MANY LIVES WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE WHEN WE JUST HAVE ONE'

NATIONALITY

Guatemalan

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I finished high school I wanted to study Cinema, but I had no option to do it in Guatemala, so I chose Journalism. As I stayed studying in Guatemala, I decided to travel whenever I had the chance. I realized a lot of things by knowing people from other places. I realized my choice of Journalism was just right. It's like a compendium of experiences that changed my career and made me realize I am in the right path.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In 2011 I took the risk of organizing a TED event at my university with only 2 months notice along with a friend. I repeated the experience in 2012 with a little more time, but it was also a challenge.

What would you like to do after the course?

This year I started a new project: a website that helps to analyze the information on the Internet. I picked a subject to test it: the connections between science and art. There is not so much information in Spanish, so I want to try out this editorial model and launch a website specialized in economy.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The reason is related with what I want to do after the course, as I am going to do the London specialization in Economics.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

When I started to study Journalism, I wasn't really sure about my choice because from Guatemala's point of view the vision for journalism isn't encouraging: journalists are poorly paid and there are risks when you cover violence. My biggest challenge was to discover that I actually wanted to be a journalist.

Luis was born in Guatemala City, he has lived in the capital until he moved to Aarhus. He graduated last May with a BA in Journalism from the Universidad Francisco Marroquín, a college of around 3.000 people with a focus on Humanities. During his degree, he managed to combine job and studies, and he joined the Libertopolis Radio Station, where he conducted a program call ContravíaPM focusing on local politics and economy. He also collaborates with an architecture magazine, Hábitart, where he developed his writing skills and with which he keeps collaborating from Denmark. He is passionate about his job because it has perfectly merged with his hobbies of writing and reading. He feels proud of taking the risk to create his own project which has been up and running since last January, a website (<http://wondrus.la>) analyzing the connections between apparently random themes.



FACT

Guatemala has 24 languages, 22 of which are Mayan languages, besides Spanish that is the official language.

LUIS MANUEL GIL PEREZ

photocredit: Vanessa Romero

GENIUS IS THE ABILITY TO PUT INTO EFFECT
WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The Erasmus Mundus program is the biggest change in my life. Though I have travelled abroad before, this is my first time being so far away from home on my own.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Going to Denmark without being able to speak the language was a crazy experience for me.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to do an internship or get a job related to journalism in Europe. I think that knowing Spanish can be an advantage. If I could choose freely, I would like to write for Vanity Fair or The Economist. Even though they are very different, for me they represent hardcore journalism.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I really liked the focus on intercultural communication, which is also why I'm going to Hamburg for the second year. I also wanted to expand on my English vocabulary. I have only worked in Spanish so far, and this was a great opportunity to try something new.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The language. I really want to learn both Danish and German, because I think it is important to understand the culture and to show people that you are trying to communicate in their language.



FACT

Barranquilla has an enormous carnival at the same time as in Brazil. The carnival is recognized as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by Unesco.

Luis was born on March 8th, 1987 in Barranquilla, a city on the Caribbean coast of Colombia. He obtained a BA in Social Communication and Journalism at Universidad del Norte, in Barranquilla. Before entering the Erasmus Mundus program he had worked as intern at El Tiempo, the most important newspaper of Colombia, and later worked as a journalist. He was also worked as an editor and research assistant at Universidad del Norte.

Luis likes reading -especially magazines- and watching horror series. He spends most of his time on YouTube: In his words 'I can spend so many hours on YouTube, watching one video to another, sometimes I wonder how I get to find so many weird things there!' Before leaving for Europe, Luis lived with his parents (Freddy & Yolanda) and his older sister, Alejandra.

MADALINA PAXAMAN

NU ESTE RASPUNSUL CEL CARE LUMINEAZA CI INTREBAREA

NATIONALITY

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TWITTER

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It was the death of my very best friend.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Well, it has to be leaving everything behind and starting a new life in Denmark. In 2009 I came here as a Masters student in Corporate Communication at Aarhus School of Business. Why do I believe this was a crazy decision? Well, because I had to start all over again at 35.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to go and work for an International Non-governmental Organization. I would like my work to focus on transferring knowledge to people and institutions in the developing countries. Basically, I want to go back to teaching, this time in a developing country.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The content of the course was extremely appealing to me, since I had a journalistic background and have always been interested in globalization and development.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge is to synchronize school requirements with the challenges of starting a new life in Denmark. There are a lot of «ducks» to get in a row and it takes discipline and determination.

Madalina Paxaman graduated from School of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest in 1994. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Media Management.

For more than 6 years, between 2001 and 2007, Madalina was a lecturer at the School of Journalism and Communication Studies, University of Bucharest. Between 2007 and 2009, she was project manager of EUROPE DIRECT Bucharest, which is one of the biggest information networks in Europe. It was hosted by The Assistance Center for Nongovernmental Organizations, CENTRAS. During her "student years" Madalina worked as a journalist for Radio Delta/Radio France International and, later, as an in-country program coordinator for the East and Central Scholarship Program, Georgetown University.

Of course Madalina loves teaching and after her Mundus experience she plans to teach Media Studies and Communication in a developing country (preferably, Kenya).



FACT

Romania is the country of: Ellie Wiesel, Herta Muller, George Palade, Traian Vuia, Constantin Brancusi, Eugen Ionesco, Sergiu Celibidache, Angela Gheorghiu.

MAGDALENA SKRZYPEK

WSYSTKO BEDZIE
JAK BYC POWINNO
TAK JUZ JEST URZADZONY SWIAT

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NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

One of the greatest adventures in my life was my trip to the Philippines. As a volunteer, I took part in the "Explore Philippines" project, during which I worked as a journalist, immersing myself in the Philippine culture. I got lost in Manila, a city with over 1.5 million people; I ate balut, an egg with a duck embryo; I made friendships that will hopefully last a lifetime. All of this has strengthened my confidence and given me a sense of independence that I could go anywhere in the world and get along just fine.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Once I'm done with the rat race and hustle-bustle of career, I will move to the beachside (preferably on a tropical island) and start a restaurant, guesthouse or whatever... just something simple to slow my life down.

What would you like to do after the course?

Instead of working in a newsroom, I see myself in a press centre of one of the foreign affairs institutions, such as Poland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs or one of the EU institutions. I want to create the news rather than report it.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It gives you the opportunity of combining travelling and adventure with a competitive degree of a high international standard.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

In Aarhus? Biking in the rain. It feels like the hill to the School of Journalism and Media has no end. Denmark is supposed to be a flat country, isn't it?

Magdalena was born and raised in Poland. She holds a degree in Specialized Translations (English and German) from the University of Warsaw as well as Journalism and Social Communication at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities. She's a huge fan of culinary travels - food is her way of getting to know other culture. Strangely enough, she's better at cooking Thai Tom Kha Gai than Polish Pierogi.

Although she is studying Journalism, she plans to make the news and not just report it. Magdalena sees herself at the Centre of a foreign affairs institution like Poland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs or an institution within the EU.



FACT

Poland has accumulated 17 Nobel Prizes, which is more than Denmark, China or Spain.

MAGNUS ERIK SCHERMAN

AN EYE FOR AN EYE
MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD BLIND

NATIONALITY
Danish

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Watching the Champion's League final in 1996 (Juventus beat Ajax). I became a Juventus supporter and this event changed my whole childhood.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I once ran after a bear in Canada whilst very drunk.

What would you like to do after the course?

To be a journalist or teach and train future journalists in a developing country.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

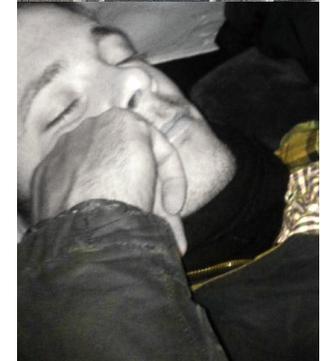
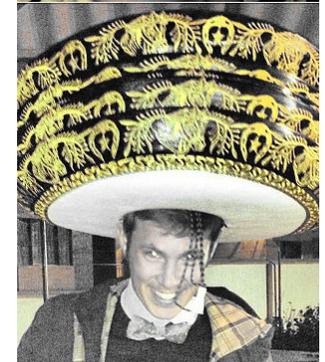
I saw the posts in the journalism school and I would like to work in journalism in the future.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Living in Australia when I was 16 for an exchange programme.

Magnus Erik Scherman was born on February the 23rd 1987 in Svendborg, a town on the island of Funen in South Denmark. He grew up with his brother Daniel there. He has acquired a Bachelor degree in Italian Language, Literature and Culture from Aarhus University. Before returning to take the Erasmus Mundus Master's Programme, Magnus worked at Radio Diablo, Fyns Amts Avis, Delfinen, Orienting and U-landsnyt.dk.

He likes to spend time with his friends and family and is passionate about travelling, sailing and skiing. You may also want to check out his football skills. Soccer is one of his greatest hobbies. He is not only an avid Juventus supporter but also takes his skills and knowledge to the football pitch.



FACT

The highest point in Denmark is the bridge of the Storebælt.

MARC KUSHIN

WE ARE ALL IN THE GUTTER
BUT SOME OF US ARE LOOKING
AT THE STARS

NATIONALITY

British

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

Only 22 countries
in the world have
not been invaded by
Britain.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Having a child did. He is three years old and his name is Satie. I liked to party a lot and to do things that are a bit naughty like squatting or protesting. That had to change. Everything is now focused on my son. I became "normal".

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

My craziest experience was probably at a big outdoor rave in the Czech Republic called CzechTek. The party had been going on for a few years and in 2005 the Czech government had finally had enough. They sent a battalion of riot police on site and it became a full scale riot with armed police kicking off against innocent ravers. I got embroiled in that, and I guess that was pretty crazy.

What would you like to do after the course?

In an ideal world I would like to go to another country and continue my academic career by doing a PhD. It might be in a different specialization, like sound studies.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I come from sort of a travelling background; I was constantly on the move. I was never grounded. That's why I got interested in movement as a social force. I am interested in the transcultural experience.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Having a child. I am trying to balance that with what I am doing now. It is a pleasurable challenge.

Marc was born in Leytonstone, East London and has lived there pretty much all of his life. Yet, when he was traveling around Europe for a bit he stopped in Toulouse, France, to stay there for winter. Marc studied his BA as a mature student in Media and Communications at Goldsmiths, University of London. Before he went back into education he was working in the creative industries using various media like photography, graphic design, film and video. Since 2001 he has managed several record labels specialising in electronic music. Over the past ten years he has also been on the editorial team for a fanzine called Rupture, which is distributed across Europe's activist communities. For Marc his family is what gives him the greatest pride and they drive his passions for creativity, learning and discovering ways to create a better future.



MARGARYTA KIRAKOSIAN

Для того, щоб щось змінилося,
треба щось змінити в собі.
І це не так утопічно і не так
важко, як здається.
Це дійсно просто.

NATIONALITY

Ukrainian

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My exchange year in the US changed my attitude in many ways: the world suddenly appeared to be bigger and full of opportunities.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Deciding to become a journalist.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work as a journalist in an International organization and travel around the world.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to study international journalism and what can be more international than students coming from more than 40 countries and teachers from all over the world? I always perceived journalism, not as a profession full of routine but an opportunity to broaden my perspective on various subjects. That is why I want to learn how to be good at it.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge is time-management. There are so many things to do, so many places to see, many people to meet and things to explore. Sometimes it seems that 24 hours is not enough.

Margaryta was born in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine, and has lived there most of her life. She graduated in Journalism from her hometown's University which is named after Oles Hontchar. Whilst studying for her Bachelor degree, she spent some time at the University of Mississippi as an exchange student.

As for her career, she led the organization for an European Youth Parliament session in Dnipropetrovsk, and she has also worked for a magazine focussing on architecture and as an interpreter for the Ukraine Media Partnership Program.

In her free time, she sings Ukrainian folklore songs and in the past she has taught English in the Peace Corps' summer camps in Ukraine.



FACT

Ukrainian is a wonderful and melodic language; it sounds like a nightingale's song.

MARIA WOKURKA

LEBEN IS ZEICHNEN
OHNE RADIERGUMMI

NATIONALITY

German

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

FACT

There are lots of stereotypes for Germans – good and bad ones. But in an awesome way: German is known for beer, beer and beer again and not to forget for the “no-speed-limit”.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

In terms of life change it was probably one of my travel experiences, especially when I went to Africa for 8 months. I taught 5-years old African children with poor background in primary school.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In general I would describe myself as a crazy, sometimes too adventurous person. One of the craziest things was probably sky diving. My risky things: travelling round East Africa by myself and working as a barmaid in the Australian Outback.

What would you like to do after the course?

My dream would be either foreign correspondence or travel journalism.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to do my Master's degree abroad in English which is related to Journalism. I also found the program to be the thing I want to do right now. Also since I travelled a lot through whole Scandinavia, I was very keen to live in a part of Scandinavia for a little bit longer.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The biggest challenges but also wonderful experiences were my two years in Africa and Australia. In terms of my “journalistic career” I faced five challenges while working for national and regional TV companies and radio stations - 15 hours every day, no sleep, no money, time pressure and as an consequence of time pressure driving like a maniac.

Maria was born and raised in Germany and spent most of her life in Bremen, near Hamburg. An avid traveller, she spent a year working and exploring the Australian outback after High School followed by a BA in International Journalism at Bremen University. Maria grabbed the opportunity to study abroad in South Africa during her degree, after which she cemented her status as an adventurer by traveling for three months around East Africa BY HERSELF. As well as various student jobs, Maria has been freelancing at a regional newspaper in Germany for four years and has become an expert in her field through her work as a reporter, copywriter and editorial journalist for several TV, Radio stations and news rooms including Radio FFn, Kinderkanal vom ZDF, SPIEGEL TV. She is rightly proud of the amazing journeys she has undertaken so far and the courage it took to lead the life she always dreamt of. Passion is something that Maria injects into all areas of her life, whether it is playing Volleyball, traveling or writing, she is passionate about everything she does and it is reflected in her life up to this point.



MARIANA CAMPOS

UM HOMEM PRECISA VIAJAR POR SUA CONTA
NÃO POR MEIO DE HISTÓRIAS, IMAGENS, LIVROS OU TV
PRECISA VIAJAR POR SI, COM SEUS OLHOS E PÉS
PARA ENTENDER O QUE É SEU

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Once I went to a Brazilian village with only three hundred inhabitants. This changed my life. I went there to make a documentary about people who were working there to improve the place. This documentary later won a prize for the best environmental reportage at the Amazon festival. From that moment on I thought I would use my journalistic skills to help people to communicate to the world.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I would not say this is the craziest thing I have ever done, but when I was nineteen years old I went alone to the Amazon forest where I spent a month living in the local communities. I had the time of my life there.

What would you like to do after the course?

If I can dream big, I would like to live shooting for documentaries, especially about local communities and environmental issues I am very passionate about.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I missed studying because I have been working for so long. I felt the need to improve my knowledge and have a better background in analysis.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I would like to travel around the world and find a very special and unique story about every place I visit. Maybe I will write a book about it one day.

Mariana was born in Rio de Janeiro and has lived in Rio, London, Buenos Aires and now, of course Aarhus. She studied journalism at the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. After graduation, she worked as a freelance journalist for a Brazilian/English magazine called Jungle Drums and as a press officer for the Governor of Rio de Janeiro. She also has experience in both production and film-making, namely documentaries. Before heading to Aarhus she had been working as a producer for the Brazilian music groups Monobloco and Pedro Luís e a Parede. People who do not only stand and stare, but actually fight to make their dreams come true are the ones of which she is proud. The thing she is most inspired by is the universe, which she thinks can be found inside every single person in the world.



FACT

No matter what nationality you are, you will always be called a "gringo"/"gringa" when visiting Brazil.

MARIANNA DUARTE DE ARAGAO

O DESTINO É APENAS O ACASO COM MANIA DE GRANDEZA

NATIONALITY

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

London

FACT

It is said that Brazilian passports –fake or real ones- are some of the most sought after on the black market. This is due to the diversity of physical appearance (and origins) of our people.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It was tough to move to San Paolo from my hometown- Florianópolis which is known as “the magic island” for its 40 beautiful beaches, native forest, sand dunes and lagoons. In the crazy 20 million-population metropolis of Sao Paolo I found a profession, engaged in a busy and fun lifestyle and made lifetime friends.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I embarked on a boat trip from Turkey to the Greek island Chios during the biggest storm on Aegean Sea in years. After shaking for two hours in a boat full of hysterical Greeks and Turks, I safely arrived at my destination.

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to experience journalism in a different country and tell interesting people's stories on different subjects, from business to world affairs.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

After working for seven years as a business reporter, I wanted to deepen the knowledge on the subjects I covered and include others, for example, foreign affairs and globalization. The structure of the course is also a perfect match for me: first year in lovely and calm Aarhus followed by frenetic urban chaos of London.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

The biggest challenge is the one you are coping with. For me it is to leave my house, family and job in Brazil and start a new life in a distant country.

After finishing her BA in Journalism and finishing an additional Bachelor of Law degree in 2007, Marianna decided to leave her hometown Florianopolis for South America's biggest city, Sao Paulo. Marianna not only found happiness there, she also successfully stormed the beaches of business journalism. In her journalistic career, she has worked as a reporter for the two main national newspapers in Brazil and a business magazine. Marianna bleeds ink: she loves print, including searching, interviewing and writing articles on business and economics. She is an avid learner and traveler, for business as well as for leisure. Her insistent wanderlust has taken her to many places including Turkey where she taught High School kids about multiculturalism, Wharton Business School for a course on business journalism and San Francisco to cover important conferences – to name just a few. Yet, whenever possible, she tries to spend time with her loved ones, spoiling them with her magnificent cooking skills.



NATIONALITY

Chinese

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

London

FACT

There are so many Chinese characters in our dictionary that nobody can recognize most of them.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My grandmother is a "take action" type of person and she has changed my life. 6 years back we rescued a puppy with a broken leg and had her all patched up at home. She's doing great. We also rescued a fair number of cats and sent food to homeless dogs. My grandmother and I make sure we let the animals know we are there for them and that we care.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Nothing too crazy.... I don't drink and drive.... But I jumped off a moving car once, to see if I could do the cool rolling thing Jackie Chan does and end up fine...That landed me in a hospital.

What would you like to do after the course?

I intend to throw myself into a real-time financial news environment again. Now China's new leader is attempting economic reforms and may liberalize the economy in the next few years (Imagine that!). In this situation, highly qualified financial journalists will have endless opportunities to showcase their talents.

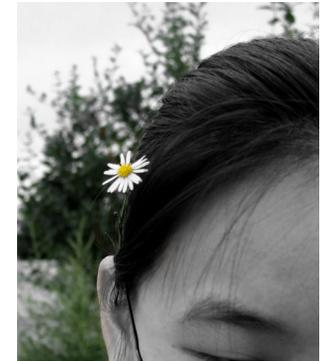
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

First of all, I have never been to Northern Europe before and I am dying to see the aurora. Second of all, my classmates in this course come from all over the earth and will provide me with the chance to travel the world for free and/or with so much fun. Furthermore, my career goal is to become a financial reporter who can 'humanize' complex data.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finishing all the readings including supplementary without the help of Google translator before the class.

Meimei was born in Hunan, province of China. She lived for three months in Mongolia, but she moved to Xi'an to study at Xi'an International Studies University for three years. During her senior year, she had the opportunity to study abroad for one year at Rowan University, New Jersey, as an international exchange student, where she majored in Journalism. The past four years she has lived in Beijing. Once she finished her BA, she worked as a Web Editor for the Wall Street Journal's Chinese Edition in Beijing. Most of her job was related with business and financial news by multimedia. Meimei got the Spot News Award for her excellent handling of Chinese central bank's latest rate cuts. Her posts had been reposted more than 1,500 times in less than 20 minutes and she has get many compliments from China Wall Street Journal's readers. Not surprisingly, she is fascinated in the truth behind all the numbers, such as GDP, CPI, PPI and PMI.



NATIONALITY

Chinese

EMAIL

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

While studying, I spotted a job posting online. It was for a PR job at Burson-Marsteller, but I didn't even know what "PR" was – my dream was to be a reporter at Xinhua. I got the job, and four years later I was still working there and had been promoted to a team supervisor.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In the first years of working in PR, I worked until midnight every night and needed a way to decompress. So every weekend, I picked the cheapest flight on Air China and flew to different Chinese cities by myself.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to train executives to talk to the media, or work as a journalist in China or overseas.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It was the best quality for the price! The course offers the chance to study in two countries I love. Studying trans-cultural communications in Hamburg means studying a topic I have been working on while dealing with international companies in China.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

At Hong Kong University, I was placed in a class in Cantonese. I speak Mandarin and the two languages are completely different – every night I watched Cantonese soap operas subtitled in Mandarin. After a month I could understand the class, after six months I could speak and read Cantonese.



FACT

According to Chinese zodiac, people born in the Year of the Rabbit (including me) are typically gentle and loving, with good artistic sense.

Although Meng was born and raised in Jinan in Shandong Province, she has been living in Beijing for eight years since starting her BA degree in Foreign Studies University. During her studies, she went on exchange to the City University of Hong Kong. Later she interned as a Reporter, Editor and News Anchor with many media organizations, including Xinhua News Agency, Jinan TV Station and the Organizing Committee for Beijing Olympic Games. After graduating and prior to joining the Erasmus Mundus program, Meng was employed for four years at Burson-Marsteller; the world's premier public relations firm. Here she provided strategic counsel to a number of multinational clients and helped them execute communications activities in China. Meng is passionate about photography. This can be seen from her job as a photo editor for this blue book.

MITRA AMIRI

OH MY LORD!
GRANT ME THE SERENITY TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I CAN NOT
CHANGE THE COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS THAT I CAN
AND WISDOM TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

NATIONALITY

Iranian

EMAIL

mitra_amiri9@yahoo.com

TWITTER

@mitraamiri

NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

In 2009, I was offered an opportunity to work with the Washington Post in Tehran, where I contributed to the coverage of the country's disputed presidential election, and its bloody aftermath. That experience opened up new doors to me and led to a full-time reporter position with a foreign news agency.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I've always wanted to go to Tibet and reside in one of its miraculous temples along with the monks, as I believe true happiness lies somewhere far from the hustle and bustle of the metropolitan cities.

What would you like to do after the course?

For me journalism is not only a career, but a way of life. Despite my experience with the world's leading news agencies, I'm resolved to further my experiences and activities in the field of journalism as they still remain unquenched.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism course to continue my studies in an environment conducive to higher learning. I believe the degree will greatly enhance my perspective and intellectual tools essential to my career.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge up to date is to find inner happiness and peace.

Mitra was born in Tehran, the capital of Iran, and she received her BA degree in Journalism from Allameh Tabatabaee University –one of the leading academic institutions in the Middle East. As for her career, her first stint with a Western publication was with The Washington Post in 2009. From there, she was offered a full-time correspondent position at Reuters news agency in 2010, for whom she reported on a daily basis for two years. Mitra wrote and investigated for original stories and produced factual items and features across a broad range of subjects. Before the course Mitra joined Agence France-Presse (AFP) as a correspondent in 2012, to broaden her experience in journalism and gain further knowledge of agency newsgathering.



FACT

Iran is the host to the second largest refugee population in the world, with approximately a million registered refugees.

NELE GOUTIER

ZONDER WRIJVING GEEN GLANS

NATIONALITY

Dutch

EMAIL

nelegoutier89@hotmail.com

TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I spend all my money (and more) on traveling. I love the adventure and never seem to get enough of it. It is the greatest inspiration for both, writing and filming, to me.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I dove into the sea on New Year's Day to get rid of my hangover. When I came out and desperately needed my towel (it was minus three) there was a radio reporter that wanted to interview me. I couldn't feel my legs the rest of the day but my hangover was gone.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would love to work as a reporter somewhere abroad and to produce written background articles as well as video ethnography and documentaries.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Anthropology is really interesting but quite theoretical, so I was looking for something more concrete. I've been studying journalism in Holland as well, but I found that sort of shallow. It was mostly about how to make sure to have a scoop. In the Mundus Masters I found both journalism and deeper academic backgrounds, which is a perfect combination of the things I've been doing before. Also I loved the international character and the opportunity to live abroad.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

"To make sure life will never get stuck in a rut."

Nele was born and raised in Gouda, The Netherlands, a city well known for its cheese. After secondary education she went to Nijmegen to study her BA in Cultural Anthropology and Development Studies at Radboud Universiteit. During her BA she also went abroad to study at other universities. She followed courses in Cultural Anthropology at Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta Indonesia, Political Science at Université Paul Valéry Montpellier III in France and Journalism and New Media at Leiden University. Nele can be very proud of herself, as her Bachelor thesis was published in an international academic book. Nele gained practical experience in journalism when she worked at the NCRV, a Dutch national television station, where she researched and created short news items. In addition, she has done various writing and editing jobs for university magazines and various websites. She enjoys traveling and exploring the world.



FACT

Erasmus, the guy our program was named after, was born and raised in Gouda, just like Nele.

NIKLAS JAKOBSSON

IT'LL BE
FINE

NATIONALITY

Swedish

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TWITTER

@Nik_Jakobsson

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was in my early 20's I was struggling to decide what to do with my life. On a whim, I decided to apply for a journalism degree – mainly because I like telling people what is happening. I got in, started to learn about the profession and I have not looked back since.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

For some odd reason I really want to visit North Korea as a tourist. But since that is unlikely to happen anytime soon I'll just say I want to travel to space.

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to get a PhD in Journalism - with a focus on press freedom in European countries. If that doesn't work out I can always get a career as a professional party attender.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

First of all, I was really interested in the international profile of the course. Secondly, I was looking for a more theoretical approach to journalism and the studies of journalism to build on a practical background.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Trying to learn all 103 names in the Mundus course... Seriously, can anyone make name badges?

Niklas Jacobsson was born and bred in Malmö, in the southernmost province of Scania, Sweden. He moved to the UK to study and graduated from Northumbria University, Newcastle, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. He has lived in Blentarp in Sweden, Newcastle in England and Budapest in Hungary. Before moving to Denmark for the Mundus Journalism course, Niklas worked in Budapest for an English Language newspaper entitled The Budapest Times. He is most proud of managing to move to Denmark without being sick. He loves to have fun and is enjoying every single moment that each day has to offer. Like every other Swedish person, Niklas loves bad jokes and sarcasm and he is obviously taller than 1.80m.



FACT

Sweden has more to offer than IKEA and ABBA. Not much more...but a few things.

NOURAN EL-BEHAIRY

THOSE WHO LIVE IN
A GLASS HOUSE
SHOULDN'T THROW STONES AT PEOPLE

NATIONALITY
Egyptian

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nouranelbeairy@yahoo.com

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

During the first weeks at the Daily News Egypt I was talking to a hostage taker (who took two American tourists). After that I was some kind of "star" for my newspaper.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Some would say it is crazy to have a crocodile as a pet for me it's just normal.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would love to work for an international agency and report about the regions with the least media-coverage the world. This includes not only African countries but also Asia or South-America. My life-time dream is then to establish my own journalism school in Egypt.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It was exactly what I needed, a theoretical understanding of media mechanisms around the world with a focus on globalization.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Getting around in Denmark without getting lost! And pronouncing street names here.



FACT

One Egyptian father named his daughter "Facebook" in honor of the role played by the Facebook in the Egyptian Revolution of 2011. Her full name sounds like Facebook Jamal Ibrahim.

Nouran was born in Cairo and studied Mass Communication and Journalism at Cairo University. She worked as a journalist for the Egyptian Gazette (1 year) and later for the Daily News Egypt (18 months). During that time she focused on News reporting, Politics, Arts and Culture, Sports and Feature stories. Nouran is proud of having a considerably good career in journalism at a young age and is passionate about her journalism profession and improving it in Egypt. She's planning to proceed with this profession and wants to work at an international agency to report about little-known regions of the world. Teaching is also important to Nouran because one day she aspires to establish her own journalism school.

NATIONALITY
German

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@OMMenzel

NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My High School Exchange to Sydney opened me up to new perspectives in terms of language skills and cosmopolitanism.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

One day I will try Svana's Icelandic Fish!!

What would you like to do after the course?

I dream of working as a TV Journalist (Economics or Politics) for a German or international broadcasting channel, maybe even become a foreign correspondent or just leave it to fate.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The international character and the culture clash of the course appeal to me. Learning about cultures, and improving my language and journalistic skills were only few reasons. I also found it exciting and unique to be given the chance to study at different universities. Learning about globalization and international topics with different perspectives is a challenging and exceptional experience.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Experiencing that my dreams and reality do not always agree.



FACT

The famous German physician and Nobel prize winner Albert Einstein had a student job at the Oktoberfest in 1896. He installed light bulbs in one of the tents.

Ondra was born on the 22nd of February 1990 in Hannover, Germany. She has lived in Minden, Sydney, Paris, Düsseldorf and now Aarhus. She obtained her BA degree in Media, Communication Science and English Studies at the Heinrich-Heine-University in Düsseldorf. She has worked as a freelance journalist for two German newspapers. She has also carried out internships at various German broadcasting channels but also at the studio of ZDF in Paris. Not only that but Ondra has also made some short films as part of a Video Workshop at her University. She has real love of creative writing and has a great passion for many things beginning with the letter 'F': Food, Family, Friends, Fashion, Fantasy, Far reaches of the world... But also: Poetry, Travelling and most of all, using the Media to share her experiences with others.

OSCAR GÜELL

COMO NO SABIAN QUE
ERA IMPOSIBLE
LO HICIERON

NATIONALITY

Spanish

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Being part of the movement "15M", that was created in Spain in 2011. It made me realize how powerful, people can be when we working together. I will never forget the solidarity, energy and happiness that characterized the Spanish squares during those days.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I still don't know when I'll do it but I'd definitely want to climb the Everest Mountains.

What would you like to do after the course?

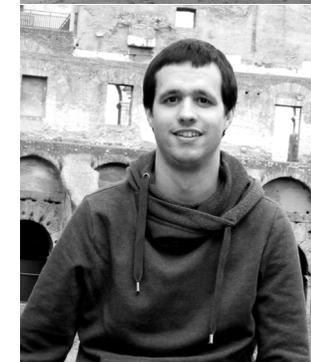
Apart from winning the lottery and traveling around the world, I would like to work as an international reporter for any newspaper or news agency. Actually, any work related to journalism would be fine.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose to do this Masters because I believe it will provide me with the opportunity of working outside of Spain and therefore, further my understanding of the world.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

For now, my biggest challenge is surviving the Danish winter; it seems to be really really really long and cold.



Oscar was born in Zaragoza (Spain) and has felt the call of journalism since he was a child, so he moved to Madrid to study. He spent some great years there and in 2009 he graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Journalism and Media studies. He has been working in different media: newspapers, radio, TV and news agency (Aragón Digital). These are not good times for journalists in Spain so last year he decided to do a European Voluntary Service in Rome. He fell in love with the city. But he also fell for Budapest' when he took his Erasmus placement in Hungary. After the EVS he joined this program because he thinks it will help him to find a job abroad. Although he will never lose his Spanish accent in any language he will speak. He loves travelling, photography and meet people, three things that fit perfectly with the journalistic job.

FACT

Nothing eaten
before 9 PM can be
considered dinner.

OUMAIMA AZZELZOU LI

LIVE
AS IF YOU WERE
TO DIE TOMORROW

NATIONALITY
Moroccan

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Coming to Denmark, going abroad for the first time in my life and having to be independent in a foreign country has been the biggest change so far.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I would love to go on a crazy road trip in Morocco to see the places I have not yet been to.

What would you like to do after the course?

After finishing the degree I would like to continue studying and pursue a Ph.D. degree in the Political Science field. I would also like to live in Japan for a year and document my travels in a TV travel show.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I found out about it through a friend and decided to apply. I thought it would be a great opportunity for me to live in a different culture and context.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge so far has been to improve and educate myself and try to make a difference in the world.



FACT

Morocco was the first country to recognize the independence of the United States of America.

Oumaima was born in Rabat, Morocco and have lived all her life in the same place, until leaving the country for the first time to join the Mundus Programme here in Denmark. She recently graduated with a degree in Journalism and Communications from the National School of Journalism in Morocco (ISIC). Whilst studying she did some freelance work and collaborated with the international organization Round Earth Media, where she worked with American journalism students. The pieces she contributed were about the Soulaliyate women's movement in Morocco. Oumaima is most passionate about going to new places and discovering new cultures and she is most proud of being a polyglot.

PASCALE MUELLER

MIRRORS AND COPULATION ARE OBSCENE
FOR THEY INCREASE THE NUMBERS
OF MAN

NATIONALITY

German

EMAIL

-

TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It was a boss who told me that I was a bad journalist, too young and female, and that I would never work in that job. So I quit and said that I was going to be better than him. And this is how my work started.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

One of the most awkward things I have ever done was participating in a weird catwalk with naked punks including myself in the Berlin club. There were a lot of people and photos being taken, which caused me a lot of trouble afterwards because I thought it would be anonymous!

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to go back to the Middle East and work as a correspondent or a freelance journalist. I want to work more in the region because I am curious about the place, and there are many things that I want to learn and explore there. There is so much left to do in terms of journalism.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Because I am too young to work and I need more time to grow.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Being here in Aarhus and not having a single music instrument with me. Also, to get up before eight o'clock in the morning!

Pascale was born in a small village in the German countryside surrounded by forest, fields and cows, but has also lived in France and Jordan. She has studied Sociology and Political Science in Germany and France before working as a journalist. Her experience in the field includes some TV journalism for the German filmfest Berlinale, a bunch of print and photojournalism (anything that could pay her rent or gave entrance to free dinner parties, she says). Just before coming to Aarhus, she was working as a reporter for the daily newspaper Jordan Times as well as working as a freelance journalist for Western media. Pascale is really proud of once having taught a bird to speak. The sad thing is that it died shortly after, a sad moment in her childhood. Punk, plateau shoes, hairdressers, feminism, Harry Potter and gin & tonic are some of the things she is most passionate about.



FACT

German people are the second biggest consumers of beer in the whole world.

PATRICIA ALONSO SANDE

HAVE THE COURAGE TO FOLLOW YOUR HEART AND INTUITION,
THEY SOMEHOW ALREADY KNOW WHAT YOU
TRULY WANT TO BECOME

NATIONALITY
Spanish

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NEXT YEAR
Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

One of the most eye-opening experiences I had was a course I took in Bosnia, where I learned the journalistic craft, that I wanted to devote myself to, in a very hands-on manner. You had to walk for miles hunting for the story of a group of people who had suffered very much in the Srebrenica genocide. I understand how people want their story told and you're responsible for telling it right.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Being a very shy person, I took a trip to Perú to be a volunteer in a children's school. Most importantly, I took a trip alone to Macchu Picchu, which required quite a few trips in trucks and a train and constantly meeting strangers, quite an out-of-the-box experience for me.

What would you like to do after the course?

I'd like to be a correspondent and devote myself to covering international topics and conflicts, because they are interesting from the standpoint of how human beings can reach levels of cruelty that need explanation.

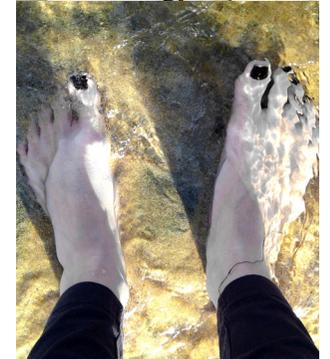
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I was drawn to it by the mix of people from so many different places and the fact that you study in two places, which allows you to meet new cultures and people.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Most of my challenges so far have been on the personal level, whereas I feel proud my journalistic career has been marked with decisions I've taken because I know myself and what I want.

Patricia was born in a small town in the province of Galicia, in the northwest of Spain. Unlike the image we may come up about Spain, this region actually has a lot of green environments and a few beaches, not to mention a different culture from the rest of the country. She has lived there most of her life, except during her BA in Journalism and Media Communications and a brief time interning in the newspaper ABC, both during a six year stay in Madrid. After working for this newspaper, she also worked for an in-depth journalism magazine online and tried her hands at photojournalism briefly. She's passionate about telling stories and is proud of the fact that she has always felt sure about her life decisions, which have led her to this point in her life.



FACT

There are three languages in Spain officially recognised along with Spanish.

PAUL MORNON

THE ART OF QUOTATION IS
THE ART OF THOSE WHO CANNOT
THINK BY THEMSELVES

NATIONALITY
French

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TWITTER
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NEXT YEAR
Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My first Erasmus year in Stockholm was a turning point in my life. Besides discovering this great capital and building lasting friendships, I realized that I could live and maybe work abroad.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Two years ago I went to Lapland over the Arctic Circle. I experienced crazy temperatures - less than -30°C in the night! Also, I did things that I will never experience again. For instance, dog sledging, ice-fishing, snow-mobile and, above all, I saw the amazing northern lights.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work for a sport or culture magazine and to write about music. I think it is the only thing I can do properly! I also love to cook. So, if I don't succeed in journalism, I can always open a 'French Café' somewhere around the world!

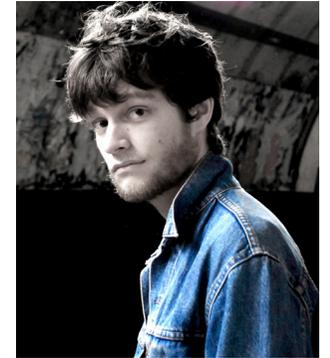
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

After BA, I didn't want to follow the classical French education path that leads to work as a journalist in France. Since I loved Scandinavia and living abroad, I found this program to be the perfect continuation of my studies.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Two years ago my wallet, my phone, my plane and festival tickets were stolen in Madrid. I had to attend a festival in Lisbon the day after... Some epic moments later I managed to reach Portugal, make the festival organizers to pity me and give new tickets.

Paul was born in Meaux, a city near Paris, which is "famous worldwide" for the cheese "Brie". After High School, he moved to Bretagne to study Political Sciences and Journalism at the Institute of Political Sciences of Rennes. He left Rennes on his last year of BA to study one year in Stockholm under the Erasmus Program. He has a BA in Political Sciences with a Public Administration major. After this, he started a Journalism master and then got accepted in the Mundus Program. He has worked as a journalist the past two summers in political and literature newspapers in Paris. Paul is mostly interested in the cultural area of journalism – more precisely music. With some friends, he created a website called JNSPUF! dedicated to music reviews and news. He is also a huge fan of tennis, TV shows and he loves cooking.



FACT

I think there are enough prejudices about France... I'm not gonna make our case worse!

PEDRO HENRIQUE LEAL

TO FORGET IS A NECESSITY
LIFE IS A BLACKBOARD
IN WHICH DESTINY TO WRITE A NEW CASE
MUST ERASE THE WRITTEN CASE

NATIONALITY

Brazilian

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@nerditude

NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Covering the intense flooding in the Vale do Itapocu region in 2011. The first three months of the year there was nothing but heavy rain, landslides and flooding, and as such I was always occupied with one event after another. That rush on the job made me feel like I was truly alive - like my work meant something. Crisis situations are my lifeblood professionally

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Going into a warzone - never got the actual chance, but I'm really planning on covering at least on conflict in loco, if you get my drift. I know it is risky, and it's not anywhere near what one would think it is in terms of professional freedom - but still, it is a crazy thing I want to do. That, and going to space.

What would you like to do after the course?

For a while, I want to work as a reporter on field regarding wars and conflicts, in order to have field experience, and try to inform people. After that, I'll follow a more academic path, I guess...

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

To be quite honest... I was trying a lot of different Masters programs, and Mundus Journalism was the one that had the focus I was after. Though the whole choice of taking a Masters had to do with me being unemployed and under-qualified for most of the journalistic jobs I found - and over-qualified for the non-journalistic ones. In a way, it was a choice moved by depression, really.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Essentially two years of focused studying, away from my friends, family, my culture, have to get around by myself once more - though away from everything I know... away from my girlfriend (which is what pains me the most), and trying to get some sort of work - hopefully academic - here... It is a biggie, you know?

Born and raised in Joinville –the largest city in the state of Santa Catarina, he graduated in Journalism from IE-LUSC. Pedro used to be a passionate fan of comic books, to the point of making a critical analysis of the political discourses of 'Captain America' comics' throughout its publication history for his monograph. As a journalist, he worked for almost two years in regional newspapers in Santa Catarina, besides keeping a number of different blogs on-and-off. He is especially passionate about human rights issues, international politics, inequality, and crony capitalism. He is equally fascinated by movies, TV series', comic books, gaming and toys- his guilty pleasure, having amassed a number of action figures in an ever growing collection, his 'sillier' source of pride. Pedro is most proud of the occasional political commentary articles he writes.



FACT

Don't believe it when people say Brazil is a land of tolerance. It's not, it's a land of barely disguised prejudice.

NATIONALITY
Vietnamese

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The first time I went to see how a radio station operates. From that moment on, I was determined to become a successful journalist in Vietnam.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I want to try bungee jumping but I have never had the guts to do so.

What would you like to do after the course?

First, I would like to spend some time traveling. After that I would love to work as a foreign correspondent.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I think that acquiring valuable knowledge as a student is essential to writing insightful articles as a journalist. It's not only a matter of mastering journalistic skills; it's also gaining a global consciousness that will enable me to see issues multi-dimensionally. I believe that this will help me produce high-quality news reports in the future.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My greatest challenge has definitely been tackling the first module of the Masters: Reporting Global Change. This is my first time attending an English-speaking class and for the first few days, I felt lost. I read the documents but barely understood them. I attended class but my classmates all seem to be 'professors' in the field already! But I can say that things have already improved a lot for me.

Ha was born in Da Nang, but has spent most of her life in Hanoi, with a two-year stint in Ho Chi Minh City. She majored in Journalism at Hoc vien Báo chí và tuyên truyền (The Academy of Journalism and Communication) in Hanoi, and was inspired to pursue a career in radio after visiting a local station during secondary school. She has worked part-time as a freelancer for the biggest national radio station, Radio Voice of Vietnam, and she was also Head of Editorial at her university's radio station. She will be in London next year as she feels that a focus in business journalism will provide her with the best possible skill set for getting a good job in Vietnam. Ha is most proud of the fact that her family has been so supportive of her working towards her goals. Passionate about travel, she also enjoys listening to music, reading romantic novels and shopping.



FACT

The Vietnamese language has six different tones. A change in tone changes the meaning of the word.

RACHEL BARR

THY PULSE'S MADDENING PLAY,
WILD SEND THEE PLEASURE'S DEVIOUS WAY,
MISLED BY FANCY'S METEORRAY,
BY PASSION DRIVEN;
BUT YET THE LIGHT THAT LED ASTRAY
WAS LIGHT FROM HEAVEN

NATIONALITY

Scottish

EMAIL

-

TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Moving to Australia was one of the biggest changes I've ever made. It was brilliant.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I once drunk drove a speed boat.

What would you like to do after the course?

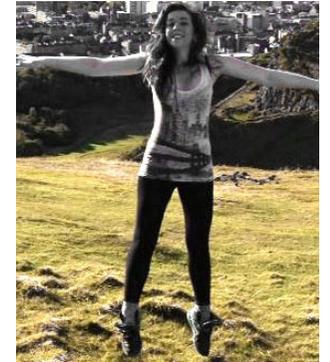
Be First Minister of Scotland. Or start my own dessert delivery service "Cake Away".

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It seemed like a really good way to pursue a career in journalism as well as travel, learn new languages and meet new people.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Leaving my family and friends again to do another 2 years away from them.



FACT

My sister did some plumbing work for 'Singing Sensation' Susan Boyle. Her pipes have never leaked less.

Rachel was born and raised in Livingston, West Lothian, Scotland. After finishing High School she left to study her BA in Social Anthropology in Edinburgh. During her studies she went to study abroad for one year at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. Alongside her University obligations she worked for Scotland's biggest student newspaper 'The Journal'. She also worked at 'The Southsider', which is the 'greatest pub in Edinburgh'. She almost took a job in Aldi once but says 'hey, everyone makes mistakes'. Aside from working in print journalism, Rachel also has some experience in radio. She is very proud of making the national papers for rendering ex-PM Gordon Brown speechless when interviewing him for Radio One. Rachel: 'I won that round, Gordon.' She is passionate about The Bird.

RAPHAEL SCHLEUNING

AGE DOESN'T PROTECT YOU
FROM FOOLISHNESS

NATIONALITY

German

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Working at the Manifesto because it inspired me to apply for the Mundus program. It changed my career as I was focused on sports but I became more interested in politics.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I traveled with 20 people without any money from Emden on the North Sea to Luebeck in the Baltic sea, it took us almost 10 days. We worked for people, we reported about us in a radio-station in Hamburg, we sang in a church mass choir and did many more things to get food and a place to sleep each day.

What would you like to do after the course?

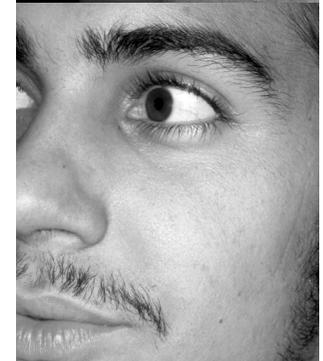
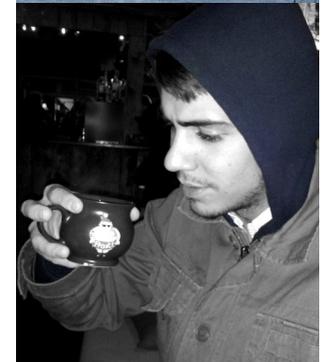
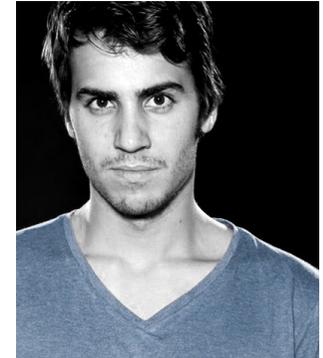
Go to South America and learn Spanish; maybe tour the world while creating journalistic content. I'd also like to study for PhD. Some day I want to find my way into politics.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It's a fantastic way to gain knowledge about how the world acts and is an entrance to the world of politics from the view of journalism, globalization and our responsibility for others as media professionals.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Getting a motorcycle driving license... It took me a while.



FACT

The biggest festival in Germany Oktoberfest and it actually starts in September.

Raphael also known as Rapha, or Raphi, was born in Munich. He studied Media Management and TV Production at the Macromedia University of Media and Communication (MHMK). His work experience involves helping to create The Generation Manifesto, a 10 point initiative to improve general German policies. Rapha was also the Editor and Host of his university Radio station and graphics editor for Formula 1 broadcasting. Just by talking to Raphael you can tell that he is very proud of his hometown, Munich. He is very passionate about politics and creating a better life for people. Some day Raphael wants to find his way into Politics. He also has a great passion for football, his favorite team is – it may sound obvious – Bayern Munich.

REBECCA THORNING WINE

IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR
JERSEY DIRTY
THAN YOU'RE NOT PLAYING HARD ENOUGH

NATIONALITY

Danish/American

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

My life changed when I was working as a Social Work intern in the Bronx.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing that I want to do is go Helicopter Skiing.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would really like to be a journalist covering some form of politics.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism program, because I wanted an international degree in journalism. It also had the benefit of studying with students from more than 40 different countries.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Biggest challenge for me was climbing Mount Katahdin, the highest mountain in Maine, because I realized I had a paralyzing fear of heights.



FACT

36% of the current population of New York City was born outside the United States.

Rebecca was born in Manhattan, New York. She has lived in Boulder, Binghamton, Aarhus, and also for a short time in Copenhagen. Rebecca studied her BA degree in Social Work at New York University. Prior to starting the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Masters, Rebecca was an intern for two documentary filmmakers, Carl Deal and Tina Lessin, both were nominated for academy awards. She is most proud of the work she did in the Bronx, as a social work intern. This gave her the opportunity to learn about the challenges and difficulties faced by young adults living in the respective suburbia. She considers this experience to be very valuable for her journalistic career. Rebecca is passionate about politics, film, and music.

ROBERT BORN

ALWAYS BE YOURSELF,
BUT NOT ALWAYS BE THE SAME

NATIONALITY

Brazil

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

One experience? It was the first time I did an exchange program. I was 16 and I went to the United States, trying to improve my English. That was the first time I was away from home, away from everyone I knew.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I swam naked in a lake with 10 other people, when I was on my second exchange program in Texas. I was 21 back then and I have never felt so alive!

What would you like to do after the course?

My main goal is to be a correspondent and a war reporter; to go to the place of the mass conflict and just report, be there and write the history.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It is outside of my country: I wanted to go beyond my borders. It was not because of the course in particular.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I think it is cycling around Aarhus! Those big hills and crappy bicycles, this is my biggest challenge so far.



26 years young, Robert Born was born in Curitiba, Brazil, but in true Mundus style also has links abroad, in his case to Germany. Becoming a newspaper reporter for Diarinho, in Brazil, was an obvious step after completing his degree in journalism, although Robert also has worked in PR. Diarinho is a regional Brazilian newspaper based in Santa Catarina, a small state in southern Brazil

FACT

The beach; I've been around a lot of places and I think the sand is different in Brazil. It welcomes you to the beach

SAM RICHARDSON

GO BIG
OR GO HOME

NATIONALITY

English

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was 18, I went travelling by myself to Southeast Asia for 3 months. And it was quite nice. Obviously rather scary, when you are by yourself, but I had a fantastic time. It expands your horizons really. I came back to England and felt like it reenergized me. Now I can look back and say: "Well, I have done that challenge and going to Denmark is not going to be that awful."

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

For my 20th birthday me and my friends had a crazy Ann Summers underwear themed party which culminated in me getting chucked in a freezing Scottish loch at midnight.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to become a journalist and get a job, basically. Afterwards I would like to move into long-form radio documentaries, ideally with the travels involved!

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

For traveling. Mainly, I thought it would be a fantastic experience. I could have done it in Britain for the same result, but I thought this might be more interesting and I like the idea of working in other countries.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I suppose it would be my finals. Just that stress of studying for two months before and doing these hard exams.

Sam was born in London and lived there for most of his life, but has also spent time in Oxford, where he studied at Oxford University for a degree in History, and in Scotland, where he has worked as a windsurfing instructor. He made his journalistic debut at a local London newspaper called The Islington Gazette. Whilst at Oxford he wrote for the Oxford Student newspaper, where he managed to redesign the comment section. "It made it much more popular", claims Sam with a deep proud voice, adding that in that year the publication was shortlisted for five Guardian Student Journalism Awards. But he didn't stop there; he worked for a week each at The Daily Telegraph and at The Times as well as working on a documentary about road safety for the BBC. But Sam is not all about work. His biggest passion is football and, specifically Arsenal Football Club.



FACT

French was the official language for almost 300 years – 1066 to 1362.

SCHEILA FARIAS SILVEIRA

SCIENTIST SAY WE'RE MADE OF ATOMS,
BUT A LITTLE BIRD TOLD
ME WE ARE INDEED MADE OF STORIES

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When you work with CSR and NGOs, it can be overwhelming to see the difficulties some people have to face. When you realize that the information you provide can empower them, it's extremely rewarding. I was writing about the life of children in orphanages. During a visit, a woman who had regained parental rights picked up her kids. It was possibly the most important conversation I ever had: in her simplicity and amazing patience she made me realise the complexity of economic, social and political exclusion. People we meet invariably make us better human beings. Opportunity comes from where you least expect it.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Jump off a stage in the middle of a Jazz concert to get the perfect photo.

What would you like to do after the course?

Go East. Meet the birthplace of sounds, flavours and colours that gave origin to so much of what we (modern society) are today. The western society still undermines the cultural relevance of the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Because I am aware that journalism contributes to the constant revalidation of cultural identities. The Journalism and Media Across Cultures specialism will allow me to understand how the established values, habits and accepted behaviours influence journalists and their work.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding the right balance between respect, tolerance and the need to intervene.

Born in the Southern-most state of Brazil, Scheila has origins on both sides of the border, with close ties to Uruguay. She holds a BA in Social Communication with a major in Journalism from Universidade de Santa Cruz do Sul. She has studied multiculturalism, the formation of identities and its relations with news-making routines and agenda setting. After a postgraduate course at Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Scheila's work has supported the activities of NGOs and private organizations in the dissemination of culture and the recognition of cultural identities at regional level. Scheila has worked in Radio, Television and on the Web as host, producer, editor and editor-in-chief since 2003. In addition, she is also employed in PR for national and transnational companies in Health and Quality of Life Services since 2007. Her interests include traveling, reading and questioning any living thing that is different to her.



FACT

Foreigners usually think it a Portuguese, African or Indigenous population – but there are many, many more immigrants

SEBASTIAN KOSKINEN

PAREMPI MYÖHÄÄN
KUIN EI MILLOINKAAN

NATIONALITY

Finnish

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TWITTER

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NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

This might sound little bit weird but reading Baruch Spinoza's Ethics in 2011 changed my outlook on life almost completely - in a good way, of course.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I haven't done anything crazy per se but I would like to think that my decision to study six months in Lund and four months later choose to apply for Erasmus Mundus Journalism program are some of those events in my life that I couldn't predict years ago.

What would you like to do after the course?

Careerwise work as a journalist, obviously. But in general I would like to settle down after all these years of studying, wandering and planning. In short, I would like to grow up.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

This program was something I had been looking for for months. Considering my former studies and interest in journalism it just felt like a perfect option immediately, not the least because of the chance to study in two foreign countries.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Challenges are usually overcome, or even tried to, but mine will probably just keep reminding me of itself like the knife turning in the wound until the very end. But boringly enough my greatest challenge is to get better at natural sciences and mathematics so that I can further expand my knowledge and understand this amazing cosmos better.

Sebastian was born in Kokkola, a small city on the Western shores of Finland. He moved to Turku to study after graduating from high school, and in 2012 lived six months in Lund, Sweden, as an exchange student. So, all in all he has so far lived in four cities, including Århus, Denmark. Sebastian majored in Political Science and as they have to study at least two minors in the majority of faculties in Finland, he also studied Law and Philosophy. He also studied more exotic subjects like Gastronomy, Aesthetics and Religion-Based Peace-Making while in Lund. Before moving to Århus he worked for about nine months as a journalist for both a local and a regional newspaper covering pretty much everything from local politics to culture, interesting people, events and anything they 'threw at me'. He describes himself as a 'principle-oriented person' who, if asked what he's proud of, mentions living a life based on values and some deep-rooted imperatives. He says 'it is an everyday challenge I gladly embrace'. Sebastian is passionate about coffee, beer, food, knowledge and the many trivial curiosities he finds himself enjoying.



FACT

Finland ranks number one in coffee consumption per capita in the whole world.

SEIFFEDDINE MATTOUSSI



NATIONALITY

Tunisian

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TWITTER

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Working for a private newspaper and, after that, for a public news agency allowed me to see the difference between different kinds of media coverage. That experience has changed my life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Living for two or three years in the jungle is something I want to do. I would like to film a documentary on wildlife in some region of Australia or Africa.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to work, not as a reporter but as a spokesperson, for a big company.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I have made my choice after I had met representatives of Aarhus University in Tunisia - they came to present the program to Tunisian journalists in order to increase press freedom in the country. I thought the course would be an interesting opportunity for me to improve my skills in reporting

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I want to succeed in this Master's program and find my dream job.



FACT

Tunisia is a touristic country, famous for the contrast between the beach and the desert. The main event is the Revolution, held in January of 2011; the beginning of the Arab Spring..

Seiffeddine Mattoussi was born on the 21st of November 1987 in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia. He studied at the Institute of Media and Journalism in Tunisia where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. Before joining the Mundus team, 'Saif the Challenger' as he is fondly called, worked at a Swiss-French language daily newspaper called Le Temps. He has also worked at a Tunisian News Agency called Tunis Afrique Presse (TAP).

He enjoys swimming and travelling both are reasons why he has left his mother and two older brothers behind, to join the Mundus Journalism program in Aarhus, Denmark.

SHOROUK EL HARIRY

COVER YOUR CANDLE
AND IT WILL SHINE

NATIONALITY
Egyptian

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The way the revolution was covered in Egypt, there was absolutely no truth on any of the news channels and newspapers. Then, I realized I couldn't be a reporter anymore, journalism practices in Egypt need a lot of renovation before it becomes a good place for reporting.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Live in a submarine. For good.

What would you like to do after the course?

I want to work in the NGO sector in Egypt. Maybe use my magazine as a structure to help NGOs collaborate by sharing resources rather than competing. I'd like to gain experience from the global structure and then apply it to my society on the local level.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

This program is a good opportunity to see parts of the world I would never have explored by myself, I want to see and learn how things work from a global perspective.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

It's not much of a real challenge, but I had to cover the first elections after the revolution. I had to stay up all night long outdoors, with much older and more experienced journalists who were all competing to get the same news as me all in a place that was beyond terrible. However, afterwards the tea started flying around, the conversations started going, and reporting the event turned out to be only a small portion of the fun.

Shorouk was born in Egypt, in the city of Giza, near Cairo. At only 40 days old, her parents moved to Kuwait, where she stayed for 9 years. She moved back to Egypt for higher education and studied Journalism at the Faculty of Mass Communications in Cairo. In her early college years, she started writing pieces for a local newspaper before joining Cairo's Microsoft Innovation Center as part of the Bing News Project. She then worked as a business reporter for the German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Among her many professional experiences, Shorouk is most interested in Human Rights reporting. She was affected deeply by the overwhelmingly negative coverage of the Egyptian Revolution, so she created an online magazine to cast light on the individuals trying to rebuild the Egyptian society. "Scratch" was created without help nor money, and Shorouk hopes that the project will evolve into a bigger structure for development. At 21 years old, nothing can dampen her enthusiasm, except perhaps Danish weather.



FACT

Cairo is home to
Africa's only subway.

SOFIA LOTTO PERSIO

LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO DRINK
BAD WINE

NATIONALITY
Italian

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Moving to the Netherlands during high school was definitely a big change. It gave me the opportunity to experience life as an expat, which gave me the confidence to strive for a career as a foreign correspondent.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I do not know if it is that crazy, but in 2008, I joined the Peace March from Perugia to Assisi and walking for several kilometers with no toilets available along the way. I would not recommend it.

What would you like to do after the course?

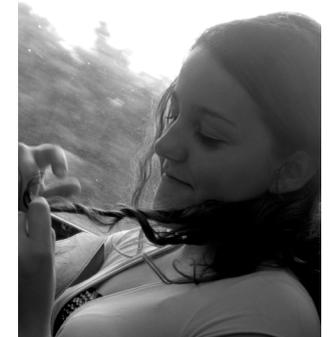
I would like to work as a professional journalist, perhaps in London, or perhaps Central Asia.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to continue studying in English in an international environment. I also wanted to live elsewhere than the Netherlands, preferably in an English-speaking country. The combination Aarhus-London sounded very exciting!

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Starting a new life in the Netherlands, coping with all the cultural differences and remaining myself in a very different environment - and still keeping in touch with friends left at home.



Sofia likes to consider herself more European than Italian. She was born in Turin, and at the age of 17 moved to the Netherlands with her parents, where she completed her high school and university education. She studied Liberal Arts and Science with a focus on World Politics and Journalism at the Leiden University College. There she also worked as an academic writing assistant, tutoring 1st year students in essay writing. The most significant experience she had in journalism was a 2 months internship at Transition Online (based in Prague) as an editorial assistant. What Sofia is most proud of are the papers she edited: she helped to establish the starting foundations of the university newspaper. Not surprisingly Sofia's biggest hobby is writing, but she is also passionate about books, movies, cooking, chocolate, and tea.

FACT

Turin was chosen to be the first capital of modern Italy in 1861

SOFIA DOMINGUES

TUDO VALE A PENA
QUANDO A ALMA NAO E PEQUENA

NATIONALITY
Portuguese

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@SofiaCDomingues

NEXT YEAR
Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I lived for a month in a yurt in the middle of a forest.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I want to do all kinds of extreme sports like skydiving, bungee jumping, rafting and other things.

What would you like to do after the course?

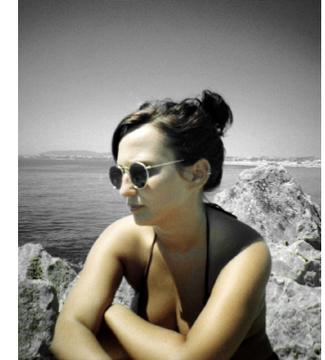
After the course I'd like to find a job as a journalist somewhere in a conflict area, reporting interesting and relevant stories. I want to continue to learn as much as I can about this profession and all that it embraces.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose it because the specialization really interested me as well as the possibility of living in two countries in two years. Obviously, the diversity of cultures and nationalities amongst us was a big plus that made me want to join the course.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge so far was to bike 6km up-hill all the way from my dorm to the Danish School of Journalism at 8 o'clock in the morning. I'm never going to do it again.



FACT

Lisbon has the oldest bookstore in the world, opened since 1732. It's called Bertrand and it's beautiful!

Sofia was born in a small town in the region of Alentejo called Elvas, but she never lived there. She has lived in Lisbon all her life and studied her bachelor degree in Media Studies there. She has had a lot of different work experience, but the most relevant to her future career would be that with a lifestyle magazine and a radio program broadcasted online. She has also worked as an intern for a couple of TV producers as both a content developer and producer. She is proud of being a determined person. She sticks to her ideas and thoughts and she likes to stand up for them. She is passionate about the world, about people, about books, about cinema, about music, about knowledge; basically she is passionate about what surrounds her and what makes the world go round.

SOFIE EJDRUP LARSEN

IT TAKES A FOOL TO
REMAIN SANE

NATIONALITY
Danish

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Going on exchange to US for a year when I was 17. While being away from my family and friends I learned a lot about myself.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Video filming at an Israeli military base illegally and smuggling the footage out of the country.

What would you like to do after the course?

Return to the real world outside the university. It's been 5 years.

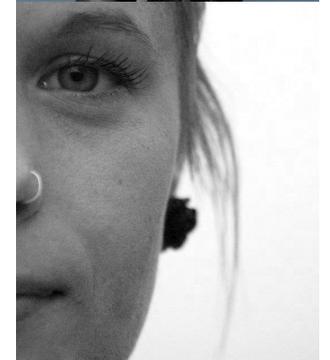
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

It is a unique course and the combination of international journalism and political science suits me well.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Moving to the US alone was hard since I was so young. I spent 5 months teaching English at an elementary school in China in my gap year which was challenging as well. Luckily, the time in the US and China has been extremely meaningful to me. Life changing experiences indeed.

As far as she can remember, Sofie has been curious about the world around her. This curiosity has so far led her to live, work and study in countries as different as the US, China, Israel, and Scotland. While studying Social Anthropology at the University of Copenhagen, Sofie edited the anthropological student magazine, Den Vilde Tanke, along with producing radio and TV for the University of Copenhagen's student radio station, Universitetsradioen. Sofie studied her last year of her undergraduate degree at the University of Edinburgh with elective courses in Middle Eastern History and Politics & International Relations. Writing for the student newspaper, doing a weekly radio show, and working as a producer for two other shows, Sofie spent the year in Edinburgh doing what she enjoys the most; working creatively and journalistically.



SØREN OTTO SIMONSEN

MEMENTO VIVERE
MEMENTO MORRI

NATIONALITY

Danish

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@Søren Otto

NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

One experience that changed my life is surviving in an avalanche when I was skiing in 2008. I began to realize the value of life.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Jumping from a helicopter onto the mountain top to ski down is one of the craziest things I have ever done.

One day I would like to do hug a bear - since bears are pretty cute.

What would you like to do after the course?

I prefer a job filled with challenges rather than everyday routine. Nevertheless, making a difference to society and helping people live a better life is my fundamental and ultimate goal.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I reckon that, first of all, the content of this programme is quite ambitious and international, which fills the course with fun, opportunities and challenges. Moreover, Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course crosses borders. The classmates are from various countries and we can study at two different universities. I chose business & financial reporting as my specialism.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I used to work as a representative of a travel agency company called "UTOPIA", and started to work at one of their schools as a tour guide and skiing coach. This job rendered me lots of challenges and responsibilities.

Søren was born and raised in Esbjerg. He already has several international and professional experiences under his belt. Before moving to Aarhus in 2009 to start his studies in Marketing and Management Communication at the Aarhus School of Business, he worked for a travel agency, which took him across Europe. Aside from this, Søren lived in Canada for a 6 months working vacation and traveled to America as an exchange student in 2012. These valuable experiences have broadened his horizons. Søren has already gained some experience in the field of journalism, such as working in corporate journalism, public relations and writing about American football. These previous experiences gave him the opportunity to explore his passions in the area of journalism. Søren is very satisfied with the fact that he immediately takes action when something crosses his mind. He is passionate about life in general.



FACT

The Danish flag, Dannebrog is the oldest national flag in the World.

SVANLAUG ARNADOTTIR

EXPERIENCE
IS THE NAME
EVERYONE GIVES THEIR MISTAKES

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

Swansea

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

It was definitely working in a casteless village in India when I was 19 years old. It made me realize I wanted my work to be somehow related to people and society. I had the opportunity to work with young kids who were excluded from Indian society, beaten up and sold like their lives didn't matter. It was the most life-changing experience I've ever had. To get to be a part of people's lives and offer them some hope, is a feeling that is really impossible to describe.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Build a snow-house in Norway and sleep in it, it's the stupidest thing I've ever done; Never again.

What would you like to do after the course?

I think it's very likely that I'll go back to Iceland and wait for our next volcano to go off, then report on it and try teaching the world to pronounce "Eyjafjallajökull" correctly.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I wanted to put my education in Anthropology into use, anthropology gives you an opportunity to gain insight into matters that are not always easily assessable to everyone. You get to look under the surface and I wanted to have the chance to write about these matters, for example about minority matters that are not often covered well enough in the media.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Coming home after living in India for a couple of months and to face modernity after living the rural life. It was just taking a warm shower everyday knowing about the people I left behind or taking part in conversation about everyday life; To listen to people nag about taxes and traffic jams and try to take it seriously. Knowing and never forgetting what I had left behind in India.

Svanlaug was born in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital. Although she has lived there most of her life, she has spent some time abroad; after graduating from high school, she volunteered in India, where she worked in a village with the 'Casteless' both teaching and fighting for their rights, an experience which completely changed her life. This experience was one of the reasons she chose to major in Anthropology at the University of Iceland. While doing her Bachelor in Anthropology and Political Science, she joined the University's Anthropology Paper as a writer and later on as the Editor. Svanlaug is passionate about human rights and has volunteered for various projects on those matters. One of Svanlaug's other interests is sports, she loves football, volleyball and rock climbing.



FACT

In Iceland we have 13 Santa Clauses. As a kid, you get a gift from every one of them.

TINUS ELSIG

THE BOAT IS SAFER ANCHORED AT THE PORT
BUT THAT'S NOT THE AIM
OF BOATS

NATIONALITY
Danish

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TWITTER
-

NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Walking the Camino de Santiago in Northern Spain with my father. Walking through these expressive changing landscapes was moving. This is a place I will definitely return to in the future.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Skydiving in New Zealand was literally crazy. It scared the hell out of me and I'm never going to do that again. It was ridiculous. In the future I would like to join an excursion with Bedouins through the desert of Sahara - and write a story about it.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to go back to comparative literature to write a Phd on some of the relations between globalization and the way it affects the aspects of the term 'world literature'.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

Being part of an international environment at the Mundus Journalism has given me the chance to meet people from all around the globe and that's pretty fascinating. I'm here to get more knowledge and insight on the here-and-now world and to see which interesting parallels I will be able to draw to my BA in comparative literature.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Moving from the local and familiar society in Gadbjerg to a new one in Aarhus was pretty challenging to me and it took me a while before I had settled mentally.



Tinus Elsig is 24 years old, was born in Vejle and has lived most of his life in a small village called Gadbjerg. Before moving to Aarhus to start his BA in comparative literature he was in Greenland in the navy for 4 months. He has traveled a lot and visited countries such as New Zealand, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia. Tinus has worked as a freelance journalist at various Danish magazines and today he's the editor of the country's largest free youth magazine, TJECK Magazine. He enjoys sports (especially football), music (especially classical and jazz) and wine (all sorts).

FACT

The Danes are the
happiest people in
the world

TOBIAS WIDMANN

DA STEHE ICH NUN, ICH ARMER THOR
UND BIN SO KLUG
ALS WIE ZUVOR

NATIONALITY

German

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-

NEXT YEAR

Amsterdam

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The first internship at a small local newspaper, when I was 15 years old, which opened my eyes for the world of journalism and finally led me to the Mundus master program.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

The craziest thing so far, was probably the year I spent in Tokyo, which is a huge, vibrant and really crazy city.

What would you like to do after the course?

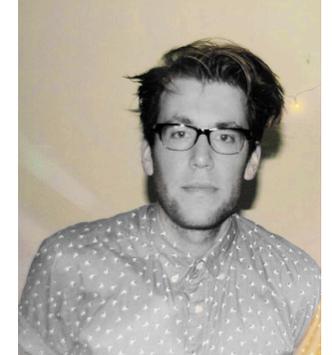
I don't know for sure in which direction I want to go after the course but I want to find a job, with which I can identify and feel good about. I would also love to work in different countries and regions of this world.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The main reason for choosing the Mundus program was the unique internationality of this course. Studying with nice people from so many different parts of the world is really a one-time opportunity

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding an apartment in Aarhus.



FACT

There are more than 600 different varieties of bread in Germany

Tobias was born and grew up in Heilbronn, in the South of Germany. After finishing High School, he had the chance to experience multicultural diversity by living in many different cities, in two different countries: Munich, Bochum, Heidelberg in Germany and Tokyo.

Tobias holds a BA Degree in East Asian Studies and Economics from Heidelberg University. He has worked as a freelance journalist with various newspapers. His biggest achievement to date is having a full-page article published in an important German newspaper. Tobias' last job was at the local newspaper in Heidelberg and at a student magazine. His passions are: politics, literature, music and travel.

UNDRAI AMARSAIKHAN

IF YOU ENDEAVOR,
FATE
WILL FAVOR YOU

NATIONALITY
Mongolian

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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

The Opening Ceremony of London's Olympic Games. Covering the opening ceremony as the only journalist from Mongolia was a great learning experience and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

Biking up- hills in Aarhus was the craziest idea I have ever thought of. As a Mongolian, I'm not used to biking, it was one of the most difficult things I had to do; but, so far so good.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to pursue my studies to obtain a higher academic degree in the best possible destination and university. I have lots of ambitions and passion. I wish I had the next revolutionary idea to change the world!

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I want to explore new opportunities and discover the world around me while studying abroad. I want to challenge myself in a different environment and around many new people. I want to learn new things and exchange some experiences with other young people from all around the world. That describes exactly the Erasmus Mundus PWrogram.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Learning Danish! The pronunciation is too complicated and confusing. But I still have great hopes of improving

Born and raised in Ulaanbaatar, capital city of Mongolia, Undrai is an ambitious and bright guy in the field of economics. He received his Bachelor degree in economics from the National University of Mongolia. Whilst studying numbers and the complicated theories of economics, he also worked as sports journalist for one of the biggest media companies in Mongolia, UBS TV. Since 2008, he has been writing reports, articles and notes in his leisure time. He even worked at the London 2012 Olympic Games as one of the youngest journalists there, and he was an accredited journalist for the Guangzhou 2010 Asian Games. During his time in Mongolia, he was nominated as one of the best football commentators in the country and has worked at various competitions, such as those for Athletics, Basketball and Swimming.

Not only is Undrai interested in sports and numbers, he is also addicted to rock music, traveling and social media. He is especially interested in the fields of sustainable development and social entrepreneurship.



FACT

Mongolia is the only country that has more horses than the entire population.

VANDOLINE NKWAIN

IN SOULS, NOBLY BORN, VALOUR
DOES NOT DEPEND UPON AGE

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was 13, my dad convinced me to join a holiday radio program for kids. This is where I discovered my love for the media and as a result of that, I am a journalist.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In Secondary School, I dared to play basketball with a team of male professionals (all players taller than 1,85 m). I obviously got run over and have never returned to a Basketball court since then.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would love to build a PAN African Media Empire in Cameroon.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism course because it gives me the opportunity to study in two different countries and galvanize as many ideas as I need for my PAN African media project.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge has been coping with the pressures that come with being a woman in the media. It might be hard to understand from a Western perspective, but where I come from there is a lot of negative meaning and conflicts attached to women in media professions.

Vandoline was born in Bamenda, a beautiful city in the North West region of Cameroon. She spent the greater part of her life in the capital city, Yaounde, but also worked in the economic metropolis, Douala. Vandoline studied a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Buea. Soon after graduating, she was recruited to work as a Reporter and News Anchor at Equinoxe TV, where she stayed for two years. In the first part of 2010, Vandoline got a job at the Department for Image Building, International Communication and Cooperation in Cameroon's Ministry of Communication. Alongside her job, she took a post-graduate course in Communication for Health and the Environment at the Advanced School of Mass Communication in Yaounde. Vandoline is passionate about reading, writing, singing and new languages. In addition, everyone is welcome to test her on an African dance floor: 'It is never that serious!'



FACT

The natural, cultural and biological diversity of Cameroon has won it the nickname 'Africa in miniature'. It is the whole of Africa put together in one country

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

Hamburg

FACT

In Amsterdam, there are more bikes than people living there.

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I was 18, I went to Peru and started writing a travel blog. That is how I've discovered that I like to write about adventures and that I wanted to make a career out of it.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I was in Bangkok travelling with friends and we decided to do something to shock the rest of our friends back home. So we got a tongue piercing, which we removed 3 months after coming back.

What would you like to do after the course?

If I can dream big, I want to be the next Louis Theroux, a British documentary maker. He makes humanistic documentaries about intriguing worlds and secret subcultures that you never knew existed. It must be so interesting to make such kind of documentaries. Another dream of me, I would love to be a news anchor!

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The content really drew my attention because my Bachelor degree on Journalism provided me the technical skills and I felt I wanted to complement them with analytical skills. Also, I've chosen this course because I wanted to study abroad and it seemed like a good opportunity.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

My biggest challenge to date is to figure out what to do with the rest of my life. There are so many things I would love to do, but the question is, what do I want to do most of all?

Victorine was born in Singapore, then moved to Canada and has lived in Holland since she was 5 years old. She first lived in Breda, but when she was 19 she left the city to move to Amsterdam for her studies. She has resided there up until now.

Victorine studied at Hogeschool Utrecht, where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism specialised in broadcasting. During this studies, she took an internship in Nicaragua, which deepened her passion for other cultures and making stories about it.

She loves watching TV series, making short movies, taking photos, and having deep conversations about life. This is probably the reason for her dream to produce great humanitarian documentaries about intriguing worlds and secret subcultures that are yet unknown.



VIKTORIJA RINKEVICIUTE

IF YOU WANT A WORLD TO BE A BETTER PLACE
TAKE A LOOK AT THE YOURSELF
AND MAKE THAT CHANGE

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NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

Denmark six years ago in the International TV Class at the Danish School of Journalism, where I have met the teacher who taught me everything I know about television (and most parts of life) – Nancy Graham Holm. It's always about the person who sees your potential, knows exactly what to do with it and is able to encourage you to fight for your dreams when you are about to give up. She is the reason why I am here today, chasing yet another dream.

What would you like to do after the course?

I have two years to figure it out. The course is a place where I take a break from actual reporting/producing, look back, evaluate and see if journalism is the path I want to continue following, or I will embrace other challenges.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I did my Erasmus year at the Danish School of Journalism in 2006-2007. After my M.A. in the U.S. in 2010, which did not quite fit my expectations, I decided to risk and try another one. Just this time I was sure what I am getting into – that I'd be getting all A league teachers and the knowledge on how the world actually works I lacked. Until now this feeling has not been proved wrong.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Getting to know all 100+ something Mundusians in the class, remembering their names and actually associating it with their face and countries they come from.

Viktorija was born and raised in Lithuania, with a big wish to become a citizen of the world – as much as she loves Vilnius, Viktoriya wants to make many more capitals of the world her home. When not chasing that dream, she's head-over-heels in love with the TV world – pictures, sounds, music, lights (especially the one "on air"), both doing TV news reporting and producing News programs at the control room. One of Viktorija's biggest achievements to date is getting a Fulbright Fellowship and finishing her M.A. in Journalism and Public Affairs (Broadcast track) at the American University in Washington D.C. (USA). This allowed her to intern with Voice of America TV2 Africa and Special English divisions. Viktorija's last job before leaving it all for the Mundus program was working as a TV producer of a 45 minute live news programme. When not working she loves video editing, cycling in the woods, dancing and storming the pubs with friends.



FACT

In the summers Lithuanians eat several tonnes of cold beet soup.

NATIONALITY
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NEXT YEAR
London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

When I travelled (cliché-alert) to India for the first time in 2006 and saw my extended family for the first time. It was an eye-opener regarding how ridiculously privileged a life in England is, relatively speaking.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I did a charity hitchhike to Croatia last Easter, which was pretty awesome.

What would you like to do after the course?

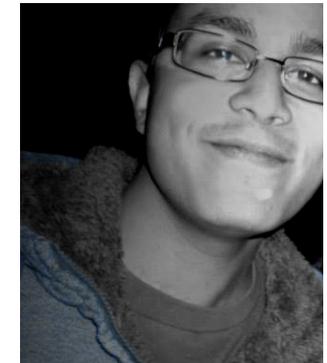
I'd like to continue to work freelance or get a staff job at a sports or a politics magazine, writing stuff in the context of business.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I have always wanted to live abroad and the course was good for transitioning from an academic degree to a more practical approach to journalism.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Finding a bike in Aarhus.



Viral was born in London, and has lived in London, Coventry and Leamington Spa. He studied English Literature for his BA at Warwick University. Regarding his journalistic experience he has worked as a freelancer for some football magazines, written a few news pieces for various newspapers and also edited the sports section of the university newspaper. Recently, Viral worked in Media and Communications for a couple of cross-party think-tanks, while writing a chapter on Ayrton Senna for the University of Mississippi anthology. He is most proud of getting a cover feature on Manchester City footballer Yaya Touré for Champions magazine. Sports and Politics Reporting are his passions, but Viral is conscious of the fact that finance and business has a pervading influence over both.

FACT

If you are granted the freedom of the City of London, you are allowed to herd a flock of sheep across London Bridge. Something archaic to aspire to, maybe?

YAN SHI (SHERRY)

IT IS THE UPS AND DOWNS, THE UNEXPECTED
THAT MAKE LIFE SHINE
CHERISH WHAT YOU HOLD AND LEARN TO DANCE
IN THE SUNSHINE AND RAIN

NATIONALITY

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NEXT YEAR

London

FACT

China is a land
where Nothing is
impossible

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

In 2010 I took an internship in the Danish Consulate in Shanghai for half a year as the operational/ commercial assistant. That was how I came to know about Denmark, without this experience, I wouldn't have had so much interest in Nordic culture. Maybe I would not be in the Erasmus Mundus program here in Aarhus.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

In 2012, I decided to quit my job. With only 300 Euros; I traveled alone in Thailand for a month. I spent 7 days in a monastery in Chiangmai, learning meditation and exploring the inner world. From then on, I made up my mind to love myself more and cherish the present moments.

What would you like to do after the course?

I would like to keep on traveling and embrace more challenges. My next destination could be the United States. I also dream about setting up my own enterprise that would deal with communications between China and other countries.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

The diversity of the class is what attracted me the most. 101 students from 48 countries — how convenient it is if you ever need any help or tips on travelling around the world.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

After graduation, I gave up a stable job and chose to co-build a business from scratch with a diplomat from the Danish Embassy. Without any business background or experience, I was in charge of everything: company registration, employees' recruitment, search for partnerships, and sales, marketing and other daily operations. You simply need to try, and try harder; never give up.

Yan is an enthusiastic and dedicated woman. She is passionate about adventures and challenges. She enjoys trying something new, as she believes the world is filled with amazing stories and beauty that await us and invite us to explore. Born in the mountainous city of ChongQing in West China, Yan moved to Shanghai and has studied and worked there for the past six years. At the Shanghai International Studies University, she immersed herself not only in the task of teaching Chinese as a foreign language but also continued to add numerous work experiences to her curriculum. She has worked: as a commercial assistant at the Danish Consulate, acted as a PA to the CEO of one of China's largest real estate groups, for a business start-up after graduation, has head hunted and has freelanced in translation, marketing, PR and business development. She likes to share stories with people and encourage others to follow their hearts. As Yan puts it: 'whenever you feel the inner call, capture it, stick to it, and fight to the end.'



NATIONALITY

German

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TWITTER

-

NEXT YEAR

London

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

During my exchange year in the US I worked for a German press agency in New York. On the one hand, it was quite challenging but on the other hand, it was really interesting and relaxing. My colleagues were great. New York is a big city, there are always stories happening

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I don't know if that's the craziest thing I've ever done, but interviewing the actresses from the TV show "Girls" while I was in New York was a great experience.

What would you like to do after the course?W

I would like to find a job in my hometown – Hamburg. However, sometime later I would like to move to the US and work as a print journalist there. I always wanted to write when I thought of becoming a journalist. I really like to be more behind the scenes.

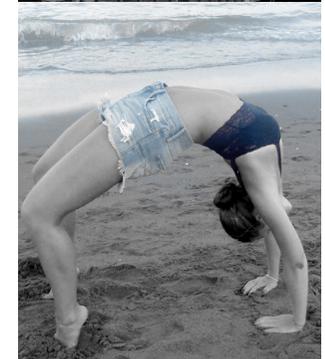
Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?W

Studying abroad earlier in my life was a great experience for me. That is why I have chosen this course. I was hoping to meet interesting people from different countries. I thought it would be a great opportunity to make connections and find new friends. I also think you can learn a lot.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

Learning Danish. Hopefully I will achieve it during my year in Aarhus.

Yasmin was born in Hamburg and lived there until she turned 18. Before starting her BA she interned for a summer at the Hamburger Abendblatt, a daily newspaper in Germany. Then Yasmin moved to Eichstätt (Bavaria) to study Journalism for three years. During her BA, she spent a semester abroad at the American University in Washington D.C. which she considers to be one of her best experiences so far. Right after her semester abroad, Yasmin interned at German Press Agency (dpa) in New York where she learned a lot and was very busy since there are always a lot of stories in New York. Yasmin also spent some time at the UN headquarters with a cool boss who even invited her over to spend Christmas with his family. Yasmin's hobbies are running, yoga, cooking and baking, and of course, spending time with friends.



FACT

With 2500 bridges, Hamburg is the city with most bridges in Europe.

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Canadian/Finnish

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NEXT YEAR
Hamburg

Tell us about one experience which changed your life/career?

I traveled to Iceland on my own three years ago. The landscape was incredible. On the way to Reykjavik from the airport, if you looked out the window to your left, the sun was setting and it was an enormous, glowing orb, and out the window on the righthand side, the moon was rising and it was huge.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done/want to do?

I am planning to go for a spin on the tracks at the Segway amusement park here in Aarhus.

What would you like to do after the course?

In the next few years, I would like to get into visual journalism as well. After the course, I want to continue writing within the culture section. I'm also interested in subcultures, how identities exist and are formed within and between people and social groups.

Why did you choose the Erasmus Mundus Journalism Course?

I chose it specifically for the specialism in Hamburg. I'm interested in transcultural communications also in my creative writing so it's a double plus for me. Also, the group is so international. It's an opportunity to meet people from very different places and for journalism, that's such an advantage.

Tell us about your biggest challenge to date?

I was very shy as a kid, and journalism has been beneficial for that because it's an impetus for moving past that habit. It's a purpose for asking, speaking up, and then retelling.

Zoë was born in Geneva, Switzerland. She moved to Ottawa, Canada when she was three years old. Later, she moved to Finland for a year to practise her Swedish. She moved back to Canada and finished high school there. She went to university in Montreal, Quebec. For her BA, Zoë studied English literature. She's really into creative writing and loves reading. Before the Erasmus Mundus Master program, Zoë contributed to her school's newspaper and her journalistic experience is based on the work she did as an editor for a literary magazine at her university. She has also taken an internship at a poetry magazine. Zoë is most passionate about storytelling and creative writing.



FACT

The Rideau Canal, which runs through Ottawa, is the world's largest outdoor skating rink at 7.8 km.

DESIGNED BY

SVANLAUG ARNADOTTIR & VICTORINE SANDKUYL

PHOTOGRAPHY BY

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