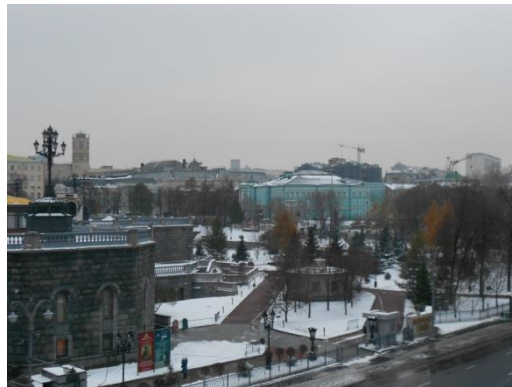


My name is Ditzia Garcia I am studying my master degree in Hannover University, currently I finished my first semester in Peter the Great St Petersburg Polytechnic University. Before arriving in Russia, I have no idea about what I can expect about this place, because I grew up far from this country, so I was really excited about the idea of a new culture.

My first impression of this place was about the weather, I use to live in a warm place and Russia is a really cold place, so I had a few difficulties the first month. During these 6 months, I had great experiences about the people here. The day that I arrive here some classmates were waiting for me to help me with my bags and that was cool because I was a little bit disoriented with the flight.



During my first week of classes all my classmates help me with the task and they gave me the necessary information about the process of enrollment, the task for those days and also their notes about the subjects, my professors understood that I arrive late and gave me the time to be informed about the current topics.



Although in the beginning was a little bit hard to understand the topic. After some time I feel more comfortable with the learning, thanks to my bachelor studying, I already have familiar knowledge with the subjects that we studied in the first semester, regarding to the classes I could see that there are different ways of teaching between my country and this country, but for me it is a great opportunity to improve the ability to adapt in different environments.

One of the subjects that I like more, talks about neural network, although this subject just talks general theory, I find an interest in some topics and I started to research about this by myself.

Something else that I enjoy from this place is the challenge of the language, I refer to Russian language because there are not a lot of people who speak English so we should learn Russian for our basic necessities, like asking for a meal in a restaurant or asking for help. In my opinion it is a great opportunity to push you to learn the language of the country where you are.



In addition to this experience, the food played an important role in my experience. The completely changing of the taste, made me discover the taste of Russia the varieties in bread, sausage, etc. And the omission of some flavors that I use to have in my country also in drinks I could appreciate it. After this semester I can say that I like this different even if I miss the Mexican's taste I enjoy it.

I am glad to have this experience because thanks to this I find good friends from all over the world and some of them showed me the real Russia, they invited me to celebrate the New Year and the Christmas as Russians. Some of my classmates and me went to an apartment to celebrate New Year and after that we travel outside the city to a friend's house; in this place some of them did the traditional activity among Russians of jumping into cold water.



After those days in this school, I can say that Russia is an amazing place where I could learn more about my field, know new people from all over the world and discover an amazing culture. This university gives me a good experience and a great opportunity to understand Russia.