



ATHENS – Final Report

Month/Year: November 2024

**Code and name of the course: UPM170 Artificial Intelligence in Medical Imaging:
From Fundamentals to Applications**

Host University: Universidad Politecnica de Madrid

Course Language: English

Dates: 16.11. – 23. 11.

Student: Dajana Kolářová

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Transport:

Means of transport (+ price): Airplane 6 000 Kč

Local transport: personalised student card 300 Kč

Before arriving, it's essential to reserve your local transport card online. It takes about 10 minutes and saves costs compared to buying the one way tickets, because even then you have to buy a plastic card and recharge it. The card itself costs €4, and a student monthly pass is €8, allowing unlimited use across all zones. This is highly recommended for its convenience and affordability. For more details, visit <https://crtm.es/billetes-y-tarifas/tarjeta-transporte-publico> . I recommend making an appointment the hour of your arrival at airport right away.

Accommodation:

6 250 Kč hostel

Accommodation in Madrid can be expensive. I recommend connecting with other students attending the same program to share an Airbnb, which could reduce costs and enhance the experience by sharing the journey with others. I opted for a hostel, booking through Hostelworld. Many hostels organise activities for travelers, which is a great way to socialise and explore. When choosing a hostel, check for essential amenities like lockers, laundry facilities, breakfast options, and a communal kitchen or fridge. While hostels are budget-friendly, sharing a room with others can be a mixed experience—fun at times but challenging in other moments. For a one-week stay, however, it was manageable, as most of the time was spent outside or at the course.

Extra:

600 Kč travel insurance + 600 Kč registration fee at UPM

Food:

We received lunch tickets for the campus cafeteria, which was especially useful as the course was located on an isolated campus outside the city. For other meals, I alternated between eating out and buying groceries. Grocery prices are comparable to those in Prague, but I recommend indulging in local specialties, even if they're slightly pricier. One evening out to enjoy Madrid's culinary culture is well worth it. Try tinto de verano, sangria, churros, croquetas, tortilla, paella, tapaz.

Scholarship – the amount you have received:

9 700 Kč

Please state in percentage: The scholarship covered 70.5 % of my expenses.

13 750 Kč in expenses (i don't count food i would eat in Prague as well)

Course schedule (how it was organised):

Lecture combined with practical seminars

Group project and presentation

What I appreciated most about the ATHENES course was having an entire week dedicated to one complex topic without distractions.

Spare time:

The program organised social activities, but I found them somewhat chaotic and exhausting. Instructions were often delayed or changed, and navigating Madrid's crowded streets posed challenges, with participants sometimes getting lost. After trying these activities for an hour or two, I preferred to explore on my own. Madrid offers beautiful parks and fascinating museums often free for students. It is a big vibrant city, so it's easy to tailor your experience based on your interests. That said, i appreciated the get-to-know eachother group activities and found them valuable for socializing.

Overall Evaluation:

It was an eye-opening experience that expanded my perspective and cured my imposter syndrome. It's like a "light version" of studying abroad – you don't have to deal with the complexities of long-term relocation. You get to immerse yourself in a completely different environment, soak up the local culture, and take a break from your life for a week. For anyone considering it, I highly recommend taking the leap and trying something different. It's an ideal opportunity to dive into a specialised topic without a long-term commitment.

!!Obligatory Enclosure: A4 POSTER (preferably with photos*)