



# D-JOURNAL

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10 PAGES



The end of the semester is getting closer and we are ready for semester break! We compiled a list of top holiday destination voted by students and teachers at University of Deusto. Let's see which destination tops the list!

**Holiday p. 2**



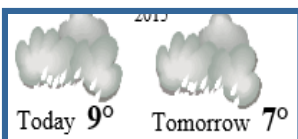
Broaden your horizon, learn new culture and language, spread your wings and go abroad! Frank, one of exchange students, tells his exchange experience at University of Deusto, San Sebastian!

**9000 Km Away From Home p. 2**



Do you like parties? How important parties are in your university life? How do you have fun? What do you think about university's parties?

**University Parties p.2**



As fall turns to winter, days are shorter and the weather is getting chillier. It does not mean that it would ruin your holiday season of the year! Stay warm and check the weather forecast!

**Weather Forecast p.10**

## Featured Alumni of the Month: Positive changes being made at Deusto

**Leyre Arrieta Alberdi (Class of 1994)  
Head of Department of Communication, University of Deusto**

Alumni of the Month is one way we celebrate the outstanding achievements of Deusto's global alumni community. Through their work, values, and other endeavours, the chosen alumni to be featured in D-Journal have been inspirations and role models for fellow alumni, current students, and the community.

Meet this month's chosen Alumni of the Month, Leyre Arrieta Alberdi. Leyre is from Mutriku, a town located about 50 km from San Sebastian. She is one of the lecturers at University of Deusto. In addition to that, she is also the Head of Department of Communication at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences and the Head of Degree in Communication since 2009.

She started her studies in 1989 and got her degree in Geography and History in 1994 at Deusto. She decided to study in San Sebastian because it was located near to her hometown. She recalled, "It was a very small town back then. The students were also few in numbers."

After graduating in 1994, she knew that she had passion in research. She further explained, "But being a lecturer? No. That never crossed my mind." One day, one of faculty members of Deusto called her because they needed lecturers who were capable of giving classes in Basque, and she accepted it. "It was the moment that changed my life," she explained. Since then, she has been teaching World History II, Modern History, Contemporary History, Philosophy, Modern World and Modern Society.

There have been some changes made since she was a student 25 years ago. "The biggest positive change is the relationship among teachers and students. Nowadays, the relationship is much closer and relaxed," she explained. Besides, source of knowledge was limited as there was no Internet and there were only books. She claimed that most of these important changes had been made at Deusto. "I am proud of these positive changes. I am also proud to be able to see how this university develops better and better each year."



Aside from positive changes at the university, she said that the most important thing for her was to not only teach students, but also develop their capabilities in order for them to be able to apply their knowledge into their real life and future career.

Aside from teaching, she is also active in conducting researches and writing books, which generally are related to Basque and nationalism. She has participated in numerous international conferences and has been a member of scientific committees and organizers of various international conferences.

## First Day at the University

Do you still remember your first day at the university? How did you feel? What were your expectations? What improvement must be made at the university?

Intza Olasagasti, an 18-year-old student majoring in Social Work, said, "My first day at the university was perfect! It was a day that I would always remember." However, it was different for Lide Mendiara, who is majoring in Communication. Lide stated that she had been nervous because she had not known anyone. Although they both had different feeling about their first day at Deusto, they both felt a little bit alone. "When I started talking with the other students, I realized that they felt the same way as I did; I was not alone. That was how the connection was built, I guess," Lide said.

For Intza, the negative aspect of the university was the fact that some subjects were only or must be taught in Spanish. She said, "I was not used to it. I do not speak Spanish that well so I was afraid that I was not be able to participate in classes because of the language issue." In contrast, Lide claimed that language had not been a big problem for her. "However, what seemed to disappoint me was the fact that the university was small. When I came to the university, I expected something more than that," Lide said. Another disappointment that Intza and Lide shared was related to the three-day orientation, which filled with one presentation to another. "I felt so overwhelmed and confused because there was too much information at a time," Lide said. "It was just unbearable to listen to all of the presentations within those three days," Intza said.

"After a few months, I still felt that the university was really small; however, it was not always a bad thing. Then, I thought that it was a good thing because everything was near and everyone could meet each other easily. After getting used to everything, I am happy and feel comfortable here," Lide said. Although they both agreed that they liked it better from time to time, they thought that some improvements must be made. For example, Intza mentioned that there must be more choices of languages for the classes. Moreover, Lide thought that the temperature of the classes sometimes was too hot or too cold; therefore, this needs to be improved as well. Both of them also suggested for the university to have more student clubs and events for students.

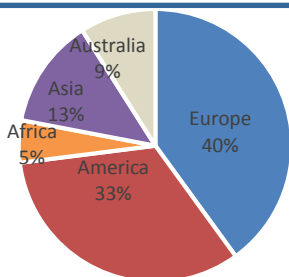
# University Parties: Yay or Nay?

Students like to have fun and enjoy the times of their lives. Parties are always integrated in students' life. Do you like parties? Have you ever attended one? Have you ever imagined a party in your school?

Nerea Zimmerman, a 21-year-old student majoring in Communication, said that she loved parties. "As a university student, it is important to balance between the study and social life. This means that you have your time for schools and also to hangout and have fun with your friends. This is including parties," she mentioned.

In her vacant time, she always spends time with her friends. "The most important and the most fun events in San Sebastian would be pintxopote on Thursdays," she further explained. She stated that it was not only about the culture, but it was also a great way to eat and drink with everyone in cheaper price, especially for the students. Other than pintxopote, another event that she always enjoys with her friends is going to clubs. "Bataplan is the most popular one for their parties," she mentioned.

"It is very unfortunate that the university does not have these cool events and parties," she said. "I knew there used to be some parties organized by the university; however, they were not as attractive as parties held publicly. Moreover, they were organized poorly." She suggested for the university to hold more events and parties for students as they would help students to know more their fellow students. "I wouldn't mind going to university's parties and events as long as they're organized well. It would also help me to save money; going to clubs on the weekends costs a lot for students like me," she said.



## Spain tops dream holiday destination list

As the semester is going to end soon, that means only one thing for us– the holiday season is approaching! After months of group work, tests, and countless homework, we can finally relax and look forward to our perfect holiday getaways.

We conducted interviews recently and have asked in total of 100 students and teachers at Deusto where their dream holiday destinations were. 40% of all respondents said that they would love to go on holiday within Europe, rather than make the trip far away abroad. Interestingly, half of those 40% respondents voted Spain as the top holiday destination in Europe. Spain offers some fantastic holidays, particularly for adventures, relaxing getaways, and often for much cheaper than making trips abroad.

### Where To Go In Spain?

There are dozens of incredible holiday destinations in Spain. The most popular dream holiday destination is Granada. It is well known across Spain and the whole world due to its ancient medieval Alhambra Palace, which was voted as the main reason and a must-see place in Granada by respondents. Other popular dream holiday destinations in Spain are Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, Cordoba, Seville, and Valencia.

Greece came second as dream holiday destinations in Europe. "My main reason to go to Greece is to see the Acropolis of Athens," said one respondent. Italy, Norway, and the UK round up the top 5 dream holiday destinations in Europe.

### Respondents Also Like Holidays Abroad!

Aside from Europe, respondents also would love to go on holidays farther. 33% of the respondents voted America, making it the second most popular continent for holiday destinations. It is no surprise that the US came first on this list. The US is absolutely littered with fantastic cities and locations to visit, from the scenes of incredible films to areas of astonishing natural beauty. New York, Los Angeles, and California were voted as the most popular holiday destinations in the US. Other most-voted dream holiday destinations in America were Caribbean, Cuba, and Hawaii for their beaches and parties. Peru was also voted as one of the most popular destinations in America for its well-known New Seven Wonders of the World site, Machu Picchu.

Asia came third with 13% of the votes. The main reasons for respondents to go to Asia are for the tropical climate and the beaches. No wonder that Thailand, Indonesia, and Maldives were on the top of the list in Asia. Lastly, Australia and New Zealand came next with 9% of the votes, and followed by African countries such as Egypt, Madagascar, and Morocco.

What do you think? We hope our list would help you! What are you waiting for? Book your tickets, pack your bags, and get ready for your next adventure!

# 9000 Km Away From Home

"It was on 20 August when I took the biggest step in my life so far. I got onto a plane and flew 14 hours to San Sebastian where I'll stay for the next five months," said Frank, one of the exchange students at Deusto this semester. "When I first applied to study abroad, I knew I wanted to go to Spain because I have always wanted to improve my Spanish," he recalled. During his first weeks in San Sebastian, he was still in the process of adapting to everything. "It was all overwhelming for me. Coming from China, it was a big difference."

After a while, he got used to it and admitted that he fell in love with this city. "I love the beaches, the mountains, the people, the weather, and the food. And oh, pintxopote! I'm always all for it!" he explained. "Exchange life at Deusto has been great as I can join activities held by the university. I got a chance to do horse riding, hiking, kayaking, surfing, and salsa dance. These are new things for me," he explained. Other good things he mentioned were that he was able to meet new friends from different countries and was able to practice Spanish with the locals. "I always love travelling too. Now that I am in Spain, I could easily travel from one country to another within Europe. This is just a small cool thing about exchange life that you constantly discover new places and learn new things," he said.

Aside from the positive experience, Frank mentioned some challenges too. "Sometimes I miss being at home. You don't have to do anything; you have more free time. Here I have to do everything on my own from laundry, groceries shopping to bill payments," he said. Although he was busier, but he admitted that he liked the laidback lifestyle here. "I live in a metropolitan city in China, where everything is fast moving; everyone is constantly in a rush. This is a good change for me," he explained.

"I can't believe that next month will be my last one to be in San Sebastian! Time flies too fast," he said. He said that he would miss this city and would always remember this exchange experience. Lastly, he suggested every students to do exchange program as it would change one's life just like it did to his.

## Deusto Top 10 Hit List

1. Adele – "Hello"
2. Justin Bieber – "What Do You Mean?"
3. Ariana Grande – "Focus"
4. Alvaro Soler – "El Mismo Sol"
5. Pablo Lopez – "Tu Enemigo"
6. Charlie Puth & Meghan Trainor – "Marvin Gaye"
7. R.City & Adam Levine – "Walk Away"
8. Malu – "Quiero"
9. Sia – "Alive"
10. Rachel Platten – "Fight Song"

## Upcoming Agenda at Deusto San Sebastian

- 16 November (12:00 noon): A minute of silence for the victims of Paris attacks
- 16-20 November: Deusto Entrepreneurship Week (Semana Deusto Emprene)
- 21 November: Stand-Up Paddle (Sports with Erasmus students)
- 23-27 November: Informational Interviews for Career Boost
- 23,30 November; 7,14,21 December: Weekly celebration of the Eucharist (Mondays only, a month before Christmas)
- 26 November: Conference with Alex Gibelalde "Do I Need To Use Social Media In My Company?"
- 17 December: Last class of the Fall Semester 2015
- 18- December: Final exam period (part 1)
- 23 December: Christmas and New Year holiday
- 7 January 2016: Final exam period (part 2)
- 20 January 2016: Tamborrada Deusto

## Birthdays

- Ane Mendizabal (1 November)
- Maria Pilar Rodriguez (19 November)
- Carmen Olano (27 November)
- Nerea Arakistain (9 December)
- Elena Hijosa (22 December)
- Aitor Sagarzazu (31 December)
- Leire Iriarte (9 January)

Group 1 – Niko Fanbasten, Nerea Arakistain, Leire Iriarte, Carmen Olano  
Communication Skills – University of Deusto Fall 2015

Made by: