



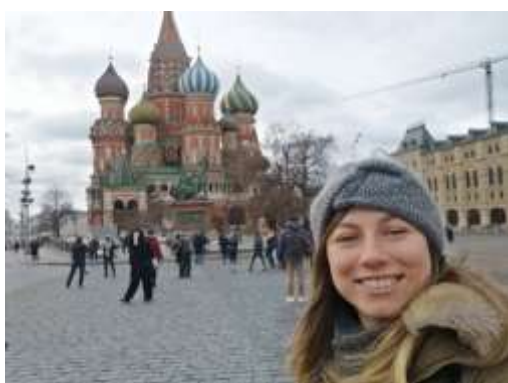
**Athena CLUZEL**  
IAE AIX-MARSEILLE, France

Bachelor Program  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Athena-Cluzel/>

### **Part 1: Whole stay and organization in Russia**

I find the management of the arrival and the before arriving really well managed. The RANEPa team gives good help for the visa application, gives advice and support, and were present for all inquiries that I may have.



Furthermore, it was really reassuring to have a body student to help us at the arrival like to have a taxi driver to go to the university. However, concerning the body student, it may be interesting that this latter is enrolled in the same program of study that us because personally I didn't have any other contact with this person during my stay and sometimes it would be helpful to have the phone contact of a student in the class for asking questions etc.

During the whole period stated in Russia, I found the IBS-Moscow staff especially Zemfira available and helpful. Giving full advice and help through all issues encountered. However, it may be interesting to organize more after school activities with Russian students to strengthen ties with them. In the same way, I think it could be interesting to organize some activities for exchange students like visiting some company in Moscow for example.

A point that was quite difficult to manage for me during my stay is that most of the staff, especially at the dormitory, couldn't speak English. It was difficult to communicate with them and sometimes a little confusing. The advice that I can stay is that, it may be more comfortable for exchange students if they will have more staff who speak a little English in the staff, especially a doctor. Another point that can be improved according to me is the cleaning in the room. During my stay, the cleaner didn't clean my room and at the end it was quite dirty and my roommate and I had to buy some cleaning stuff to do it by ourselves.

Last, an oven in the kitchen can be useful but it may be prohibited for security issues.

To conclude this part, I wanted to say that I really enjoy my stay in Russia and at IBS RANEPa. Moscow is a beautiful city with a lot of things to discover and all the people that I meet were really nice. It was a great experience for me that I would recommend.

### **Part 2: Face to Face Study**



Concerning face to face study and also home study, one of the main things it didn't like was that the course schedule was sent each week. I would have preferred to have a monthly planning that had enabled me to have a better overview and enable us to plan in advance our days and journey in Russia (especially for planning my travels in Russia in advance).

Also, one or two times we, exchange students, weren't aware of some schedule changes and canceled class (but Russian student was). So, it had happened that we went to the class as scheduled and waited

for it, but at the end the class canceled, and we didn't have any information about it and the reasons. Still concerning the schedule, one of the things I didn't like much was that sometimes we didn't have time for lunch, and lunch time is really important in my culture. I think it is more a cultural difference.

*Concerning the face to face class running, I like it. The contents were interesting, assignment clear and goal well defined by the teachers. The class environment was caring and open, with exchanges. But maybe sometimes a little be too theoretical but on the whole it was ok. It depends of course on the teacher and his way of teaching.*

So to conclude with the face to face study, I like:

- The content of the class
- Class atmosphere and exchanges
- Group projects

I dislike:

- Schedule organization
- Lack of information

### **Part 3: Home study**

*Concerning home study, I find that the university has well adapted to the unpredictable crisis and quickly. The new study format was implemented fast and the explanation according to the utilization of it was clear and easy. So, well done, as I know in my home country and university, they take more time to implement it.*

I didn't have any particular issue concerning home study except that it was more difficult for us to communicate with other students for the group project for example. But this isn't an issue that IBS RANPA could manage according to the context. By the way, for some projects, it was difficult to communicate with some students, as we didn't have their personal contact. So, I could suggest that it could be interesting to send us a contact list of the other students, especially Russian ones, which will have facilitated communication between students.

Despite the distance, most of the teachers were available by email and answered our inquiries quickly, which is a good point.

### **My feedback,**

I like:

- Staff support during our stay in Russia and before,
- Greeting in Russia and the body student
- The courses contents, class atmosphere, teachers available, group projects
- Quick management of the sanitary crisis by proposing a new format of class, well explain and easy to use.
- Russia, the city of Moscow.

I dislike:

- Schedule management and lack of information
- Difficulties to contact student during home study
- Language barrier with dormitory staff
- Cleaning in the dormitory
- Lack of activities organized for exchange students would have enabled us to have a better integration with Russian students and better understanding and discovery of Russia.

Suggestion:

- Have a monthly schedule and be aware like Russian student to any changes. Be considered at the same level than Russian Students.
- Disposal of a contact list of all students we may need to work with during home study.
- Have more staff speaking English at the dorms, especially a doctor.
- Have a weekly cleaning of the dorms room,
- Organize some activities with Russian students like after class coffee for or a day tour with Russian students.
- Organize activities for exchange students like visiting a Russian company.



**Laura SCHENGEL**  
Hochschule Pforzheim University, Germany

Bachelor Program  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Laura-Schengel/>

My name is Laura, currently an exchange student in the third year of the Bachelor program from the business school in Pforzheim, Germany. My exchange semester started pretty good: I came to Moscow at the end of January and because we were kindly picked up at the airport, we immediately felt very welcome in Russia.

Overall, this semester was an unusual one. Due to the corona virus, we needed to leave Russia earlier than planned, and were only able to stay in Russia for two months. These two months I really enjoyed –

the internationality (especially in the dormitory), getting to know the Russian culture a little bit better, its customs and traditions, the Russian language, beautiful Moscow and its sightseeing, and so much more. Concerning the classes, I especially enjoyed the Russian language classes. Even though the courses were overall pretty good organized, we, as the Internationals sometimes felt a little bit left out, as the communication was not always pretty good. However, all in all, studying at IBS RANEPA in Moscow was a really pleasant experience, as we always felt supported by the professors and all the administration staff.

I am very grateful for all these experiences, especially that we were able to be in Moscow for some events, e.g. in the beginning of February there were still some winter markets with many attractions, the Women's Day, Maslenitsa, ...

However, as already said, this semester was an unusual one; because of the Corona pandemic we had to leave Moscow after two months. *However, at home we were still able to attend classes, as all the classes were rapidly organized in an online format. Even though the situation and the new format was new for everyone, the organization was really good and besides some minor technical problems, like connection issues or some issues with the software, everything went well. Even though we are not able to go back to Russia yet, we still plan to come back to travel. This semester was an unusual, but an adventurous and exciting one, we really liked it to be at IBS RANEPA.* That is why I want to thank all the professors, the administration staff, the coffee place in the second building on the campus we always went to and where we learned how to order a coffee in Russian and all the other people working at IBS RANEPA. We felt very welcome. Thank you for making our exchange semester a special one!



**Katharina LAU**  
Hochschule Pforzheim University,

Bachelor Program  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Katharina-Lau/>

When I got my confirmation to go to Russia for my semester abroad, I first didn't know what to expect. As Russia was honestly my second choice, I was still very happy about the unexpected. As I started to make myself familiar with the culture and of course IBS RANEPA, I got more and more confident about spending my semester abroad there. As I've never been to Russia before, I was kind of nervous when I started my journey. When I landed in Moscow, I got picked up by a driver and immediately felt welcomed and taken care of. After arriving at the dormitory at the campus, I was warmly welcomed by other German students who quickly became close friends. Living in the dormitory was from the beginning to the end nothing but fun. I loved to make new friends, having cooking sessions in the kitchen and of course enjoying the Moscow night life.

Apart from the private life in Moscow, I was very positively surprised by the system of IBS RANEPA. As student you always feel supported by the teachers and of course Zemfira Galimullina and you don't ever have to worry about or hesitate asking questions or for support. As you have quite some work to do during the whole semester, I wasn't familiar with that. In Germany you have lectures the whole semester and an exam just at the end. Of course you still have projects that last the entire semester, but that is more the unusual case.



*At IBS RANEPA you consolidate your knowledge with weekly homework, which first sounded like a lot of work to me, as I wasn't used to it. But as the semester progressed further, I really started to understand the value of this system. With lots of essays, home tasks and presentations you really work with your gained knowledge and get a feeling for the practical application of it.*

*As unfortunately we had to leave Russia after just seven weeks at IBS RANEPA due to the global pandemic, I was really sad. Also, I started to get concerned about the ending of the semester and my credits I needed to gain. Luckily, IBS RANEPA managed to adapt really fast to the situation and immediately organized all courses online without any problems to continue our studies. For some courses I didn't even get to meet the teachers in person,*

*but nevertheless it didn't feel impersonal.*

In my opinion, all teachers managed to provide us their knowledge and experience even though it was all online and not face to face. Of course I personally would have been a lot happier to finish my semester abroad at IBS RANEPA in Moscow while still being there, but I'm just thankful for the teachers and people working in the background for making it possible for me to finish my semester abroad even though being back in Germany.

That's why I just want to say „thank you“ to IBS RANEPA Moscow for making it possible for me to have such a great time in Moscow. It didn't feel like just seven weeks, as the semester basically flew by. Even though it was such a short period of time in Moscow, I gained a lot of business knowledge and was also able to develop myself as a person.





**Markus STAHLDECKER**  
Hochschule Pforzheim University,

Bachelor Program  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Markus-Stahldecker/>

Before coming to Moscow, I was welcomed by our coordinator Zemfira. She helped me a lot with the documents I needed to provide for the journey and always replied fast if I needed something. This didn't change after coming to Moscow. My arrival in Moscow went good as well, my driver was already waiting for me at the airport and I came safely to the campus. It was good that I had a German speaking student waiting for me at the check-in desk. Everything worked well, we had a warm welcome. The only problem was that we had to wait long until we received the results of the medical check and that's why we couldn't go to the gym. Many foreign students also didn't want to go to the gym at campus as it is very small and doesn't have the required equipment for some exercises. Other than that, I liked the campus. The restaurants are good and we didn't miss anything in the dormitory.

For the study I have to say that the level is below the German studies. Also, the lectures are very different, but I think it is nice to have a lot of communication with the lecturer. It helps you keeping attention to the course. The lecturers were all friendly and helped you with all your problems. Furthermore, the lecturers were all good at English, this is not self-evident as I heard from friends who did their semester abroad in other countries. The many presentations we had to do were new to me. We do presentations in Germany, but not that many. Nevertheless, I liked it in Russia as most topics were interesting and it was easier to achieve good grades. Your final grade did not solely depend on the final exam.



The study at home was hard but this was not the fault of the lecturers. *The fast change to online classes worked very well, it worked better than in many universities in Germany. The only thing that would have helped are pre-recorded courses. They help you to attend courses if you have two courses at the same time or if you want to sleep a little longer. I understand that this doesn't work if we need to do presentations and in some courses there is a lot of*

communication. It would also help to record the courses and upload them to the LMS-system afterwards, so we can look at the course again in case we did not understand everything.

All in all, I enjoyed my trip to Moscow and I am happy that I did not have any big problems. I am thankful that I could meet a lot of nice people and that I could attend such a good university.



**Rija ANDRINIAINA**  
IGS ESAM, Lyon, France

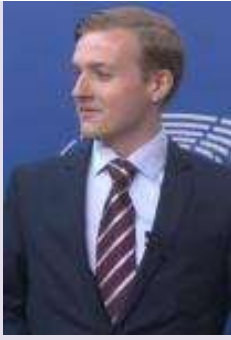
Bachelor Program  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Rija-Andriniaina/>

First of all, I would like to thank IBS RANEPА for the learning experience we got here in Moscow. I would also like to thank all the staffs of IBS RANEPА. It was an unusual experience due to the current situation, but *it was a real pleasure to study at IBS RANEPА. The courses were all interesting and we learned a lot on different subject in each courses. The teachers illustrated real cases when explaining the course and talked about their experiences, so the different courses were not just pure theory. Face to face classes were good but some overlapping in the schedule was an issue as I had to choose which course to go but it wasn't a big problem in the end. Online classes were a first experience for me but I think they are not as efficient and interactive as a face to face classes. Concerning my stay in Moscow, it was pleasant, I made some friends. As for the accommodation, I personally think the rooms are not fit for 2, 4 persons and would recommend the administration to consider the issue of space in each room.*

Moscow is a beautiful city. I had the opportunity to visit and go to different places like the Red square. I would have liked to go to Saint Petersburg and visit other places but due to the pandemic spread it's unfortunate that I could not experience fully my stay here, but surely next time I will.





**Quentin BENOIT, France**  
Dual Degree program of  
Business School Alliance (IBSA)

Master Program in International Management  
January - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Quentin-Benoit/>

After a French master's degree in Russian affair, I was looking for an opportunity to fulfil my student journey and have a Russian business diploma with a concrete experience abroad, that's why I joined the Msc in International Management of IBS-Moscow.

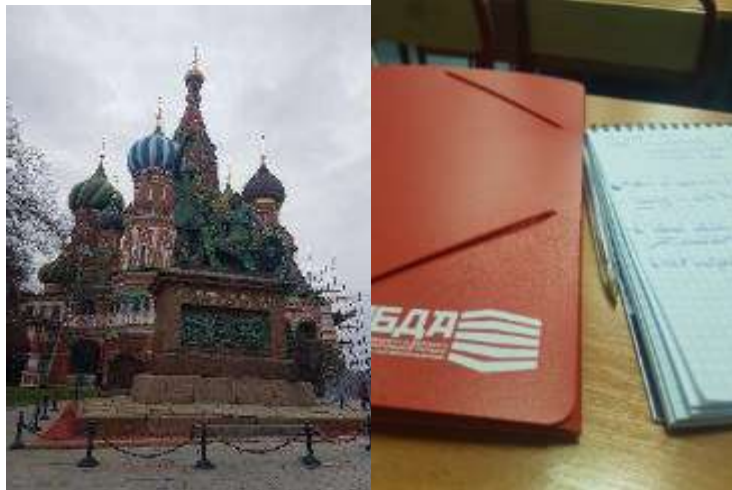
The courses are interesting and more focused on practice than theory with many groups works. Speakers have many experiences to share with us, mainly around their activity in the Eurasian area, it offers myself an excellent view of the global situation.

Moscow offers a work environment that is young, dynamic but also linked to its history which constitutes a great city to both work and visit. You are at the heart of Russia and can get to other regions easily. My stay here has been disturbed by the global pandemic, but I choose to stay in the campus.

*I am thankful to IBS RANEPА's staff because the situation was unpredictable, many other greats Moscow universities closed their hostels and it is a real sanitary challenge here for the people in charge. Even if I look forward to the end of the epidemic, courses here continue online. I now start to write my master's thesis and look for jobs and opportunities here.*







**Alix ESTEVE**  
ESG Rennes, France

Master Program in International Management  
September - June  
2019 - 2020 Academic year

Web <http://eng-ibda.ranepa.ru/about/reviews/Alix-Esteve/>

I was really excited to arrive in Moscow. The first few weeks were great as I arrived 2 weeks before the begging of the semester so I had plenty of time to discover the city. I went at first for the most obvious places like the Red Square, the Bolshoi Theater.

We are group of foreign students and guided by some of our buddies, we discovered Moscow under a bright sun.



Some of the highlights of my stay were the travels. We went by train to discover NijniNovgorod, Kazan, Soudzal, Yaroslavl and SaintPetersburg.

Those trips allowed me to see different landscapes which make Russia a multicultural country.

Taking the train in Russia was itself a great experience and we took mainly sleeping trains because they are less expensive and it was for me the best moments in Russia. I spent great times in those trains: trying to make your bed in

really tiny space, playing cards with your friends and talk with them until late hours.



In Moscow itself there are so many activities to do, restaurants with food which we don't have in France (Georgian food is the best), bars and cafes, huge parks! The point is that you cannot be bored in Moscow (except when it's quarantine and you can only exit the campus to go grocery shopping as we are living now March/May 2020).

The point that were harder to get used to it was for me to share a room with a stranger but on another hand the international atmosphere in the dormitory and discovering new culture and

making new friends!

*This experience is unique and made me grow up, on many levels. I got to know more about Russian culture. I had to face different weather and especially a different winter. But I got lucky because this winter wasn't that cold but the darkness and the few hours of sun can something but hard. I definitely recommend people to visit Russia or to come to Russia to study.*

