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At the University of Nantes, France

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## Introduction

I always read articles on website and have a dream to be an author. By starting writing on LinkedIn, I have another dream to publish my writing for academic journal and journalistic article. Attending DOCKSIDE Erasmus+ program, I have fulfilled these dreams.

The program provides three advantages such as academic benefits, European cultural understanding, and networking.

## Academic Benefits

First, the university's facilities have environmentally and academically make student life easier in enhancing and polishing knowledge and experience. For example, the campus is clean and surrounding with green environment that calm down the students after hard working. The advantage is student can access to journal stores and download for free which broaden understanding their subject of study while professors guides the direction and monitoring the pace of learning curve. In addition, students can access to libraries in any campuses by a very good bus transportation system in Nantes.

For master and Ph.D. students, they are given an office and enough materials for their research period. Furthermore, all faculty has their own laboratories so students can do experiments for their research in a group or individually. As a result, I not only write academic paper but also an article while having a supervisor as a co-author, on [theconversation.com](https://theconversation.com)<sup>1</sup>; a prestigious website that people around the world access to read and publish result of scientist researches.

## Culture

Besides, developing the academic skills, students have times to explore the way people live and communicate which are different from city to city in France and other European countries.

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<sup>1</sup> Samedy Mey and Marc Bidan, <https://theconversation.com/exploring-cambodian-and-french-attitudes-toward-mobile-banking-adoption-and-use-101751>, published 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Europe continent is a home of precious cultures of modern civilization in history and it continues to lead the modern society across the globe. Interestingly, the man made architectural buildings such as Tour Eiffel and Notre Dame attracts my impression as well as tourists' around the world. Thousands of tourists daily visit these two iconic buildings; the revenue from Tourism is a major part of French GDP.

The surrounding infrastructures including underground metro and connections is very well planned and organized; make life more convenient for any purpose travelling. In short, France city planning is a good model and shall be furthered talk between governments for improvement of Phnom Penh Capital Master Plan.

### Networking

Apart of understanding culture, I also enjoy networking with staff and local residents for my short stay in France. They voluntarily helped fill and ask my questionnaires when they want clarification; it means that they pay attention to the research. In a social communication, I was invited to join a village party in summer season by one of university staff. Like Cambodia, they party is to strengthen the villagers' relation and to relax in summer. People brought their own foods and drinks as many as they can and everyone can eat and chit chat in a friendly atmosphere; I have tasted many French food. I named this party a solidarity village party. Villagers talked to me in French and English; some people have been to Cambodia and backed with a good impression. Plus, one of villagers invite me to take a quick tour in his house. I am in love so much with interior and exterior house decoration in French as well as networking with residents.

### Conclusion

In summary, attending DOCKSIDE program, I master my understanding and knowledge academically and culturally. My research skill have been improved due to a good system of the faculty and guidance from my supervisor. The international standard in doing master and Ph.D. degree at University of Nantes through DOCKSIDE international mobility program is highly recommended.

**DISCLAIMER**

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