

A British intern in the world of French journalism...

DERNIÈRES ACTUALITÉS



MUSIQUE & CULTURE

How did you get a job at a radio with no real experience? How did you have the confidence to speak on air... IN FRENCH? Wasn't that just the most fun internship ever?

These are some of the questions people have asked me when I tell them I spent half of my year abroad at a radio station in Nantes, France. So, I thought I would take you through some of the typical tasks for a British intern in the world of French journalism...



Firstly, Euradio broadcasts the best European music and news to Nantes, Lille, Lyon and Strasbourg. The voices behind the microphones? A new team of European interns studying degrees ranging from languages to politics who spend six months at this radio school. I was lucky enough to experience the most European team (EVER!) which meant working with British, French, Spanish, German and Italian interns, making our common language French!

Daily tasks included...

A 2-hour radio show everyday:

Not actually as daunting as it sounds, especially as it was a mix between English and French and I was able to talk about things that I found interesting: European music, festivals and up and coming artists. This was something that I did alone for two hours each day, meaning that I had to build a relationship with my listeners and keep them entertained during the 'pauses musicales'!

Interviews with musicians

Whether it was a 9am pre-recorded telephone interview or a live one at midnight, I must admit that these never got easier! Fangirling aside, doing an interview with an artist really enabled me to develop my conversational French as well as my listening and responding skills. It was really important to try and understand everything that the artist said to get the best interview for the radio...no pressure!



Live sessions

Arguably even more stressful than interviews, live sessions involve just you, the musician(s) and the music! This was one of the more demanding aspects of the job as it meant I was in control of the technical elements, speaking on air and engaging with the musician(s) all at once! As a small but expanding radio station, we often came across technical issues during the live sessions which meant I had to be ready to deal with problems and carry on, otherwise the musician (and my manager) would start to panic! Learning to manage stressful situations was a skill I mastered being a radio presenter!

The most important thing to remember aside from the glamour of being a journalist and meeting artists from all over the world is that none of this would have been possible without being able to speak French! I was able to use my language skills to provide coverage of festivals, concerts and cultural events all the whilst making friends with some incredible artists.

Here is a compilation of some of my best bits in English and French!



Digital CV FINAL
FINAL (1).mp3