



Anurakt Raj Mathur is a HAN Master of Engineering Systems graduate. After completing his bachelor's degree in Automotive Engineering, he was eager to pursue an applied master's degree, particularly in systems engineering.

"HAN stood out to me because of its comprehensive master's program, which offers a wide range of electives, including vehicle dynamics, smart mobility, and intelligent powertrains. This variety made HAN the ideal choice for advancing my education and aligning with my career goals!"

### **Did the program prepare you well for the future?**

The program is thoughtfully designed to equip the students with the skills required to make an impact in the industry. For me, the extensive knowledge of vehicle dynamics concepts and software like MATLAB/Simulink helped me enhance my profile to start my career in this field. The incorporation of minor projects provides hands on testing experience and introduces the students as to how projects in the industry are conceived and finally results are delivered. These projects also prepare students for the major project which is crucial not only for the successful completion of the master program but also for the beginning of the career after graduation.

### **Did the program meet your expectations?**

I enrolled in the program with the goal of professional growth and applying theoretical knowledge to real-world challenges. In this regard, the program exceeded my expectations. The minor projects consistently provided opportunities to translate classroom learning into practical outcomes. Additionally, the interaction with supervisors and peers played a significant role in my overall professional development. The projects also helped me develop essential soft skills, such as technical writing and presentation abilities.

### **What didn't you like about your program?**

When I began the program in February, the first semester's coursework, especially during the initial term, was quite intense. Balancing four theory exams with two projects in just two and a half months was overwhelming, particularly as I was also adjusting to a new environment. However, I understand that the workload has since been adjusted to be more manageable.

### **What about the country The Netherlands?**

Coming from India, I experienced a few cultural shocks, particularly with the food and weather. However, over time, I've come to appreciate Dutch culture. I find the country to be welcoming and respectful. I especially admire the Dutch directness and emphasis on practicality, which simplifies daily life and makes interactions more straightforward.

### **Was it difficult to move from India to the Netherlands?**

Moving to the Netherlands from India was one of the most challenging experiences of my life. Leaving behind loved ones and relocating to a country where I knew no one was daunting. However, on a practical level, the transition was smooth. The university provided accommodation near the campus, equipped with everything I needed to settle in comfortably, which made the process much easier.

### **Are there differences in studying compared to India?**

Yes, there are significant differences. One of the most notable is the greater emphasis on practical learning in the Netherlands. Additionally, the relationship between students and teachers here is much more collaborative, resembling that of colleagues, whereas in India, the relationship tends to be more hierarchical.

### **What do you like about the Dutch teaching method?**

I found the concept of the reverse classroom particularly fascinating. Students are expected to read the material beforehand and come to class prepared to lead discussions. This approach encourages independent learning and allows students to take charge of their education. It also fosters engaging discussions in class, not just with the teacher but also among classmates, making the learning process more interactive.

### **What do you like about Arnhem, our study city?**

Arnhem is a peaceful and charming city, which suits my preference for living away from the hustle and bustle of larger cities. It's surrounded by greenery, offering a strong connection to nature. The city centre is lively, with great places to eat, and the locals are friendly, making it a very pleasant place to live.