



RIGA

2016-2017

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The exchange application process was quite straight-forward and doable. The presentations prior of choosing the countries to go to were helpful. The information about the processes was clear and it was possible to manage the paperwork without it interfering the studying for exams.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Counselling & support at Utrecht University was at a high level with the exchange officer being very helpful and approachable. She answered all the questions that arised and helped to solve them.
academic preparation
I personally didn't do any additional academic preparation for the exchange period. The courses I chose were selected so that the field of study would be of an interest of mine and could benefit me during later stages of my life.
language preparation
I didn't require any language preparation, since the language spoken in the exchange country was my native language.
finances
Finances also werent problematic, because the exchange country was cheaper than the Netherlands. Also the erasmus grant helped with travel and some other additional expenses.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The study programme was different since the exchange had a module system, which was different to what I was used to in Utrecht. The courses took place over a shorter period of time and had different way of teaching.
academic quality of education activities
I would rate the academic quality at the receiving university as high. The lecturers and tutors were well qualified and knowledgeable about the courses that were taught.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Counselling & support at the Stockholm School of Economics was good. The exchange officer there was very lenient and helpful.
transfer of credits
Transfer of credits was problematic at times, because the credit points rewarded were different between both universities. Also there was a course that was considered as a level 3 at the university abroad, while it was evaluated as a level 2 by the Utrecht university.



STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
The welcome and orientation programme was organized very well. There were clear instructions on important issues related.
accommodation
Since the exchange university was at my home country, I didn't need to rent accomodation.
leisure & culture
The university was offering quite a few events for students. There were events organized just for the exchange students, as well as events for the current students and even alumni. The events were well organized with plenty of activities and time for socializing.
suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would recommend this university to people who want to be in a small, but quite friendly environment. If I would have to compare this university with Utrecht University, then at Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, students have to spend more time at school going to tutorials, lectures and guest lectures. I would suggest giving a thought to this university to students who want to try a different, more interactive way of studying. I would also recommend the university for its location. It is located in a nice neighborhood of Riga in a very beautiful building. The city itself is quite big, but it doesn't feel crowded. It is quite cheap to live in and the nature is very beautiful. In winter months it can get quite cold, but spring and summer is very enjoyable.
do you have any additional advice or comments?



RIGA

2016-2017

PREPARATION
exchange application process
Overall it went very smooth, sometimes you just have to send an e-mail twice
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Miss Naylor is very helpful in explaining everything and helping
academic preparation
none
language preparation
none, everything was in english
finances
Life is cheaper in Latvia, so did not need to save money

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
You can choose your own courses, I would recommend year 3 courses and electives you like
academic quality of education activities
More intensive than USE, but less hard
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Very good, just walk into the office of miss Pauna
transfer of credits
22.5 credits

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
Nice, don't miss newcomerscamp to get to know people! First day of school was lunch for all exchange students
accommodation
Ask your compadre for help or check facebook groups
leisure & culture
Enough to do nice stuff and explore the region and city or to make a trip to Lapland for example
suggestions/tips



If you plan to the first semester, bring winterclothing.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain

It was definitely an amazing experience. I learned a lot from the different way of teaching, the new culture, the other exchange students. I can recommend it to anybody!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Riga is a beautiful city with a lot of charme. The latvians look a bit grumpy at first, but when you get to know them they are really nice.