



## Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

2018-2019

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
After hearing from the IO that I was nominated for an exchange at the LMU, the application process of the LMU started. Here you have to hand in more papers and documents that you have to send via post. This does not take a lot of time if you have the documents already. During this application you can also apply for housing. I would recommend you doing this because housing is problematic in Munich.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The UU helped me a lot with the application for the LMU (this application comes after the nomination of the UU). I had to hand in a lot of papers and I got good help from the UU.
academic preparation
I did not prepare academically. I did refresh my German a little bit before moving.
language preparation
I have done my high school exams in German. Therefore I had a B2 level already. Before I went to Munich I did some self-study to refresh my German knowledge. The LMU also offers a German language course which you can do a month before the semester starts here. I would really recommend this course because you will spend a month talking, listening and reading German with other international students. It is therefore also an easy way to make friends.
finances
I got the Erasmus Study Grant, but this is not enough for living in Munich.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
At the beginning of your Erasmus there will be a Law Welcome Meeting where they will explain a lot about choosing subjects. You are able to check some subjects out in the first week. You can choose the subjects you like as long as you have enough points of course. As we are non-german students we can only go to Vorlesungen (lectures) and Ubungen (kind of like werkgroep but non-compulsary and it often goes further than we as erasmus students have to know). You can choose every subject you want. But keep in mind that everything is in German.
academic quality of education activities
I did 3 Schwerpunktbereich subject which equals to master subjects. Therefore, I had to put in some effort in order to keep up with the subjects. After a few lectures you will get used to the way the lectures are given and to the language. The Professors are, in my opinion, really good and they have a lot of knowledge.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The erasmus coordinator for Law is really helpful and friendly. You can always drop by and ask for help.
transfer of credits
On the law website of the LMU you can find a ECTS transfer scheme. Here you can see how many ECTS you get per SWS (german system)



<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
The LMU offers you the chance to participate in a summer german course. This course took place in september (I was there for the winter semester) It is a great chance to make new friends and to get ready to study fully in German. I would recommend it to everyone. Next to this course there was, like i said before, a welcome meeting for all the international Law Students.
accommodation
I was very lucky to get an cheap appartment via the LMU. Housing in Munich is really expensive and hard to find. If the LMU does not give you an appartment you should start looking very right away (I heard in July that i got accomodation)
leisure & culture
I went during the wintersemester, which was in my opinion a very good choice as I got to know the culture via Oktoberfest and the Weinachtsmarkten. The people in Munich are very friendly and I felt at home quite fast. There is not a big cultural difference, but sometimes you noticed a small difference in the small things. I had quite a lot of free time during the semester as you don't have to prepare seminars, but in the end i had to catch up and do a lot of work in order to pass my exams.
suggestions/tips
Participate in the summer german course and start looking for an appartment early if you don't get accomodation from the LMU (so apply for accomodation with the LMU!).

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes! Munich is a great place to live, study and to learn and improve your German. I've had a great time and made very good friends.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
No.

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
You have to hand in a couple of forms, such as motivation letter and transcript of records. It's not so much work if you have all the deadlines in your agenda. I remember that my guest university required a lot more documents, which also required marks from the international office etc. It's usefull to make a check-list for yourself inclusive the deadlines, to prevent being dependant of someone (which signature you need) the last day before the deadline.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
I experienced this a very good. International Office was always reachable, and thay replied my e-mails very quickly. Also I had the feeling that I could ask them everything. Besides that they brought me in to contact with another student who studied a semester in Munich. That was very helpful because she knew everything even more detailed.
academic preparation
I did no acadamic preparation because this was not necessary. The only thing I can say is that because I was not familiar with the German law system, it was a bit more hard working at the beginning. But I felt no



disadvantage!
language preparation
A lot of the courses in Munich are in German, especially the courses in Law. They require therefore a level of B1-B2 German. I knew this in advance and so I wanted to be prepared. Before I went to Munich I followed German course at Babel Language Institut . This was helpfull, but nevertheless not enough. That's why I participate in the German preparation course at the LMU in September. Its an entire month speaking German and besides that learning stuff about the university and the city. After this month I was able to understand most and make myself clear. Most important: you will meet a lot of friends during this class! And the semester only starts at the 15th of October, so it's a good way to spend your free time in September.
finances
Apart from the Erasmus scholarschip I also applied for an scholarship at 'Duitsland-Deks', called: DIA-Stipendium. Fortunuatly I was very lucky and got selected for that scholarschip. This helped me a lot and the result was that I didn't need to work in Munich. The rent can be pretty high (some of my friends paid 800 euros a month). But the rent of the university rooms/dorms is very low (around 280). Furthermore the expences in Munich are in my oppinion comparable to the costs here in Utrecht. I recommend applying for scholarships, other than Erasmus!

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
When I was still in Utrecht it was sometimes hard to find information concerning the courses, because that information was for many courses not available. But on the other hand I was in good contact with my coordinator in Munich and she explained me a lot and gave me some content of the courses. This is how I could choose my courses, while not being in Munich. When I was in Munich it turned out that they had another system then in Utrecht. In the beginning of the semester every student is just trying out all the courses that seems interesting and after two weeks you decide which courses you defenitely are going to take. I did the same and chose in the end other subjects then I filled in on my Learning Agreement.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality was good. Although not all my subjects were on master level I had sometimes the feeling that I new allready a bit more than my fellow students. Nevertheless I had still enough challenge due to the fact that everything was in German. The courses that I followed on master level where very interesting and also in smaller groups what I prefere because there was more discussion in class.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
This was also pretty good. As I allready said I was allready in contact with my coordinator before I went to Munich. She helped me with everything. During my stay this didn't change and she was open for all my questions.
transfer of credits
Allready a few days after I passed all my exams my coordinator sende me my transcript of records. So this procedure went very fluent. The only thing difficult was that in Germany they don't have a bachelor/master system in Law, which made it not so easy to proof my examcommittee that some courses are on master level. In the end not all my courses are counting, which is not a problem because I don't need the ECTS for my master degree, but still it is wise to know ahead which credits can be transferred and which not.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme



<p>As I already named I participate in the language and preparation course German, which I highly recommend! Not only to learn the language, but also to get to know some people, because the semester starts later on. The people I got to know during my preparation course were my friends during the entire semester. This course made it also easier to understand the life at the LMU, and in general the life in Germany because they teach you a lot of cultural things.</p>
<p>accommodation</p>
<p>I was very lucky that I got a room through University because the rent is not so high. However this room was a studio in a very large student complex, a bit out of the centre. After two weeks I realised that I wanted to live more in the center and also with roommates. Through Facebook I found another apartment in the city centre with two German guys. This was one of the best choices during my stay! Not only I spoke German all the time, but also my roommates and I became good friends.</p>
<p>leisure &amp; culture</p>
<p>In my free time I explored the city, by foot and by bike (!), but also hiked a lot in the area of Bayern, which is totally beautiful. Besides that I visited a lot of museums: Munich has tons of them. Very interesting is also that there is still a lot of history concerning the second world war. I didn't expect that when I came there, but at the university happened a lot, for example the opposition movement, Weisse Rose, which operated there.</p>
<p>suggestions/tips</p>
<p>Try to live with Germans! This is amazing. Not only for your language but also for your cultural experience. They know a lot of stuff in the city of course and also they know a lot of people. In this way you are not only surrounded with internationals (which can also be a lot of fun of course), but you get to know more German people.</p>

<p><b>CONCLUSIONS</b></p>
<p>would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain</p>
<p>In one word: YES. Everything is arranged very well and the quality of the subjects are very good. Besides that Munich is such an underestimated city with a lot of culture and has above that a beautiful countryside which is easy to reach by train or S-bahn. In the winter within one hour you are in Austria, which means: hiking and skiing!</p>
<p>do you have any additional advice or comments?</p>
<p>-</p>

**2016-2017**

<p><b>PREPARATION</b></p>
<p>exchange application process</p>
<p>I must say the application process seemed very difficult to me at the beginning. I didn't really understand the process and the forms and how in depth they needed to be filled in in the beginning, for example which courses you wanted to take. It wasn't totally clear to me that these could be changed later.</p>
<p>counselling &amp; support at Utrecht University</p>
<p>There was a lot of help available, you just have to ask. Sometimes persist a little, since not all offices are directly connected to each other.</p>
<p>academic preparation</p>



<p>I took an academic &amp; language preparation course at the LMU in Munich. This course was a month long, which was good, since the semesters start very late in Germany. Here I learned a lot about the German academic culture and learned good academic German on my level.</p>
<p>language preparation</p>
<p>As written above, I followed a language course provided by the LMU. This course is very in depth, costs 400€, but is totally worth it. I had only studied German in high school, but was able to get my C1 certificate there which was worth 6 ECTS as well.</p>
<p>finances</p>
<p>I wish I had done more to save money for my trip. Rent is super expensive in Munich, except for when you get a room via the Uni. I got one via Studentenwerk München for 300€ p/m, so I got very lucky, but a lot of my friends had to pay 700€ p/m for a room.</p>

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
<p>study programme (content and organisational issues)</p>	<p>There is quite a lot that Erasmus students can choose from, almost all in GERMAN. So you have to be at least decent at German or you won't understand the professor. Sadly, we're only allowed to visit the Vorlesungen (lectures) and not the Übungen (Tutorials/werkgroepen). This makes your stay a lot more relaxed, yes, but you don't have any interactive classes, which means it's hard to practice speaking German or meet any locals.</p>
<p>academic quality of education activities</p>	<p>Very high, Munich's LMU is ranked the best Uni in Germany, and you can totally tell. The lectures were very interesting and well presented.</p>
<p>counselling &amp; support at receiving university abroad</p>	<p>There was a very nice woman who takes care of the Erasmus Law Students, but I must say other than that we didn't get much guidance at all.</p>
<p>transfer of credits</p>	<p>Take a LONG time. Whilst writing this, I only have one result back. Also the Germans don't work with ECTS, so you have to be very careful and</p>

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>	
<p>welcome &amp; orientation programme</p>	<p>The welcome ceremony of our language course was super nice, they showed the flags of all countries and you had to stand up when yours came on to the screen. This way you could immediately know where everyone was from and meet new people</p>
<p>accommodation</p>	<p>I lived in the Studentenwerk student flat near Josephsplatz, amazing location.</p>
<p>leisure &amp; culture</p>	<p>Munich is a very relaxed city. If you are looking for the big city, then I would not suggest Munich. It does feel a lot like a huge village. Gemütlichkeit is their way of life.</p>
<p>suggestions/tips</p>	<p>Take the semester preparation language course! You meet so many people and learn a lot in a short period of time.</p>



## CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, Munich is lovely. However, if you want to go to a really big city that feels like that I wouldn't recommend Munich.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

## PREPARATION

exchange application process

The LSF(website that shows the subjects) at the website of LMU was very hard to understand. I also was not told on beforehand that I would only be allowed to follow lectures(and no seminars). I therefore orientated my whole learning agreement on the idea that I was allowed to follow seminars and was kind of disappointed when I could not since the LMU does offer a lot of interesting seminars.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The International Office could have provided more help since it was the first year that the UU and the LMU had a contract. A lot of things were very unclear and I had to find out a lot of things myself. It would have been better if the IO at both the UU and LMU provided more guidance.

academic preparation

I took a language course in Amsterdam on my own initiative. Apart from that I did nothing else on academic preparation.

language preparation

The IUCM(International University Club Munich) provided a very intensive language course which helped me a lot with my German. I got to know a lot of people and went on some very nice excursions.

finances

I have no comment to make on this. I am very glad that I receive an Erasmus scholarship.

## STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The LMU offers a low of interesting subjects, but as an Exchange student of the faculty of law, you are only allowed to follow lectures and not seminars. I found this very disappointing. When I was planning my exchange, I was very much looking forward to develop my academic German speaking skills. Because I was only allowed to follow lectures, I did not.

academic quality of education activities

I am very content with the lecturers. They provided very good and interesting lectures and explained the topics very well.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Frau Brigitte Hausteine provided a lot of good support and counselling. A part from that I received no help or whatsoever from the LMU. There was even a point where I stood in front of the classroom where I was about to have an exam together with some other Erasmus students, only to find out 30 minutes later that the test was taking place in another room. Apparently there was an email forwarded about this to all the national students, but not to us. I went to the info point to ask in which classroom the exam was taking place since the teacher



was not there, but they had not even been informed by the teacher about the change of classroom.
transfer of credits
Poorly. I still have not received my transcript of records yet due to teachers who are still on holidays and have not sent the results of my tests to the Erasmus coordinator at LMU yet.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
Very well done. I got to know a lot of great people through the language course I participated in and the MESA(Erasmus student association) arranged a lot of entertaining activities, travels and parties.
accommodation
I got my housing through the IUCM. The student housing I lived in was very nice, cheap(for Munich standards) and well-located. The only downside was that I could only rent the room until Juli and had to find an Airbnb for the last month, which was very expensive.
leisure & culture
Munich has a lot of cultural activities with student discounts to offer. The area around Munich provides a lot of good day trips(MESA also organised these day trips).
suggestions/tips
Join a lot of MESA activities.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Definitely. Munich is an amazing city and has a lot to offer on a cultural, academic and social level.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
It would be great if the upcoming exchange students would be able to also follow seminars instead of only lectures. This would make the academic aspect of the exchange more challenging in a good sense.

## 2015-2016

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
Het aanmelden ging voor mij wat anders dan voor de toekomstige studenten. Aangezien ik de eerste was, die namens de faculteit Rechtsgeleerdheid in München ging studeren. Eigenlijk was het allemaal zo geregeld en kon ik op weg.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
De werknemers bij het International Office zijn allemaal erg behulpzaam. Het enige probleem waar je rekening mee moet houden als uitwisselingsstudent in München, is dat de semesters anders lopen (later beginnen en later eindigen), waar in Utrecht niet echt rekening mee gehouden wordt. Zo moet je er rekening mee houden dat je erg veel mailtjes moet sturen dat je een deadline niet gaat halen.
academic preparation
Ik heb op academisch niveau niet heel veel voorbereid. Ik heb door middel van Duitse Taal en Cultuurstudies



wel wat basiskennis opgedaan over Duitsland, wat weer handig was voor sommige vakken in München.

language preparation

De taalvoorbereiding is wat mij betreft het belangrijkste voor een uitwisseling naar München. De universiteit in München stelt erg lage eisen wat betreft taal (B1 Duits of Engels). Echter is het geval dat er in München bij de rechtenfaculteit bijna geen vakken in het Engels aangeboden worden, waardoor ik een taalniveau van (minstens) B2/C1 aanraad bij aanvang van de rechtenvakken. Ikzelf ben begonnen in Utrecht door naast mijn studie de vakken Deutsche Sprache & Kultur I en II te hebben gevolgd en ik heb nog een door de LMU georganiseerde 3-weekse taal cursus gedaan. Het maakt de studie veel leuker en ook veel makkelijker als je Duits op een goed niveau is, want dan kun je tenminste meedoen in de werkgroepen in plaats van alleen maar passief toe te kijken.

finances

Het leven zelf in München is niet duurder dan in Utrecht; sterker nog, iets goedkoper. Toch kan het flink tegenvallen op het moment dat je geen kamer aangeboden krijgt door de LMU. De woningnood in München is enorm en de prijzen voor een studentenkamer in de buurt van de stad beginnen bij 550 euro. Ook plekken die iets verder weg van het centrum zijn (denk aan 20 minuten met het OV), kosten al snel meer dan 500 euro, en dan heb je een hok.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)

De LMU heeft een groot aanbod aan totaal verschillende vakken. Aangezien het niet eenvoudig is te weten welke vakken je wel en niet kunt doen, kun je het beste wachten vakken uit te kiezen tot je aanwezig bent in München. Daar zal de coördinator je alles uitleggen en je helpen bij het kiezen van vakken. De vakken die je op moet geven voor dat je vertrekt, ga je dus ook gegarandeerd weer aanpassen bij aankomst.

academic quality of education activities

Het onderwijs is op een erg hoog niveau, het gaat snel en als je een week mist, wordt het lastig weer bij te geraken. Ook is er een groot verschil tussen de vakken (bv. wel of geen powerpoint). Mijn advies zou dan ook zijn in de eerste week zo veel mogelijk vakken te volgen en dan te kijken welke vakken het best te volgen zijn.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Ik heb erg veel ondersteuning gehad van de coördinator voor uitwisselingsstudenten van de faculteit Rechten. Ik kon daar met al mijn vragen even langslopen of gewoon mailen.

transfer of credits

De LMU houdt rekening met de Europese Regels wat betreft ECTS-Punten. Ondanks dat ze zelf niet werken met deze schaal, kunnen ze je wel vertellen hoeveel ECTS-Punten een vak waard is. Dit leverde weinig problemen op.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

Ik heb tijdens mijn taal cursus ook een oriëntatieprogramma gedaan en dat beviel mij erg goed. Ook toen ik écht begon aan mijn rechtenvakken, werd er nog aandacht besteed aan de oriëntatie.

accommodation

Ik heb geen woning gekregen van de instelling, die gesteund wordt door de LMU. Ik heb vanzelfsprekend wel de woningen gezien en de meeste woningen zijn prima om in te wonen als uitwisselingsstudent. Het is niet makkelijk om een betaalbare woning te vinden, dus ik zou, als je een aanbod krijgt, niet te lang twijfelen!



leisure & culture

München is een geweldige stad met alles wat je je kunt wensen. Het wordt niet voor niets de 'meest noordelijke stad van Italië' genoemd. Dat in combinatie met de Duitse levensstijl en het iets betere klimaat maakt München tot een fantastische stad.

suggestions/tips

Bezoek zeker even de Augustiner Bräustube in München zelf en vergeet ook vooral niet dat Bayern enorm veel te bieden heeft en dat je met een zgn. Bayernticket de hele dag onbeperkt met vrienden door het gehele Bundesland kunt reizen!

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

Ik zou een uitwisseling naar München zeker aanraden, mits je de moeite wilt doen om je Duits op een fatsoenlijk niveau te krijgen.

do you have any additional advice or comments?