



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	social and behavioral sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	interdisciplinary social sciences

destination city & country	Padua, Italy
name university abroad	Università di Padova
start date	1 / 10 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	1 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process is not difficult, but you have to fill in a couple of formats with information of yourself and write a motivation letter. Do not be put off by all the paperwork! It is just a step for step process which you have to do.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

Utrecht University is always there if you have questions or things are not going well with the application process.

academic preparation

There was no special academic preparation needed.

language preparation

Because I went to Italy, I did two Italian language courses at Babel talen Utrecht. Although all my courses were in English and knowledge of Italian was not obligatory by the university of Padova, I recommend to do it because it is so much nicer if you can understand a little bit of what the people around you are saying and it was also useful because some e-mails of the University of Padova were in Italian.

finances

You can actually relate Padova to the amount of expenses in The Netherlands, but it is nice to be sure you have enough money so that you can do everything you want to do there.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I followed four courses in Padova: Psychology of Language, Psychology of economic decisions, psychology of emotion and work&organisational psychology. I also followed an Italian language course at the University. The courses were all in English, and the most of the students who followed this courses were Erasmus students. In Italy the system for choosing courses works a bit different from how it is in the Netherlands; in Padova I didn't have to sign in for courses, you just go the first two weeks to all courses you like and you can switch courses if you like one more than the other. So you don't have to sign in for courses before going to the university. You only sign for exams which you do (if you do the first semester) in December/January.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was higher at some courses than others. I had two courses who were really informative and interesting and of high quality, but I also had courses where the teacher couldn't speak very well English



which reduced the quality of the course. But fortunately with learning the studybooks I passed this courses as well. So overall, the quality of the courses and the books you had to read were alright.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I had a contact person for questions and she responded always very soon.

transfer of credits

I have not transferred my credits yet, but at the site of the University of Padova there is a clear overview of my received grades.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome programme is really good in Padova. There is a Welcome Week, which is in cooperation with ESN Padova. So there are the whole week activities where you can meet so many people which. In the evening there were the whole week parties and dinners, and during the days there were some informational meetings. The Welcome Week is really nice because here I met friends were I stayed with my whole time in Padova.

accommodation

You have to search an accomodation by yourself. The University doesn't help with this. In Padova it is difficult to find a room, because of the language and because you stay only for 5 months. But there is a Facebook group were you can search rooms, and I found my room with the website Uniplaces. I recommend to start early with looking.

leisure & culture

Padova is just the nicest city to live in as an Erasmus student. It is super cosy, there are lots of bars where you can drink their famous Spritz and while you walking down the streets in the center you will always walk into some of your friends. The University is also really close or in the city (depends which department you study) which is super nice. In the hot days you can sit on the grass at Prato Della Valle, and the terraces are always full, even in winter! Padova is also nice because it is 20 minutes with the train to Venice, and actually all cities around are less than two hours with train or car. It is a perfect city to do city trips from, which I did also almost every weekend! You can go to Verona, Vicenza, Venice, Bologna, Milano, Florence, to the mountains, Lake Garda and I even went to Rome!

suggestions/tips

Do as much trips as you can, it is not expensive and there is so much to see around Padova, try to learn the Italian Language because it is such a beautiful language, and start looking for a room early

CONCLUSIONS

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

I totally recommend Padova. To me, it was just the perfect city to live in and from the first day it totally felt like home. In Padova you can bike everything, which is supernice because most of the time it is nice weather, and the size of the city is really perfect. If you want to eat in the cosiest restaurants, drink Spritz every day on one of the piazza's and if you want to discover the beautiful Norht of Italia, I highly recommend this beautiful city!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Don't be put off by the paperwork, it is not that much and in the end it is totally worth it. You get an experience you will never forget.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2015-2016

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	bachelor's master's PhD
name study programme	Pedagogische Wetenschappen

destination city & country	Padua, Italy
name university abroad	Universita degli studi di Padova
start date	1/10/2015 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	29/2/2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

This could have been better, but in the end it turned out wel

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support at Utrecht University was super good, they helped me with every question I had

academic preparation

It wasn't really necessary to do some academic preparations

language preparation

Wasn't necessary either. My courses were in English (but I had to take some master courses to have them in English)

finances

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

It was good

academic quality of education activities

To be honest the academic quality is less than at Utrecht University, but it wasn't too bad. And it also depends a lot on the professor, some are super boring and others super interesting

counselling & support at receiving university abroad



I could have had some more support, but in the end I managed everything so it was okay.
transfer of credits

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
They organized a huge welcome program, which was nice to meet some other students
accommodation
I have been living with 4 italian girls, in Portello (the best area to live in Padua as a student), which definitely was the best choice ever. If you ever have the chance to live with Italian people instead of living in a residence, take this opportunity!! It took some time and it was a little stressful to find a house, but it is possible and absolutely worth it
leisure & culture
The Italian culture is wonderful; the food, the people, the mentality. I enjoyed it so much. Also Padua is a super nice student city (which I concerned before going there, because it seemed a bit small and old to me)
suggestions/tips
Enjoy!!

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, definitely!
do you have any additional advice or comments?
No