



ERASMUS+ STUDIES UU Report 2015-2016

Every student receiving an Erasmus+ STUDIES grant has to submit a UU report as well. Writing the UU report is one of the university's conditions to receive and keep the grant. Only after submitting this report your Erasmus+ grant will be awarded definitively.

Your report will be made available (anonymously) to UU students preparing an exchange or research period abroad. Not all of them are Dutch-speaking, therefore we prefer to receive reports **written in English**.

Please use Tab to go to the next (text) box.

family name	
first name	
student number	
e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> @
faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Earth Science

destination city & country	London, United Kingdom
name university abroad	Imperial College London
start date	01 / 10 / 2015 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	24 / 06 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)

You are requested to write on the following topics. Text boxes will expand automatically while typing!

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process was rather straightforward as I had previously done it (UWA) and my application was after all deadlines had passed. Therefore I got the spot as the first one to apply.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Contact with the International Office was quick and clear. Furthermore, I have found that one really has to rely on oneself to make everything happen.
academic preparation	As academic preparation I read the module handbook of Imperial College to get a feel for what would be expected from students. In the introductory period at Imperial a set of academic skills courses was available as well.
language preparation	As I had already spent a semester at the University of Western Australia, language preparation was hardly necessary.
finances	



Preparations for financing living in London included maximizing loans from DUO, using previously saved money and relying on support from family

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

My study programme was determined in a conversation with my Imperial tutor, Mike Streule. I looked to broaden my knowledge and gain practical skills that will benefit me in the energy industry. Mike helped me to select the most optimal modules to do so.

academic quality of education activities

Although the staff at Imperial is great and really determined to help you pass, I cannot help but feel that the traditional system in which British Colleges operate does not benefit the student. Work pressure is far from evenly distributed, which means that finals period is unnecessarily stressful.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Lorraine Craig, the head of department has always made me feel that if any trouble would arise that the College would take care of me. I felt very inspired to do the best I had in me

transfer of credits

Transfer of credits has taken a ridiculously long time as Imperial would not send the transcript before mid august. Marks in Britain work in a completely different way and I hope that the board of examiners will accurately translate the British marks into Dutch marks.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme at Imperial is well organised and you feel at home straight away. I find it is rather important for one's social life to join one or more clubs.

accommodation

Accommodation for exchange students is guaranteed by Imperial College. However, some student halls are way better than others regarding location. I myself was lucky to be placed in Beit Hall, at the centre of campus. It should be noted that rent is absurd, especially considering what you get in return.

leisure & culture

Imperial College offers a wide variety of leisure in culture through their clubs and societies. Sports night on Wednesdays is one of the best nights of the week.

suggestions/tips

Get involved! Preferably not only with other international students but with the actual English themselves. They'll really help you improve your English and give you a new idea of what English life really is.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes. My year at Imperial has been absolutely amazing. Not many people get the chance to spend a year in one of the most exciting cities in the world and experience it from the inside. The people at Imperial are very warm and a tight community. Moreover, from an academic point of view, I would say that studying at a world renowned University has definitely increased my capabilities and will probably be beneficial to my career in the future. If given the chance to go to Imperial, absolutely do not miss out.



do you have any additional advice or comments?

If possible, try to find an additional scholarship (apart from Erasmus) or make sure you have sufficient liquidity to get through the year. You do not want to spend the whole year counting pounds.

Save this UU report for your own records and send it as attachment to verslagen.internationaloffice@uu.nl within 30 days after finishing your study abroad period and in ANY case before the final deadline!