

2018-2019

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

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Spaanse taal en cultuur

destination city & country	Salamanca, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Salamanca
start date	11 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	23 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	There is a great number of documents needed in process, but deadlines were always announced in a timely manner and in the end it was a very clear and tightly organized matter.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Most of my questions were already answered in the available information online and other questions were answered by e-mail almost immediately.
academic preparation	
	No special academic preparation was required
language preparation	
	Spanish courses provided at my home university and a decent knowledge of English
finances	
	It was fairly easy to get around with the Erasmus+ money and my own savings.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	As the university is specialized in languages, I took the opportunity to study 3 of them (Korean, Euskera and Portuguese). There is the option to do them as 6 credit course (4 hours a week of classes) or 3 credit course (2 hours a week). The other 2 courses I picked were history and literary-related, both belonging to American studies.
academic quality of education activities	
	The ways of teaching among my teachers varied a lot; all of them have challenged and fascinated me in different ways. In comparison with the Utrecht Universiteit I would say don't count on the exact following of the course description (or in some cases don't expect a course description at all), but for me this has never been an issue.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	

Salamanca – Universidad de Salamanca

Students were allowed and encouraged to ask questions at during classes and there was an office for Erasmus students especially to ask the more general questions
transfer of credits
Has not taken place yet

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
Lots of activities were organized all semester long, taking place in both the academic point of view and within studentlife
accommodation
Accommodation is really easy to find and toke most students who decided to look upon arrival a week at the very most.
leisure & culture
A lot of trips were organized outside the city, but there were also a lot of activities (paella night, dancing classes) taking place in Salamanca.
suggestions/tips
Try everything once

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes! Salamanca is such a safe and warm enviroment that will make you feel at home immediatly. It's beautiful, super alive and has a lot to offer academically and culturally.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Look forward to a wonderful experience; you might not want to go back

2016-2017**Report 1**

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Spanish Language and Culture

destination city & country	Salamanca, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Salamanca
start date	13 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 01 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION

exchange application process
A lot of work, which can be very confusing sometimes. Utrecht really does help you, the USAL takes a lot of time.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Good, I've made a lot of calls and was always helped well. You also receive a lot of emails reminding you what to do, so you can't really forget something.
academic preparation
Didn't do it (and was not necessary).
language preparation
I study Spanish, so didn't have to do a language preparation.
finances
I had a quite big savingsaccount.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The organisation in Spain is... not so good. You receive information very late and sometimes it makes you even more confused. I did think there were enough interesting subjects to choose, but because they have a different timetable-system here, it's very easy to have two courses at the same time... So because of that I did think it was difficult choosing subjects.
academic quality of education activities
The quality is lower then in Holland, yet okay. In comparison with other Spanish universities, it's quite good. If you go abroad for the courses, don't go here, if you really want to go to Spain because of the language, then just do it.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Medium. Not very bad, not very good. I did had a really nice tutor, who was a fourth year student.
transfer of credits
Haven't done that already so I don't know.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
From the university: bad, there was one meeting, which was very confusing. From the studentorganizations: everything starts really late, but when it starts, it's really fun! There are loads of activities.
accommodation
Good, you can easily find a nice room under 300 euros. Almost all students live in an apartment with 2/3/4 other students. It's easy to get a room in the city center or close to the campus (15 minute walk from the center).
leisure & culture
Good! Salamanca is not a really big town, but there is enough to do. And there are a lot of interesting cities close by.
suggestions/tips

If you go the first semester, go earlier! That way you can experience the great weather and be there for the 'ferias', a week full of festivities. If you go second semester, don't go home immediately, it's too much fun. And make sure this university offers enough subjects you find interesting (because of the timetable-conflicts).

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes definitely! The university is of less high quality than Utrecht, yet still good enough for one semester. I also really worked on my Spanish, which was the most important to me. The city is perfect to stay half a year, not too big, not too small. It's really a studenttown, and the ambience is really really nice. People are friendly and it's the perfect place to improve your Spanish.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you are in doubt, just do it.

Report 2

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Erasmus

destination city & country	Salamanca, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Salamanca
start date	01 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	01 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION

exchange application process

Different documents had to be filled in, sent and approved by the sending and receiving institute. This was quite some work to get done, but once I was done with everything, my exchange could begin.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

At the international office I could come with any of my questions, and they helped with anything.

academic preparation

Academic preparation wasn't needed, because I knew what I was going to do when I was there, because the guide with all the courses was available really late.

language preparation

I already had a high level in Spanish, because I study Spanish, so that wasn't necessary but getting myself on the plane and go to Salamanca.

finances

Finances were never a problem, because my parents supported me, I had my monthly government fee and ofcourse the Erasmus grant, and when I needed it my parents could send me some money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

It was a bit of struggle to find out how to apply and how to choose your courses, in the end some Spanish students helped me out, but the university itself didn't do anything to make the situation clear for foreign students.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was really high and exactly how I expected it to be.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I didn't need any support from the university so it's not really applicable.

transfer of credits

Transfer of credits was unclear, because a lot changed last minute in how many credits one course was. The transfer to the university in Utrecht went without any problems.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

It was fine, and some information was given, but a lot remained unclear and we had to figure that out ourselves.

accommodation

Accommodation was really easy to find online beforehand, so I arranged my room before going to Salamanca and I had a really nice room in the city centre and our landlords were nice and helpful.

leisure & culture

The culture in Salamanca is amazing and you see it everywhere you look. The student life is huge and within a couple of days you've made friends already. I have only extremely positive things to say about the leisure and culture part.

suggestions/tips

Tip: it's important to arrange your room beforehand so you won't have the stress of looking when you're already there. I've heard people who had to search quite some time, because the best rooms were already hired. A suggestion is to get into some big Whatsapp groups or Facebook groups to see if people want to meet up, that's how I met my first and best friends there.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend it to anyone, it helps you change into a better person and it gives you a broader view of the world. It makes you more social, more responsible and for your language competencies it's perfect, whether it's English, Spanish, French etc.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Don't let fear of the unknown hold you back from going, everyone will be nervous but in the end everyone returns home with amazing stories.