

2018-2019**Report 1**

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	French language and culture

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
start date	17 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 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	I had already been warned for the amount of work, and this wasn't for nothing. You're going to have to prepare yourself for this whole administration with a lot of paperwork, this is completely normal.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	I think the international office did a great job supporting my process. You just have to dare to pick up the phone or e-mail them, but they are really professional, nice and quick (do contact them on time of course!)
academic preparation	I had been warned about the french education system, but I was still shocked by how inefficiently it worked for me. But I was still happy to have received these tips (also from reports like these), so that the shock was a little less heavy.
language preparation	I study french language, so this was enough : but even with my full-time preparation I was struggling to follow the classes sometimes. Do prepare very well language-wise, especially if you don't study french! You're going to need your french to get things done as well.
finances	I have made a financial plan, which is part of the document-preparation, and this was an okay base for me. (Even though Paris is expensive in a lot of ways, and I spent more than I prepared for).

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	The first administration of my classes was very difficult. It was not clear who I had to go to for my class registrations, and at the pedagogical centre, especially designed for the 1 st / 2 nd year of the history department, they could not tell me which classes I could take in 1 st / 2 nd year history as an Erasmus student. I went there everyday for almost 2 weeks, and everyday they told me something very confidently, that later turned out to be wrong. I was running everywhere trying to arrange things, and when I had finally done the administration I decided to switch to 3 rd year classes after the first week, like they had told me to do in the first place. I thought

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that 3rd year classes would be too hard (as I don't study history), but it turned out that the teachers in 1st and 2nd year had no idea what to do with an Erasmus student. The first 2 years are also almost exclusively about learning facts. In the 3rd year you start to do a little analysis, which is more interesting to me. Although it frustrated me to my core, the good side of it is that you learn to be very persistent and flexible through these issues! I finally chose to do 5 classes of 5 ECTS = 25 ECTS. I wanted to do 30 ECTS at first, but I got the advice to stick with 5 classes, and I'm happy I did : I still had a lot of work to do. I've had the luxury to do this, as I still have some extra classes I can fill into my free space (you can talk about this with your study counsellor/studieadviseur).

academic quality of education activities

Like I said before, I had been prepared by my teachers and some fellow students, but I was still shocked by the didactics of the classes. I had CM's (lectures/hoorcolleges) and TD's (seminars/werkcolleges) : in the CM, the teacher would almost never use technology (1 out of my 7 teachers used powerpoint and was called one of the best teachers ever), and sometimes they would write a name of an important person on the whiteboard. The rest of the time, you had to type or write very quickly. Because not only did the teacher just sit down and read/tell everybody their text, this information was all you got : there was no handbook or way to find the teacher's text back, the only way was to be the best secretary you could be, or to find french friends who could help you out. During the TD's we analysed original sources, which could be very interesting. But most of this time was filled up by student presentations, and not the ones we know here : it was not uncommon to have a student's presentation last the full 2 hours of the TD. I was always very distracted and could almost never follow their point. I had to do the same things as the french students, except in one of my classes where I got a special Erasmus exercise, plus I did oral exams instead of written exams, and the test halfway the semester was optional.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Very, very bad quality! Do not be surprised that they don't care about you at all. You can find real support in nice teachers and your French and Erasmus friends in class. It's all about approaching the right people, and being very persistent at the pedagogical centres when they look at you like you're crazy.

transfer of credits

It's the end of February (exams were halfway January), and I still have a lot to arrange when it comes to my grades : most of them randomly appeared on the university platform EPI, but it says I failed two classes, which is most likely not true. The administration has probably been filled in the wrong way. You have to stay alert with this university : they are by far not as professional and reliable as our international office.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I was excluded from the welcome week because there was 'extremely little space', with more than 100 other Erasmus students who had also been excited for their introduction (we had registered on time)! We rebelled and created a platform on facebook called 'Les exclus de la Sorbonne', which was a fun outcome to a frustrating situation.

accommodation

I was living in an apartment with a small family : a father and his two sons (18 and 21 years old), in the 13^e arrondissement. I got their contact through facebook, and from one day to the other I suddenly had a room in Paris. Of course, because I didn't know them, I wanted to make sure I felt comfortable living with them, so I came to check out the room together with my mom (for a few days). They were very nice and trustworthy, and I decided to take the room. It was 12 m² and 650 euros a month, which is not cheap, but still pretty normal for Paris.

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leisure & culture
I started out my social groups with les Exclus, who I have met up with a couple of times, and a group of dutch girls I had met through a facebook group : I hung out with these groups in August and September before the classes started, and after this we mostly went our separate ways (although I have stayed in contact wit some people from les Exclus afterwards). Then I joined ISAP1, the Erasmus organisation for students at Paris 1. They had some fun activities and I met nice people, even though the organisation was not as active as I'd hoped (+- 4 possible activities a month). I created a facebook group with some girls I met there, and we did some extra things together. I also randomly joined another erasmus group : they were all law students, except for me. We met at a party, it clicked, and we created a whatsapp group together. Before I though that Erasmus groups would be less complex, but I still found my way as you can see!
suggestions/tips
ESN is also a cool organisation, very Erasmus! I went to 2 language cafés (every Monday) and this was pretty fun. But I can also recommend ISAP1, as it's a little more 'authentic'.

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
It's a very pretty and prestigious university, and I have found it super interesting to see how these expectations meet reality. As you can read, I am not very impressed by the educational quality of this university, but I have learned a lot of cultural differences and learned to be super persistent and flexible as well. As it's a very big name, I do recommend experiencing this adventure and the discovery of all these differences, but if you just want to go here for great education I'm not sure if you're going to be satisfied. I do have to add that they have great researchers and intelligent people at this university, I just think that didactics are their weakness.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	
Struggle is normal and part of the experience, so don't worry, you will make it !	

Report 2

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	Language and Culture Studies

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris 1
start date	17 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	

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I applied for a rest spot, and luckily for me the one at Paris 1 was not filled yet. I filled in all the obligatory forms, wrote my motivation letter and was accepted for the spot. It took a bit longer than expected for the host university to accept my application, but everything went rather smoothly.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Utrecht University gives a lot of information to prepare yourself for your departure. I couldn't join the information meeting, but I heard it was very helpful. Along the way, whenever I had a question the International Office would always help me very well, give advice quickly and detailed. They were very nice and the support from Utrecht has been very well.
academic preparation
I had already finished my first three years of my Bachelor, which allowed me to follow the courses in France with ease. In Utrecht, I study International Relations which belongs to the History Department and I went to France as a history student. I however did all my courses at the political sciences department because those courses suited my profile better. I haven't found any problems regarding that, so I do recommend to look at other departments than just the one in which you follow courses at home.
language preparation
The required language level in France is B2 in French, which I obtained through following 4 courses at the Bachelor of French Language and Culture. I do recommend that you are confident in listening and reading French, as almost nobody speaks English and all your exams will be in French.
finances
Paris is a very expensive city. Groceries are much more expensive than in the Netherlands and going out for drinks are too. Rent is also more expensive, but you should be able to find something that doesn't cost more than €650. Also, there are CROUS restaurants where you can have lunch and dinner for only €3,25 and those meals are quite decent. You will need some extra savings, but that goes for every ERASMUS experience.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Inscription for courses in Paris is very different from Utrecht. There is a wide range of courses you can pick from and the university allows each student to follow every course you want in the first two weeks to see which ones you like. After those two weeks, you will pick the courses you want to follow and you can inscribe for them online through the IntraWeb. Next to that, you will have to officially get your Learning Agreement signed. Don't bother sending it in advance as they will only sign it two weeks after the semester has started. After this document is signed, you are good to go. Don't expect the university to send you a list of courses or timetables, you will have to look everything up yourself and go to every information gathering to hold. In those gatherings, they will explain everything.
academic quality of education activities
The education is quite different from that in the Netherlands. All the courses I did were France oriented. For Internationals, you can always go to the lectures, but for internationals in the political sciences department, we were not allowed to follow the tutorials. Since the lectures are not interactive at all, questions are not really appreciated, it felt to me as if education is one-sided. More reproductive than productive. Since taking notes in French is not the easiest, I was very happy to see that for every year there are Facebook groups in which lots of notes are shared. (Just type in Facebook L1/L2/L3 + your major and Paris 1)
counselling & support at receiving university abroad

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If you want to get anything done, go to them in person. They rarely respond on your mail, so just go to them. Online there is some information on the courses, but if you want to have information go to the meetings they organize in the beginning.

transfer of credits

Still in progress

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

In the first week, they organized language classes for which you had to sign up. Do this fast, since they only have place for a select number of people. You will receive credits for this. This week was nice to meet other people and practice some French. There was a closing reception that was nice. Per department, they had organised information meetings, go there, because there you will get the information on the courses. ESN Paris organises an introduction week in the second week of the semester which is quite nice, and in the first week of September they organised walks in the city during the evening. This is a great way to meet people. I highly recommend going to ESN activities since you will meet a lot of people there. You can find them on Facebook for information.

accommodation

It is not the easiest, I however found one through a mediation/real estate agent. I paid her a small fee and in return she helped me find housing, open a bank account, arrange my Imagine R and help with applying for the CAF (subsidy from the French state which is around €180 per month to help pay for housing). Look online for CROUS housing or Cité Universitaire, there you can also find housing.

leisure & culture

Paris is the capital for cultural events, museums, music and fashion, so you will always have something to do. Do make the most of your time and enjoy every possibility. Student organizations and ESN also organize a lot of activities that are fun to go to.

suggestions/tips

Don't worry about the course program, everything goes a bit slower in France than in the Netherlands. Everything will happen eventually. If you enjoy studying in a library, the BIS at Centre Sorbonne is very nice to go to.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would highly recommend going to Paris if you like the city and would want to experience studying in French. It is a challenging experience that is unforgettable. Paris is amazing and will never cease to amaze you.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne**Report 3**

permission to publish contact details**	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: e.vandekreeke@students.uu.nl my Facebook account <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: Eva van de Kreeke
<i>See end note for * and **</i>	
faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Language and Culture studies

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne
start date	10 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	27 / 05 / 2019 (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 very easy. It takes some time to fill in the forms and to make sure you get all the signatures in the right place, but the work itself is not difficult. It is useful to know that you have to start early with the process. It takes time because all the parties (home university, abroad university and you as a student) have to fill in the forms. When some things are not filled in correctly the whole process has to start again, so it is important to make sure you start on time.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The international office at Utrecht University is super helpful. They start off with an exchange event to provide information for students who would like to go on their exchange. All the useful information and tips and tricks are on the Powerpoint slides which were also uploaded online, on Blackboard. If there were still any complications during either the application process or the grant application process in Osiris, the staff members of the office were always willing to help. Also, during my exchange in Paris I have had some problems with my accomodation. Because of the trouble it caused, I was really worried that I was not able to complete all my classes. I contacted the Intenational Office and they were really comforting and helped me to tackle the problems I encountered at that time.
academic preparation	
	The academic preparation was not any different than the preparation you have to do when applying for regular courses at the home university. You can not prepare for the courses in Paris in advance because you don't know which courses are available etc. If you sign up for the integration week you will get all the information you need.

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language preparation
To acquire a B2 level in french, I followed a language course at the Utrecht University. Once arrived in Paris there was an integration program where language courses were also included. It is always difficult to learn a language, but the best way to do this, is to be there. To have a basis in French is nessecary to give you the confidence to find your way at the University and in the city.
finances
I began saving for Paris since I knew I was accepted at the university. Although I saved a lot I still had to borrow a lot of money. Paris is an expensive city, but totally worth the costs.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
I liked my study programme a lot. I followed "contemporary history" courses and one "art history "class. The history classes were all orientated on France or Paris which makes it super interesting to follow. I learned a lot more about the country and the city I lived in. To study these subjects in French, makes it even more special. There were some organisational issues, but it is very easy to fix these. It only takes some time and emails with the professors.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality was as high as back home. The professors expected an analytical and critical attitude of their students when writing papers, doing presentations and making exams. I thought the workload was higher in Paris than it is in Utrecht. This is also because of the language. It will take more time to read texts and write papers.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The International office was quite helpful. It takes some time to reach them, but they were always friendly and willing to give advice. Almost all the professors were really friendly as well.
transfer of credits
This was very easy. You have to write an email to the secretary of the history department and ask for your transcript of records.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
There was a one week programme at the university where students have the opportunity to get in touch with each other and follow a language programme. It was quite nice to get to know your fellow students and the way things work at the university.
accommodation
Finding an accomodation was easy since I looked on the website of 'Housinganywhere'. However, I had many problems with my landlord. When contacting 'Housinganywhere' about those problems, they told me it is not in their power to do anything about this. Their job is to lay contact between landlord and tenants. So I really recommand making clear agreements with your landlord in terms of a housing contract. Make sure all the agreements you make are legally valid, with signatures for example. I also recommand to correspond with your landlord via email instead of mobile phones or other social network platforms. Trust your gut feeling when searching for an accommodation!
leisure & culture

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Paris is amazing. This city is vivid, young, and full of culture. Everyday is different because of the endless things you can do and experience in this place. I visited many theaters, restaurants, bars, gardens and parcs. The people are also really friendly. I met people from all over the world in this city. Every 'arrondissement' is really different and each of them has its own attractions. To fully experience this city by living in it, makes it really special.

suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes! You will learn a lot of the university's programme as well as the city. Sometimes it was hard work with the language and especially all of the classes in French. It was a challenge sometimes, but I really enjoyed doing it, because I was proud of my work, once I was done. Also, living in such a big beautiful city is like living the dream.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Going on a exchange will change your perspectives about your own life and academic future. It is one of the most valuable things I have done so far.

Report 4

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen/Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Liberal Arts and Sciences

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
start date	14 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	16 / 05 / 2019 (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 makes you really enthusiastic about doing the exchange. However, I think that there is too much time in between the application and the actual exchange. For me, going the second semester, there was more than a year in between handing in my application and starting my first course at the Sorbonne.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The information provided by the UU is very accurate and understandable. The International Office Humanities in particular is really helpful and willing to help with all different sorts of problems concerning your exchange.

academic preparation

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The courses I followed during my exchange were in line with the major I am following at the UU (i.e. philosophy). Therefore, I did not put that much effort in academic preparation, as the courses I wanted to follow were already within my academic field.

language preparation

Personally, I followed two language courses - Frans taalverwerving 1 and 2 - at Utrecht University to train my level of the language of instruction at my receiving university. For me, this really helped a lot in preparing to read, listen and speak in French. Of course, this should fit in your study programme at the UU, but for me, as a Liberal Arts & Sciences student, this was not a problem.

finances

I already saved some money before going on the exchange. Besides that, I think that the grant provided by Erasmus really helps in realizing your study abroad. Of course, a city like Paris is expensive, but if you look and spend carefully it is not over-expensive.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The organisation was quite clear, and it was pleasant that international exchange students had the opportunity to visit every course available before determining which courses to take. This way, you could have some sort of try-out before actually following the course.

academic quality of education activities

The topics discussed in the courses were really interesting, and most teachers were really inspiring and passionate about their job. However, the courses were (often) poorly set up concerning deadlines and forms of examination, which caused some confusion for the students.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support was not really exhaustive and in many cases I had to send several emails and follow-up reminders to eventually get a reaction. In my case, a more personal and direct approach (for example by arranging a meeting face-to-face) was necessary.

transfer of credits

Unfortunately, there has not been a transfer of credits yet, since I do not have all of my results back and my transcript of records is yet to be composed. Concerning ECTS, I think the courses at the Sorbonne are equally measured as courses at the UU.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Unfortunately, I have not been selected for the orientation programme, despite having applied for it on time. I was told that there was an administrative mistake, which made that all international exchange students doing philosophy could not attend the orientation programme.

accommodation

It was pretty hard to find an accommodation in Paris. Eventually, I came in contact through Facebook with a woman who was born in the Netherlands and now living in Paris. Her daughter normally lived in a studio in the center of Paris - really small (8m²) - but she was doing an exchange semester as well, in Spain. I was really lucky finding this private studio. Another option is to apply for special student housing arranged by the Sorbonne (usually a bit further located from the city centre, for example at the Cité Universitaire).

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leisure & culture

Of course, in a city like Paris there is an abundance of leisure and culture, which makes it really hard to get bored during your semester abroad. Paris is the second most visited city in the world (after Bangkok) and there are sights and activities in nearly every quartier of the town.

suggestions/tips

In Paris, a lot of attractions (e.g. almost all museums) are free for people younger than 26 years living in the EU. A perfect way to use this advantage is to walk in random museums and try out activities that offer a discount or even free entry.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend studying at the Sorbonne for one (or two) semesters! Not only is it a stunning university with inspiring teachers, but living in such a beautiful city as Paris for half a year is really a dream.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Maybe it is possible to decrease the timespan between application and exchange. For me, there was more than a year in between my application deadline and the actual exchange period. Besides that, I think that there are a lot of bureaucratic/administrative issues that the students have to take care of, like the countless documents concerning Learning Agreements and reports like this one. Maybe there is a way of combining those into fewer documents and tasks, to make everything a bit more clear.

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne**2017-2018****Report 1**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> i.verbiesen@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	French language and culture

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
start date	07 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	20 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	<p>The application process went well: the university kept me updated on deadlines and gave clear information on what they expect you to do. You have to do things like writing a motivation letter, making a financial plan and a study plan. It seems like a lot, but it helped me in a way that I got very self-conscious: why do I want to go to Paris, what will I be doing there, and what will it offer me in the long run, career-wise? After submitting my application, I was very happy about my choice and I could not wait until the time was finally there.</p>
counselling & support at Utrecht University	<p>A long time in advance, the university organises information meetings for students that are interested in going abroad. The students website also provides a lot of information on orientation and on the application. Furthermore, you can ask for a meeting with a contact person from your bachelor's programme, which I did, and it really helped me, because you can ask them specific questions and they can tell you about the experiences of other students in your bachelor's degree that went abroad. Also, the International Office has been very helpful: they are always there for you when you need help.</p>
academic preparation	<p>Because of the fact that I was going to follow mostly third year's courses, I knew it was important to have a certain academic level of knowledge. However, I study French language and culture, and at Sorbonne I followed ancient history courses. From that point of view, I could not really prepare academically. I just prepared by reading a lot about the subjects, but I am sure that is not necessary. The most important thing is choosing courses that you are interested in.</p>
language preparation	<p>Personally, I study French language and culture, therefore my study programme was sufficient concerning the acquisition of the required B2 level in French.</p>
finances	<p>From a very young age, I already knew that I wanted to study at Sorbonne at some point during my studies. Therefore, I started saving money a long time in advance. Saving money is a good thing to do in my opinion,</p>

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since Paris is a very expensive city to live in, especially when you are an exchange student and want to make the most out of your time in Paris. Just an Erasmus grant is simply not sufficient.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Regarding the inscription process for the courses, there is a big difference between Sorbonne and Utrecht University: whereas in Utrecht you sign up via internet, at Sorbonne you have to hand in a signed paper at the secrétariat a few days in advance of the first week of the semester. This was quite stressful to me, since the university did not tell us beforehand, so in the integration week we suddenly had to sign up for the courses we wanted to follow. However, everything turned out just fine. If you do not like the courses you have chosen, you can change courses after a week or two.

The Sorbonne offers a wide range of history courses, but I only did ancient history courses. This meant I was not able to do all the courses I chose before my mobility, due to time schedule overlap. That was quite a shame, but in the end I managed to make some changes in my learning agreement.

As for the course content: the courses are not too hard to follow. The most important thing is a high level of French. In the beginning, I felt like the teachers talked very fast, but I got used to it very soon.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the courses was high, just like the teachers' academic knowledge and competences. I followed third year courses, and I think that the level matched level 3 courses at Utrecht University: you have to work hard and they are very specific and require a certain background knowledge. Nonetheless, I think you are still able to follow the courses if you are just interested in them and if your language level is high enough, as I argued before.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I did not have any issues, so I do not have experiences with the local International Office or any other counselling or supporting institutions.

transfer of credits

In the integration week, we were being told that our transcript of records would be sent to us a few weeks after the end of the semester. Since France is a bureaucratic country and things require a lot of paperwork, it can take a long time -- but you can always send an email so they can keep you up to date.

Sorbonne uses the ECTS system, so 30 ECTS at Sorbonne corresponds well with 30 ECTS in Utrecht (the normal amount of credits for one semester). Therefore, I chose to take an ensemble of courses that were 30ECTS together. Otherwise, it would have been too much.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The university arranged a welcoming cocktail and meeting with all exchange students together. The following week was integration week, in which I had to follow a five day language course and some methodology courses. Especially the methodology courses were very useful, as I got an insight in how things work at Sorbonne: the type of assignments and exams you can expect, et cetera.

Sorbonne offers an international students association, which was especially nice in the first few weeks of my mobility period, because I did not know anyone, and they organise a lot of activities, so they give you a nice opportunity to meet other exchange students. It helped me meet new people, people that are now very good friends of mine.

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accommodation
I was very lucky when it came to finding an accommodation, which I managed to do via one of my teachers at Utrecht University. Otherwise, it can be difficult and stressful to find a place to stay, so I have heard from other exchange students. I can just say: as soon as you know you want to go to Paris, start looking for an accommodation!
leisure & culture
Paris is a very rich city when it comes to culture and leisure. There are lots of museums (most of them are even free for students) and cultural activities to do. Paris has a very rich history, which you see and feel around you when you are walking in the streets: there is always something to do, and you will always discover new places to go to: that is what I love about Paris. Throughout the week, I met my friends mostly at night, because we all had busy time schedules, but we always managed to see each other every few days. On weekends, we organised museum trips and other activities ourselves, but once again, there are students associations that organize a lot of events.
suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, I would definitely recommend the Panthéon-Sorbonne University to other students. That is, it has always been a very prestigious university, which made me feel honoured to get the possibility to study there. I must say that the facilities are not always as good as the facilities we are used to at Utrecht University, which makes things challenging sometimes, but it also makes things very interesting. Also, Paris is a very big, dynamic city, but at the same time, if you get to know the city better, you will see that eventually it feels like a very small town. To me, it feels like a second home.
do you have any additional advice or comments?

Report 2

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	French language and culture
destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Université Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne
start date	01 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	21 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

exchange application process
It is quite an intensive application process, there are a lot of things to do, but everything is very well and clearly indicated on the site of the UU. Also, the International Office provides a lot of information.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The international Office is very helpful, and always responds quite fast on your emails.
academic preparation
As I'm a student in French language and culture, the courses of the bachelor were my academic preparation. However, the academic system in France is really different, so you need to keep in mind that, even if you have a better language knowledge than most of the Erasmus students, you will need to adapt to the French way of writing and organizing.
language preparation
Since I am a student in French language in culture, my French language knowledge was adequate enough before going abroad.
finances
The living costs in Paris are quite high, so you really need to be prepared. Especially the rent is very high, so better start saving money early and make some calculations, this really helps to estimate your costs.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
I took some extra courses to be sure to obtain 30 ECTS, but I do not recommend this! The system is very different, and for a 4 ECTS course you have sometimes the same amount of preparation as a 5 ECTS course, so just take the amount you need. In my opinion, the best combination is 4 courses of 5 ECTS, 2 of 4 ECTS ('complémentaire') and a language or other course of 2 ECTS. The content of the courses was very interesting, sometimes a bit difficult because I was doing history without doing that Bachelor in the Netherlands. The teachers do not always provide guidelines, so you need to find out their expectations by yourself, but this is also a part of intercultural learning I think. The final exams were not well organised, because as an Erasmus student you do the oral exams, but the secretary makes a schedule based on the subject, which means that you have all the exams at the same day when you only choose 'histoire contemporaine' for example. However, I managed to change some dates if you explain this problem to your teachers.
academic quality of education activities
I think it is a chance to study at the Sorbonne, because the history education is the best in France and you have very renowned teachers. However, the way of teaching is very different, so compared to the wide range of exercises we are used to in the Netherlands, the diversity seems to be poor. But I think this is part of experiencing another educational system.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The delegated teacher is really helpful, and for organisational problems you can contact the secretary, but it can take much time to get an answer. Compared to the International Office in Utrecht, the support is not that well organised.
transfer of credits
Still in progress.

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	
I recommend the integration week! It's a good preparation at the educational system, but quite serious. Also, keep in mind that the 'examencommissie' does not recognize automatically the 3 ECTS, they only gave me 1 ECTS for the whole week.	
accommodation	
Hard to find in Paris! Start in time, I was lucky that I had contacts in Paris. Also, there is the service CROUS, which provides accommodations for international students.	
leisure & culture	
Paris is of course an amazing city when it comes to leisure and culture. There is a lot to do and to see! The association of the university (ISAP) also organizes activities, which can be nice to get to know new people.	
suggestions/tips	
I can only recommend to begin in time with your preparation: make a list of things you want to do, search for an accommodation, so that you don't have to worry once you're in Paris. For your accommodation, you can get financial support of the CAF, so don't forget that one! And make the best out of it, it will be an amazing time!	

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
Yes, but it is not the easiest way to go for a stay abroad. Compared to other universities in France, Paris 1 demands maybe a higher level of French and academic competences, but at the same time it is a chance to be able to study at one of the most reputed universities in France. I definitely recommend Paris as destination, because it is an amazing city! I had an unforgettable experience, even though it was not always easy. And I also learned a lot of the difficulties and organisational issues I had, it definitely improves your French and makes you good at problem solving ;)	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	
See it as an adventure, an intercultural challenge and everything will be fine! It's Paris, so it will be an amazing experience and it's definitely worth it!	

Report 3

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> e.j.delooijer@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	bachelor's master's PhD
name study programme	Communicatie- en Informatiewetenschappen

destination city & country	PARIS, FRANCE
name university abroad	Université Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris 1
start date	03 /01 /2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19/05 /2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION
exchange application process
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Utrecht University helped me so much during my preparation for my application process.
academic preparation
I just signed in for my courses when I arrived in Paris. Indeed, I have to do it also before I left Holland (as some kind of assurance that I would really go to Paris), but this was not binding.
language preparation
In the semester before I left Holland for Paris, I did two French language courses to better my French. The first one was about French grammar and vocabulary, and the second one was a course given in French, about the French politics and history.
finances
I didn't had the time to save enough money, as I just decided to go to Paris about 2 months before I actually left.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
I studied in a completely different departement than I do in Holland. In Holland I study normally communication, but in Paris I choose for history, just because it seemed interesting to me. In the beginning it was really hard (everything was also in French of course), but it was definately the right choice as it was really interesting. I had a lot of organisational issues though. That's very important to know about the French universities: they are not as organized as the universities in Holland ;) In the beginning I thought that was kind of difficult, but just always: GO THERE. No emails or phonecalls, just go there; that's the only way you'll get your answer.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality of the education was good, but I have to notice that there is a really big difference between the teacher and the students. In Holland, there's always place for a discussion or conversation between teacher and students about a subject. In France, it's really the teacher who tells you how it is and how you should reproduce it, and that's that.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The support is not really strong at my university. Because there's such a high level of bureaucracy, it's really hard to find the right people for your problem or to get your answer fast in general. It annoyed me sometimes a bit that I had to ask 3 times for just a little simple thing. But the teacher (or, the teachers I had) were also really helpful when they got to know that I was an Erasmus student.
transfer of credits
Until so far the transferring of credits went okay. My credits got already accepted by UU.

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	
The orientation programme was a bit more than one week. It was French classes, tours in the library and other places of uni and in the end a party. It was a nice week and way to get to know the other students and the uni, as this university is literally everywhere in Paris so you really have to know where to go.	
accommodation	
Paris I has no campus, so I had to look for my room myself. I arrived in Paris with no room or anything, I stayed in a hostel and looked for my room here in Paris. That went quit well; I used the site www.erasmusu.com → it's really useful for Erasmus students. But watch out; prices in Paris are high. My first room was in the 14 th arrondissement, 7 m2 and I payed 700,-. But now I'm living better: Bastille, 15 m2 for 600,-. You just have to be lucky or know some people in the city. But please don't think that it's mission impossible to find something in Paris, as some people think, because that's definately not true! And there's also always Cité Universitaire → a kind of campus for ALL the students in Paris.	
leisure & culture	
If you're reading this because you're doubting about leaving to Paris, you already know or can imagine what this city has to offer you on cultural/leisure level. This city has litteraly everything: one of the most famous musea of the world, architecture, little independant exhibitions, squats, parcs, and hundreds of parties/festivals/events. Whether it's summer or winter, Paris is always alive. And that's what attracts me the most to this city: there is ALWAYS something to do, to see or to hear.	
suggestions/tips	

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
I would with all of my heart recommend this university and destination to others. As I said before, it's not the best organised university, the language can be hard in the beginning, you pay a lot of money, but in the end everything can be managed. And I think the experience of living in one of the biggest cities in the world with endless possibilities in art and whatever you are looking for, is way more important. For me it's like living in a little dreamworld. That's why I also decided to stay :) I don't know what it is with this city, but people fall for it. So: YES, go abroad. Go to Paris. It will open your eyes, I am a 100% sure.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	

Report 4

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

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> rensvanhoogdalem@gmail.com
faculty/college	humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Philosophy

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	université Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne
start date	05 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	28 / 11 / 2017 (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 didn't provide any trouble.	
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
good	
academic preparation	
I would say this is the part that posed a lot of problems for me afterwards. I didn't have any clue the educational system was so different than the one in Utrecht. The two universities have a whole different way of teaching, preparing for classes and even the classes itself are very different. It would have been nice to have gotten more information on the way they teach, what kind of classes they have and how to study 'the french way'. I feel the academic gap between Paris 1 and UU is big. It would have been nice to be prepared for that. I sent several mails to Paris 1 in preparation of my semester abroad but didn't got a satisfying response.	
language preparation	
I took an delf B2 course and found that to be more than enough. With this course I noticed I spoke better French than most other erasmus-students.	
finances	

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
I have never seen a university with such a vast and elaborate offer of philosophy courses than the Sorbonne. The big difficulty is with finding the Gems. Do not worry if you still don't know what courses you will follow at the beginning of your semester. Everyone gets two weeks to visit as many courses as you want and then, after those two weeks you have to pick your courses. Because I was in the third year of my bachelor I mainly looked at License 3 courses. Instead, I should have been more focused on the M1 and M2 courses because the L3 courses were really of a much more inferior level than the M1 and M2 courses. Organisation-wise the Sorbonne is a big disaster. You never know what you have to read for a class. It is absolutely not clear what the teachers expect from their students and as i mentioned before, you only know what courses you'll be taking halfway the first month of your stay.	
academic quality of education activities	
Differed a lot from course to course. The challenge is to find the right professors, if you manage to figure out who's good, you might actually learn something, if you don't, be prepared for some nervewrecking classes.	

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Never mail, allway go to them in real life. The counselling and support is just flat-out bad. At this point you notice that it is such a big university, they don't really care.
transfer of credits

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
You might as well want to skip the introductory programme. It was a waste of time. Orientation programme: find some cool students and figure everything out on your own.
accommodation
I stayed in the quartier Latin dans le sixième, which was cool because it was at walking distance of the sorbonne but i also payed a lot for it. You might be better of not staying in the center but in the 20e or 10e. Very up an coming neighbourhoods. Also the 15 is really nice.
leisure & culture
It's Paris. They give rockconcerts in Musée d'orsay. They host some of the biggest cultural events in the world. Art and culture in paris is number one. What I would suggest to make your stay more worthwhile, focus less on academic endeavours, since they tend to dissappoint, and really focus on having a good time, going to as many museums as, as many jazzclubs, as many gardens, as many festivals as you can. Then you'll have a great time, don't expect the university to deliver.
suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
It really depends on what kind of student you are. Are you a student that thrives on total freedom, the feeling that you can do whatever you want, read whatever you want and who doesn't expect a university to challenge you but does it yourself, then this could be a good university for you. If you are a student that thrives on structure and challenges given by the university, a student that expects from a university and professors to actively engage with the students, then this uni is maybe not for you. I would recommend this university only if you are fed up with the educational system here and really want to try something completely different and if you are looking for adventure. I wouldn't recommend this university to someone who is pursuing an academical career.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Feel free to contact me.

Report 5

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> c.c.fijen@students.uu.nl
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France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

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

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Université Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne
start date	12 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 05 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The exchange application process is not a very complex process, although it does take time. Utecht University informs you well about the deadlines and needed documents. If you start on time, it is not a problem to have your application ready before the deadline. The difficult part of the application is however to write your motivational letter and figure out exactly why you want to go on exchange. If you have clear and interesting reasons for this, your letter will be written in a sec and the application process will proceed smoothly.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The International Office of Utrecht University is there for all your questions! I emaild a lot with them, asking them all sorts of questions, but they always answer very kindly and very quick. It is great to have such a professional and fast operating International Office. They will help you through the entire application process and are always there if you need some reassurance about your exchange. Doing an Erasmus is after all a very exiting yet stressfull project.
academic preparation
The academic level of Utrecht University is very high. Just following your normal courses and being an 'eager' student is in my opinion enough academic preparation. Of course it is helpful to research the academic level of your receiving university, for example by reading course descriptions and comparing the literature they use. But once you have done that I personally think you will have no problems with the level of the courses you are going to follow abroad.
language preparation
Since I have studied in Paris, all my courses were given in French. In order to study at the Université Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne you will need a level of B2 in French. To obtain this level you can either follow the first three 'Taalverwerving Frans' courses at the UU, or you can obtain your B2 certificate at another instution. I obtained my B2 French certificate after following a course at the Alliance Française in Rotterdam. They offer a specific course to prepare you for the exam and in my case their course worked perfectly.
finances
Doing an exchange in Paris is quite expensive. This is of course caused by the fact that Paris is the capital of France and that there live a lot of rich Parisians in the city. Do not get scared by the costs of an exchange though, the experience is more than worth it and there are multiple ways to help you financing your stay abroad. For example, the Erasmus scholarship is available for almost every student participation in an Erasmus exchange. Thereby, there are as well additional scholarships you can apply to. Personally I tried to work as much

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

as possible at my side job to save money for my exchange and I did a payed internship before coming to Paris. Last but not least, your parents are most likely to finance a part of your exchange too. For almost every Erasmusstudent I spoke their parents helped out one way or another.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The organisation of the inscription for the courses was arranged properly. After I found out where to go to subscribe myself for my courses the organisation worked very good. The secretariat of Art History helped me a lot and after a week everything was properly arranged.

After arriving in Paris I changed some of my courses due to the content of the courses I had chosen while being in The Netherlands. The descriptions of the courses in the student guide were quite short so it was difficult to determine what the courses in Paris would look like. Therefore I decided to attend the lectures of some courses I did not choose, as well as the lectures of the courses I did choose, to compare them and decide which ones I was going to follow definitely. After a week I made my choice and communicated this with the secretariat. They made sure my inscription was correct and then my study program was organized.

academic quality of education activities

The courses at the Université Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne are certainly different than the ones in Utrecht. That doesn't mean the quality is less, they just focus on other things than Utrecht University does. A difference I noticed for example is that they focus less on the development of your research skills and more on your general art historical knowledge. Instead of writing research papers they ask third year bachelor students to do an 'expose', a presentation in front of the class about a painting or subject related to the lectures. Thereby, students are not supposed to read a lot of articles, which surprised me since it is very common in Utrecht. On the other hand, the lectures and themes addressed in the courses here are very interesting and the professors are true specialists in their fields. So the courses are different, but not necessarily of a lesser academic quality.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counselling by both the Erasmus responsible for Art History students and the International Office of Paris 1 were great. The communication worked fast and they tried to help you as much as they could. For all your questions the Maison International was there. The easiest way to reach them is either by mail or in person in their office.

transfer of credits

My home University uses the credit system as Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne. This saved a lot of troubles with the credit calculations. To make sure my university would accept the credits I obtained in Paris, I asked the maison international of Paris 1 to stamp the credit transfer document they use for international students. With this document I hope not to have any trouble transferring my credits, but since the universities both use the ECTS system I do not foresee any troubles.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The integration week hosted by my guest university was very helpful and well organised. Every morning from 9:00h to 13:00h we had french lessons, so that we all would start our classes well prepared and equipped with enough French knowledge. The teacher was very friendly and helped us a lot with our language troubles. It is difficult to suddenly switch to another languages other than English for me, so the lessons in the intergration week were a welcome starting point.

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

Next to French classes, we also had several classes which explained the university to us. Classes on how to use the library, how to make your exams and how the lecture system works were giving to all the new Erasmus students. Very helpful as well, since it is hard to figure this all out by yourself.

In short, the welcome and orientation programme of Paris 1 Panthéon - Sorbonne was very good. It was a helpful first week in Paris which really helped me to start my exchange without any major problems.

accommodation

I found the accommodation for my stay in Paris via internet myself. It took me a long time to find an appropriate accommodation in the neighborhood of the university, which was located in the 6th arrondissement of Paris. I cannot give a lot of advice on how to find a nice accommodation, since all the students I spoke to about the subject had their own methods. I think it is a matter of searching a lot, holding on and a little luck. Eventually all the Erasmusstudents found a place to stay, so you will find a place too!

leisure & culture

Paris is of course a city which has a lot to offer concerning leisure and culture. You can visit a lot of places on your own, but of course it is more fun to visit them with your new friends. Therefore I recommend to all the new Erasmusstudents in Paris to take part in the activities hosted by other students or International student associations as ISAP1 or ESN. They will show you the coolest places of the city and help you find your way to the nicest bars, restaurants, museums or secret 'touristic' places.

Some advise to hold on to: Erasmus is the party everyone is always invited to!

suggestions/tips

I could obviously write down some classic advises in here, but I chose not to. I think it is very important to follow your own path while being on Erasmus and making decisions on your own. No matter what you do or what you choose not to do: it will be alright. Just go with the flow, have fun and let yourself be amazed by all the new things you will experience.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend this university and destination to others. The university is one of the best in Paris, if not France and the city is truly wonderful. Studying in French makes things harder than a 'regular' exchange in English might be, although it does add up to the general experience of living in another country where people speak another language. By following classes in French your French will improve and your connection to the French culture will narrow.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Go! Be brave and sign up for an exchange. The experience is truly worth it. You will learn a lot about yourself and it is great to experience the differences between universities within the Europe.

2016 – 2017**Report 1**

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen		
level	bachelor's	master's	PhD
name study programme	Communicatie- en Informatiewetenschappen		
destination city & country	PARIS, FRANCE		

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

name university abroad	Université Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris 1
start date	03 /01 /2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19/05 /2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Utrecht University helped me so much during my preparation for my application process.
academic preparation	I just signed in for my courses when I arrived in Paris. Indeed, I have to do it also before I left Holland (as some kind of assurance that I would really go to Paris), but this was not binding.
language preparation	In the semester before I left Holland for Paris, I did two French language courses to better my French. The first one was about French grammar and vocabulary, and the second one was a course given in French, about the French politics and history.
finances	I didn't had the time to save enough money, as I just decided to go to Paris about 2 months before I actually left.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	I studied in a completely different departement than I do in Holland. In Holland I study normally communication, but in Paris I choose for history, just because it seemed interesting to me. In the beginning it was really hard (everything was also in French of course), but it was definately the right choice as it was really interesting. I had a lot of organisational issues though. That's very important to know about the French universities: they are not as organized as the universities in Holland ;) In the beginning I thought that was kind of difficult, but just always: GO THERE. No emails or phonecalls, just go there; that's the only way you'll get your answer.
academic quality of education activities	The academic quality of the education was good, but I have to notice that there is a really big difference between the teacher and the students. In Holland, there's always place for a discussion or conversation between teacher and students about a subject. In France, it's really the teacher who tells you how it is and how you should reproduce it, and that's that.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	The support is not really strong at my university. Because there's such a high level of bureaucracy, it's really hard to find the right people for your problem or to get your answer fast in general. It annoyed me sometimes a bit that I had to ask 3 times for just a little simple thing. But the teacher (or, the teachers I had) were also really helpful when they got to know that I was an Erasmus student.
transfer of credits	

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

Until so far the transferring of credits went okay. My credits got already accepted by UU.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme was a bit more than one week. It was French classes, tours in the library and other places of uni and in the end a party. It was a nice week and way to get to know the other students and the uni, as this university is literally everywhere in Paris so you really have to know where to go.

accommodation

Paris I has no campus, so I had to look for my room myself. I arrived in Paris with no room or anything, I stayed in a hostel and looked for my room here in Paris. That went quite well; I used the site www.erasmusu.com → it's really useful for Erasmus students. But watch out; prices in Paris are high. My first room was in the 14th arrondissement, 7 m² and I paid 700,-. But now I'm living better: Bastille, 15 m² for 600,-. You just have to be lucky or know some people in the city. But please don't think that it's mission impossible to find something in Paris, as some people think, because that's definitely not true! And there's also always Cité Universitaire → a kind of campus for ALL the students in Paris.

leisure & culture

If you're reading this because you're doubting about leaving to Paris, you already know or can imagine what this city has to offer you on cultural/leisure level. This city has literally everything: one of the most famous museums of the world, architecture, little independent exhibitions, squares, parks, and hundreds of parties/festivals/events. Whether it's summer or winter, Paris is always alive. And that's what attracts me the most to this city: there is ALWAYS something to do, to see or to hear.

suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would with all of my heart recommend this university and destination to others. As I said before, it's not the best organised university, the language can be hard in the beginning, you pay a lot of money, but in the end everything can be managed. And I think the experience of living in one of the biggest cities in the world with endless possibilities in art and whatever you are looking for, is way more important. For me it's like living in a little dreamworld. That's why I also decided to stay :) I don't know what it is with this city, but people fall for it. So: YES, go abroad. Go to Paris. It will open your eyes, I am a 100% sure.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Report 2

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	French language and culture

destination city & country	Paris, France
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France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

name university abroad	Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris 1)
start date	01 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	01 / 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	
	The application process is quite extensive, so beginning on time is very important. It is also a good idea to always be aware of deadlines etc so keep that in mind.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	In Utrecht the administration is very nice and helpful, I have always been able to send an email with my questions.
academic preparation	
	I had already finished two years of the bachelor French language and culture so that was basically my academic preparation.
language preparation	
	Same as above.
finances	
	I didn't save up for my stay in Paris. I did spend a lot of money there but if you're careful that is actually quite managable. In Paris there are big supermarkets like Lidl and Intermarché, in the 18 th arrondissement (where I was staying) I had both in walking distance.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	As for choosing the courses, that is different for every university in France. Initially I was enrolled in year three history classes, but those were too difficult in my opinion. The counselors in Utrecht advised me to enroll in classes of year one and two, so I did and that was a little bit better. To be honest, I had a hard time with the courses. Especially in the beginning. The teachers were nice but weren't all that helpful and the workload is quite large, depending on the teacher and the course. Be prepared to spend a lot of time studying. I know that this is different in other cities.
academic quality of education activities	
	The teachers were obviously knowledgable. The didactic skills were very poor.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	Horrible. It depends on the situation, if you're lucky everything goes as planned. If not, you will probably have a hard time getting someone to give you clear and helpful advice. Most of the people responsible for exchange students know nothing about nothing and will keep sending you to different people who also know nothing about nothing. Ah, the French bureaucracy.
transfer of credits	
	Don't know yet, I have been sending emails for weeks to find out what my grades are but no answer yet.

France - Paris - Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	
Apparently there was a deadline for the application for the introduction week. It wasn't made clear in the email so keep that in mind.	
accommodation	
I got a room at a CROUS residence, a 35m2 room with bathroom and kitchen - had to share it with another girl. The room was separated into two sleeping spaces with doors so there was enough privacy. It cost 300 a month and it was located in the 18 th arrondissement, not the best but I never felt unsafe. The residence is only accessible with a key for the gates.	
leisure & culture	
Awesome! It's Paris, so always lots to do and lots to see.	
suggestions/tips	
Buy a Lonely Planet for Paris and try to see as much as possible. 5 months isn't nearly enough to see everything but to me that is a good thing.	

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
The university, no. The city, yes. I had a great time there, I know it doesn't seem like it in this report but there is a lot to do besides worrying about university when you're there. And also, all the problems and difficulties made me 1. much better in french and 2. an awesome problem-solver. I am already noticing the difference three weeks into the new semester in Utrecht.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	
Eventually, it's all worth it! ;)	

Report 3

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

destination city & country	Paris, France
name university abroad	Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne
start date	01 / 01 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 05 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	

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All the information about the process provided by the UU was very clear and easy to follow. The information about credits and cours scheduals from Sorbonne was not so clear, had to ask and email a lot.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The interntational office has always been very helpful
academic preparation
Since the Sorbonne university is very different from Utrecht in academic culture I didn't feel prepared, but that's part of the learning experience too
language preparation
I study french language so I already had a C1 level before going
finances
I made some calculations, which is really necessairy when you go live in an expensive city like Paris

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
I liked the content of the courses I took (Histoire contemporaine) But in 5 months I could not get used to the way university organised. Some teachers sended guidelines for Erasmus students for essays and exposés, some teachers didn't at all. Especially the organisation of my lasts exams was horrible. They planned 5 oral exams at the same day at the same time and it was really hard to solve this problem cause nobody would ansvere emails and secretariat couldn't help us. Also they didn't provide any information at all about the content of the exams. I felt very frustrated about this
academic quality of education activities
It's very different from Dutch way of teaching. So in the beginning I considered it to be a low quality, but it also has to do with the way you expect things to be and the things you're used to.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
There was no. If you find a problem, you have to solve it yourself.
transfer of credits
I'm still in this process

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
The semaine d'intégration was helpfull, i got to know people and the language course was pretty intense. It was very full and serious, with classes all week from 9:00 till 18:00, more than it was fun.
accommodation
I found easily because I already knew people in Paris
leisure & culture
I choose to study in France because I like the culture and I feel connected to it. But I still had to get used for a long time, especially to the university 'culture'.
suggestions/tips

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CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
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I can recommend this university. I haven't had the best time in this university because most of the time i was frustrated by poor organisation and all the difficulties I had to solve all the time. Things take a lot of time, are not clear, are not well organised, to say the least, I was disappointed a lot of times because I expected the Sorbonne to be an excellent university. But if you let go of all your expectations and just try to go with the way things go, you might have a better experience.

do you have any additional advice or comments?
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