

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)**2018-2019****Report 1**

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: l.vanderwerf2@students.uu.nl
<i>See end note for * and **</i>	my weblog	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes:
	my Facebook account	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes:
	other (social) media	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes:
	or		
<input type="checkbox"/> my contact details cannot be published on the UU webpage, but I do give the International Office permission to forward my e-mail address to individual students interested in my host university abroad: @			
faculty/college	Humanities		
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's	<input type="checkbox"/> master's	<input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	History		

destination city & country	Budapest, Hungary
name university abroad	Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church
start date	04 / 02 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	29 / 06 / 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 was very stressed when I started the preparation for my exchange. You have to fill in a lot of forms, which was a bit overwhelming to me. It helped me a lot to make a list of everything that you have to prepare, and set dates for it. Afterwards, I can say that everything went well. My receiving institution was also very helpful and communicated clearly about the application process.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	During the preparations, the International Office of Utrecht University guided me through the process. Everything was explained step by step and they were always available for questions. Utrecht University also organized a lot of information lectures, to give us an idea of what we could expect. These were very helpful too.
academic preparation	I did not do academic preparations, because the level of education is much lower in Hungary.
language preparation	I did not do a lot of language preparations. I needed to get the B2 level in English, but I already reached that by then.
finances	To finance my exchange, I requested the Erasmus scholarship. Moreover, I saved some money before and I requested a studentloan. Lastly my mom paid me a monthly amount to help me. I did not have any problems with money during my exchange.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
<p>During my stay, I took five courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hungarian Art History - 19th and 20th Century Hungarian History - History of Ancient Iran - Public Relations - Hungarian Language for Absolute Beginners <p>All courses had a credit of 6 ECTS, so 30 in total. I chose these courses, because I wanted to get to know more about the country and language. I chose the course Public Relations, because it is out of my comfort zone and it was a nice opportunity to challenge myself. I chose the course History of Ancient Iran, because I am very interested in the Middle East. I liked all of the courses, but they were very easy. I would prefer to be challenged a bit more.</p> <p>I had to apply for the courses through the Neptun system, which is similar to Blackboard. I had no issues with the application. The courses themselves were very chaotic. Most of them did not offer a syllabus, so the organization of the courses was very unclear. It turned out I just had to get used to this, because after a while it went fine.</p>
academic quality of education activities
<p>My experience is that the quality of the courses was not very high. The content was interesting, but there was not a lot of pressure. During the course 'Hungarian art history' we visited a few museums, which was a very nice experience. I loved to evaluate and analyze the artistic works of Hungary.</p>
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
<p>Also the Erasmus office of the receiving university communicated very clearly. They sent me emails regularly, to keep me updated about new forms we had to fill in. The university organized an introduction week and explained the system (although it was chaotic).</p>
transfer of credits
<p>We received our grades through the Neptun system. In Hungary they use a 1-5 scale, with 5 as the best.</p>

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
<p>Besides the introduction week that the university organized, the student union also organized events to welcome us. For example, they showed us around the city and planned a big welcome party. They were very welcoming and open for all questions.</p>
accommodation
<p>When I arrived in Budapest, I went to a dormitory I applied for. However, I did not like the place. It was too far away from the city centre and not cozy at all. It had no wifi, too little showers and toilets. I therefore decided to look for an apartment. I found a very nice place in the city after one day already, a flat with three flatmates. I enjoyed it a lot there, because I had a close relationship with my flatmates. The communication with the landlord was a bit difficult though. He did not react to our texts, for example. Besides that I had a very good experience in this accommodation.</p>
leisure & culture
<p>Budapest is a great city to party, relax and explore. The city is famous for its public baths, where you can relax and enjoy the view. Furthermore, there are ruin bars in the centre, which have an industrial appearance and an amazing atmosphere. Also the 360 bars are worth a visit, because they offer a beautiful view of the city.</p>

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

Margareth Island is a great place to relax. It is filled with old trees and wide fields, so it is an amazing site to chill with friends. There are festivals hosted in summer too.

There are a lot of cultural sites to visit too. The parliament of Budapest is the second biggest one of Europe and has a majestic appearance. Second, the museums are worth a visit too. At the Buda side of the city are some great buildings, like the Buda castle and the Fisherman Bastion.

suggestions/tips

- Visit the ruin bars.
- Go for iceskating in winter in the citypark.
- Chill on Margareth Island
- Visit Balaton Lake (outside Budapest)
- Make sure you form a network in the beginning of the semester.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend Budapest as a destination. It is a very international city, with a lot of students and an amazing atmosphere. You will never get bored here. I would not recommend my university, because I don't feel challenged by the courses. I would rather choose a bigger one, such as Corvinus. These are better organized and challenge you more.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

I would strongly recommend students to study abroad. It is an experience you will never forget and offers you a lot of new insights. Do not be scared of by the amount of preparations, it is definitely worth it!

Report 2

faculty/college	Humanity
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Communication and information sciences

destination city & country	Hungary, Budapest
name university abroad	Károli Gáspár University
start date	29 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	29 / 06 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION

exchange application process

This went oke. There is a nice scheme where you can see what you have to do and when you have to do it. Just make sure you pay attention to this, and to all the deadlines so make sure you start on time. I think when you're motivated to go abroad, you will have no problems with this because you're excited about organizing everything.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The UU is very much willing to help you, so if you're in doubt or you have a question, send them an email. But I think you can find all the answers to your questions in the documents they provide. The only thing I'm not

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

happy with is that I proposed 4 courses in my Learning Agreement, because I thought I was supposed to have 4 per semester (like at the UU), and apparently I had to take 5 because you only get 6 ECT per course at my university in Budapest. Would've been nice if somebody would've told me that the amount of courses/ECT could differ per university.

academic preparation

I didn't really know what I could prepare on the academic parts. I knew the education level would be lower, so I wasn't nervous about the level being too high or the exams being too hard. The only important thing is that you have to realize that the education probably will be different, like in every country you will go to.

language preparation

I didn't do any extra courses to prepare my language. My courses were in English, and when you're following a Bachelor at the UU you automatically have a B2 level. You can also download a language app on your phone like Duolingo, to get used to the language of the country where you're going to live in.

finances

I had to make a financial plan, which maybe feels a little bit unnecessary but it's actually nice to have an overview over what incomes and what costs you have. I saved some money before going, and worked at the faculty of Dutch at my University.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The first week there was an introduction week, where you met all the other international students, you walked through the university and city, and met students from there. I was really excited about the courses I signed up for. At my arrival 1 course was cancelled, so I asked which course was similar. The course they said was really different than what I expected and I did not really enjoy it, but I finished it anyway. The other three courses were interesting. Before I arrived I was a bit nervous about the university being too Christian, but during my stay I didn't notice anything of it.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of education is not really high. I had one teacher whose English was really good, but the other two teachers were bad in English or their English was hard to understand because of a strong accent. Some of the courses were quite OK, but some seminars consisted of a teacher almost reading a powerpoint to us. In the semester we had one week of 'Trainingsweek', where you could choose what you wanted to do. They offered really interesting things, like a lecture about Brexit or a visit to the National Hungary Museum.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The university had an international office. They were always there to help me and responded quite quickly to my emails. I didn't really need them that much, but it was nice that they were there. When I left I had to go there to get things signed, which was done in 2 minutes.

transfer of credits

The transfer of credits went really easy. I sent an email to the international office, and the week I left I went there to sign my certificate of attendance and get my transfer of credits. She sent it to the UU while I was sitting next to her, so we were sure it all went well.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There was a nice orientation programme, where you had lectures about how the university works, to which

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

people you have to go depending on the question. You got linked to a 'buddy', but I didn't do anything with that actually. It was also easy to get to know the other international students because there were activities and group projects to get to know each other. In the evening there were some parties you could go to.

accommodation

I had a really nice accommodation in a nice area in the center. I really think you should search for an apartment with other international students, instead of living in the dorm. The dorm is far away from everything, and there are a lot of affordable apartments. I found mine through a Facebook group of Erasmus Budapest and lived with 2 french girls, 1 german guy and one dutch girl. It was amazing and I really felt at home. I paid around 330 euro's each month. The only stupid thing was that the deposit was really high; 600 euro's.

leisure & culture

The city is amazing!! There are so many nice places to go in the city; museums, cafés, festivals, performances, hikes. I loved going for walks around the city, because I always saw new things everytime I walked somewhere. It's also really nice to visit other countries/cities around Hungary. I've been in Bratislava, Vienna and Prague and some smaller villages around Budapest.

suggestions/tips

Go and see the sunrise from the Gellert hill or from the castle. It's the most beautiful and it's really quiet around you. And do evening walks along the Danube, it's the best. And because Budapest is really cheap, it's also really easy for your friends to come visit you there.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend this city to everybody. It's really beautiful, there is a really big group of international students, it's a cheap city and really upcoming. There are more and more events and things to do everyday. I wouldn't recommend the university because I thought the education wasn't that good, but the feeling and people were really nice at the university.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Go to Budapest, it's such an amazing city! I think the 2nd semester is the best, because then you go from cold to warm, and you see the city getting more beautiful with the sun everyday.

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)**2017-2018**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> c.m.w.luijck@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	Communication and Information Sciences

destination city & country	Budapest, Hungary
name university abroad	Karoli Gaspar
start date	01 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	23 / 06 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	This was okay. The problem for me was that I did not receive the correct information brochure and for that reason it was quite hard for me to figure everything out. I still managed to arrange everything and it should not be too hard once you have received the correct information. It can be a lot of work and quite confusing because you need so many different documents. It is really helpful to organise all these documents in a structured way from the beginning. It would be nice if they made it easier with the signing of documents. So make sure you email everybody on time if you need documents to be signed.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	They were great. During the times that I did not know what to do because of the lack of information they really helped me out and made sure the receiving institution replied to my emails and provided me with everything that I needed.
academic preparation	I had no clue what to prepare for so I did not really do any preparation. I wanted to get more into psychology and almost only chose psychology classes. I knew the level of education would be lower in Hungary so I figured it would be easier to get into psychology classes here than it would be in my home University. I saw the exchange more as a first introduction for me into psychology.
language preparation	I did follow an academic English course before I went on exchange. For the Dutch students this is probably more a way to gain more confidence about your skill level and it can be helpful to refresh your mind but most students will probably also be fine without it.
finances	Hungary is a relatively cheap country to live in. For me it was comforting that I saved up a lot so I at least could pay my rent for the entire time abroad. I saved up enough and could do everything that I wanted to do here. The only thing I wish I had taken more into account was to save up some money for trips.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

study programme (content and organisational issues)

When I read the course content I got really excited. There were a few courses that looked really interesting and I was looking forward to them. When I finally started at the University the courses that I was really excited about were a little bit easy at times. They did not go into dept as much as I would have liked them to have. Besides this I did still enjoy them. Other courses did surprised me in a positive way. The University that I attended to is known for their practical teaching. I really enjoyed this especially because I do believe my home University is being too theoretical at times. The content covered in the courses was overall good.

The organisation was okay. The introduction week and the buddies were great and this was all well organised. The University itself is quite messy though. They do of course help you out with everything that you need and they explained the Neptun system, but they also cause unnecessary emails and work. The email communication was not that great. First of all it can take quite some time for them to reply and sometimes you even need to send them a reminder to reply to you. Beside this they send me a lot of emails about a Hungarian student card. They made it seem like it was something mandatory, but my own student card from my home University worked just fine and not taking one saves you money. It is just a little bit annoying that they keep mail you reminders for the renewal of the student card. The thing that bugged me most was the emails from the Neptun system message tool. This system was linked to my own email but then I would receive a few emails every week. The problem is that all these messages/emails are in Hungarian. So you have to translate the every mail just to find out that most of them are not relevant for you at all. Later on I just stopped translating them. I think the University should provide emails and messages in English to the Erasmus students and only send them stuff that is relevant for them. The final problem with the message tool is that teachers can message you, but you cannot reply to them. You also can't find the regular email addresses of the teachers online so sometimes I had to wait a week until the next class to ask the teacher a question.

academic quality of education activities

I really enjoyed the practical courses that I attended it was a refreshing new way of learning. In my case I noticed that I really remembered theories better because I learned them in a practical way. I also had some more theoretical courses and those could be a little bit disappointing in their academic quality. One of the things that really caught my eyes was that some teachers were not used to critical thinking. (Some teachers were open and used to it but there was a big difference in quality between teachers). They did not really know how to respond at some critical questions and when a discussion was encouraged the teacher would already have stated his opinion about the matter. Something that does apply to every course is that the content is very one sided. I am used to reading different scientific papers and then think about them and be critical about them. The read papers might even contradict each others point of view. During my exchange I would just be presented with the conclusion and it got stated to be the truth. Some courses tried to show different views and contradiction opinions but this would not often go beyond an attempt. I do remember one time when the teacher tried to have a discussion about the credibility of a mental disease but most students were not able to participate because they did not have any background information on the subject. In addition, the teacher had it long made clear what his opinion was. Not every class was like this, because some teachers were great and they gave you room for discussion and encouraged us to think critically but the differences between teachers was huge.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I did not need the Univeristy to help me out a lot. They signed my papers and replied on my emails which could sometimes take a while. The buddies were great though they help you with everything from the neptun system till the best places to go out drinking. The other thing that I noticed was that the teachers were really supportive. You could ask them anything and I even had one teacher that would start every class by asking how we were enjoying our stay , the university and if we needed help with anything. If we did do practical psychology exercises the teachers would allso make sure that the classroom was a safe and trusted enviroment so everybody could really get into the exercises and open up.

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

transfer of credits

I did not receive my transcript of records though but they do work with different credits here so I am not sure yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The introduction was nice it really helps you out and the buddy system is great. Not only for the beginning but they help you out the entire semester long.

accommodation

I had a great place to stay but I must admit that I am happy that I didn't rent one of the dormrooms. They are quite far away and you have to share a room. I am keen on my privacy and really happy I rented something at an agency

leisure & culture

The city is great. There is enough to do all the time and it is also very easy to travel to other countries or cities from Budapest. The Erasmus society is also big so there are a lot of other internationals and there are special parties organised for the Erasmus students.

suggestions/tips

It is important to choose a city that you like, because you will have a lot of leisure time. Compare the different Universities in a city.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I can definitely recommend Budapest. It is cheap and fun and there is always something to do. The Erasmus community is big so you will easily make friends. I would not necessarily recommend my University. There are a lot of Universities in Budapest so just go look around and compare them. My University was also not really aimed on Erasmus students and the buildings and furniture were a disaster. Go to Budapest and just check out the different Universities.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Keep an open mind. You can never prepare in the right way and you will always see things that are worst and things that are better. Just go for it and let it all happen.

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	Minor
destination city & country	Budapest, Hungary
name university abroad	Károli Gáspár
start date	01 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

end date

30 / 06 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I always had the plan to study abroad, so for me it was not the question if, but where. For me the exchange application process was quite hard. There were so many places and I had to arrange a lot. Finally, I ended up in Budapest. This was not my first choice but now I can say it would be my first choice.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

As I said to go abroad you have to arrange a lot. There are a lot of different things that you have to do. I was not so well prepared and it was not so clear what I had to do. The reason for this is that there are a lot of different parties involved with the process and they all have different wishes. So I would recommend to make a planning of all the things you have to do before you go (and in what order), so you won't forget things. Also the international office was very helpful and can help you if you are not sure what you have to do.

academic preparation

Because I knew that I was going to do courses that were not so familiar to me, I knew it was better to prepare myself a bit. I had already one course that was more in the line of the courses that I was going to take. This was enough, or the rest I just studied everything when I was starting the courses.

language preparation

Because my courses were taught in English I didn't have to take an extra language course, I only made the Erasmus English language test. Before I left the Netherlands, I was a bit insecure about my level of English, but when I arrived I found out that my level was much higher than a lot of other Erasmus students around the world.

finances

In the Netherlands I had a little job next to my study. I worked most two days a week, so I saved enough money. This made it possible for me to go on an exchange. I also talked with my parents that if I didn't have enough money that I could borrow money, in the end this was not necessary.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Minor, so I just took courses that looked interesting and that would be an addition to my study plan.

academic quality of education activities

The courses that I took at Károli Gáspár were psychology courses. I chose these courses because there was no offer for communication courses. But I am very enthusiastic about my courses. I already took a course about cognitive neuroscience, so I realized already that I was interested in psychology. Also the structure of the courses were different from the courses I took in the Netherlands. They were way more practical, so the theoretical part that a course normally includes was expanded by a practical part. For me this was very interesting and I think I learned more than I would only learn from theoretical courses. For this reason Károli Gáspár is getting more and more popular for Hungarians.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

All Erasmus students got a brochure with information about the university. Also, there was an orientation week where there was a further description. With these two things I had a very good understanding of the university.

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

and how I had to arrange things. Before I came here, every time I had a question or request it took a long time before they answered. When I arrived here I found out that the university differs from the University of Utrecht, because they are less strict and they are less digital. To arrange things it was better to go to the international office and ask there.

transfer of credits

All my courses I finished with an excellent (this is here a 5), the transfer of the credits, I don't know what it is. But because I got the highest grade I know what my credits here were also going to be good.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

When I arrived in Budapest I had directly an orientation week of my university. In this week all the Erasmus students of the second semester were together and we did a lot of activities together. We got to know the other students and the university, but also the Hungarian culture, history and language. This was a very nice introduction to get used in a country where you know nothing.

accommodation

I found a room of an apartment on a Facebook page. On this page students and landlords put messages about student accommodations. I already looked for a room before I arrived in Budapest and it was quite easy to find a room. Before I picked one room I had contact with my landlord to talk about some formal things and I put me in contact with the other Erasmus students that were going to live with me during the semester.

leisure & culture

Budapest is a perfect city to do your Erasmus. First of all the city is full of gastronomy, every street is full of restaurants and bars. In the day and nighttime there are plenty places to discover, you won't get bored. Because of the size of Budapest there are so many different places, so everybody can find a place that fits him/her. Furthermore, Budapest has a rich culture. There are a lot of beautiful buildings, museums and so on. And what makes it possible to explore all this, is that Budapest is a very cheap city compared to the Netherlands. The location of Budapest is also very nice, there are a lot of options to travel to counties around. Almost all the countries around Budapest are cheap and near, what makes it affordable for a day or longer trip. And last but not least, Budapest is very different from the Netherlands, for me it was very nice to explore this different culture.

suggestions/tips

I think the second semester is better to do your Erasmus in Budapest. I heard of other students that were here the first semester that it can be very cold. In the second semester the weather is getting better during the semester.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I had a very good time in Budapest at Károli Gáspár University. As mentioned before the city is very nice and also the way how the courses are structured are interesting. This semester I learned so much about myself and about other people and cultures. It opened my mind!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Try to do as much as you can in this 5 months, the time is flying!

Report 2

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

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

destination city & country	Budapest, Hungary
name university abroad	KRE: Károli Gáspár University
start date	01 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	01 / 06 / 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 exchange application went all according to schedual. KRE has someone with the specific task to help out all the Erasmus students. You can always mail to erasmus@kre.hu, in my experience you will be helped good and quickly there.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Counseling & support at Utrecht University is quite clear. Basically everything is on the website so you should be able to help yourself out. If not, send a mail to the erasmus office from the UU. Be aware though that in some periods you won't get a response on the same day as you send your email. Keep this in mind. Especially in deadline sensitive periods in which everyone is sending mails to the Erasmus Office.
academic preparation	
	Was not specifically needed.
language preparation	
	Followed English courses so was not really necessary. If you're able to read and write some articles in English on a basic level you will be fine.
finances	
	Budapest is cheaper then the Netherlands. Especially cafes and restaurants are cheaper, housing as well. Things like groceries are not much cheaper than the Netherlands.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	Did some history courses as well as two courses on political theory.
academic quality of education activities	
	Academic quality is a bit lower than in the Netherlands, the courses are still on an ok level though. The assignments and test that you have to make are easier and less work than in the Netherlands. You could learn quite much, but it really depends on the effort that you want to put in yourself.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	Didn't need that much counselling or support during my stay but I think it was quite good at KRE. You could always contact the Erasmus Coördinator.

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

transfer of credits

Not done yet, but shouldn't be a problem.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

First week was a orientation programme. It was not comparable to the programmes of other, bigger universities in Budapest but still ok. If you are really keen on doing lots of university related activities and such throughout the semester, than KRE is not the best choice. When I was studying at KRE it didn't have that many international students and therefore not a very extensive programme of activities for internationals. That doesn't have to be a problem at all, but it might be good to know. Budapest is a really nice city where it is quite easy to meet other international students, also from other universities.

accommodation

Lived in a apartment that I rented via a student housing company. Accomodation was cheaper than it would have been in the Netherlands. It is possible to go to Budapest without having a room in advance, it is not too hard to find a place in the city. Already fixing a room in advance is quite easy and relaxed as well though. Just what you prefer.

leisure & culture

Budapest is a really cool city. You really live in a big city where there is always something to do. Furthermore, it is a really cool place to be when it is getting warmer because everyone is gathering on the squares and in the parks. Another big plus is that, for instance, having a drink is quite cheap when you are from the Netherlands. So the money is less of a obstacle.

suggestions/tips

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CONCLUSIONS

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

Sure, Budapest is a really cool city to live in. Also, it is a nice place to do some really cool travelling to places which you wouldn't visit that fast in another situation. Furthermore, travelling to neighbouring countries as well as in the country itself can be really cheap. The academic level is a bit lower then in the Netherlands, but it is still nice to study at KRE. KRE is quite a small university, can be both an advantage as a disadvantage.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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2015-2016**Report 1**

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

PREPARATION

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

exchange application process
The process takes a while to complete but is worth every bit of time.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The counselling & support at Utrecht University is good. You can always find someone to help you and answer your questions.
academic preparation
I can recommend to really try and think about what you want to learn during your erasmus so you can prepare for your courses.
language preparation
The language preparations are not really necessary. You learn everything there very quickly.
finances
Try to save some money before you go, so you can have the time of your life. I can really recommend Budapest because the costs are reasonable and you can do everything you want without getting broke in 1 second.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
The study programme is okay. The level is not high but that is good because of the language difference.
academic quality of education activities
Okay. Not high, but reasonable when you look at the study programme.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
very good.
transfer of credits
very good.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
Nice. I found a lot of my friends during this orientation programme.
accommodation
I found a place because of a fellow student who helped me.
leisure & culture
Very nice. You should look at the site www.welovebudapest.hu . You can find everything there.
suggestions/tips
Go to the Budapest Erasmus facebook. Ask your university if there are more UU students going and go in the second semester, the weather then is so much better.

CONCLUSIONS

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

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

Yes! It is cheap, beautiful, the people speak good English and you will feel safe. No better place for Erasmus than Budapest.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Yes, try to go there in the second semester. And don't worry about a apartment, it is really easy to find one.

Report 2

faculty/college	Universiteit Utrecht faculteit sociale wetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	psychology

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process was quite difficult for me, because I went to a different university (KRE) than the other psychology students from Utrecht (ELTE). This made me sometimes confused, was it possible? Who could I turn to for help? In the end I got in touch with the KRE university through the faculty of humanities and everything worked out. My own faculty (of social sciences) helped me with everything.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

Utrecht University helped me a lot in the beginning, because I wanted to go to KRE instead of ELTE. (at KRE I could study Hungarian, which seemed very interesting to me) They helped me to get in touch with the faculty of humanities and made me realise my plan. Later in the application process I had some problems, because of this decision. Someone at the office forgot that I wanted to go to another university than the regular one and made some mistakes while filling in my papers. Luckily this got fixed before it could have had any consequences for me.

academic preparation

I didn't really feel the need to prepare myself academically. My plan was to follow some psychology courses and a language course for beginners, so I didn't see it as a necessity.

language preparation

According to the erasmus language test, my english was of level C2. My courses in Hungary were in English, so I didn't prepare anything.

finances

Budapest is a cheap city to live, so for me my finances worked out fine. I received 150 euros a month and 90 euros for public transport. Besides this I received money from the government (stufi).

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

During my stay abroad I followed courses for erasmus students, mostly about Hungarian language, culture, history, art and literature. In my experience these courses were very interesting. I followed one psychology course, which was fun but not very informative. I didn't experience any organisational problems.

academic quality of education activities

I find it difficult to compare the academic quality, since I only followed one psychology course. This was a new

Hungary – Károli Gáspár University (Budapest)

course and an experiment (sportpsychology focused on teambuilding). It was interesting, but easier than in the Netherlands. Studying Hungarian was challenging, but a lot of fun. The university is a private school, so the groups exist of maximum 20 people. The teachers were more informal and open towards the students.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counselling and support was really good at my university. The people were really nice and helpful.

transfer of credits

In Hungary the highest grade is a 5, keep that in mind!

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

My university organised an orientation week, which I enjoyed a lot. The first day they introduced themselves and told us about the program: international dishes, a tour, meeting your buddy and a survival Hungarian course. I met a lot of people during this week, who became close friends of mine.

accommodation

I was very lucky, since my mother has a Hungarian colleague. Through this colleague I got an apartment in the city centre for a reasonable price. I found a roommate on facebook to lower the costs, she paid rent to me.

leisure & culture

The city is amazing! I really liked to visit all the musea and monuments. I would recommend to climb the Gellert Hill, visit the Szent Istvan Basilica, the Parliament, The Matthias church, Margharite Island, The Fisherman Bastion and all the bridges. Not only is this city beautiful by daylight, but also by night. All the monuments are light up, which causes an amazing view. In the summer you have amazing parties in ruin pubs and in the winter everything looks christmasy.

suggestions/tips

see above.

CONCLUSIONS

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

If you would like to learn a lot about the Hungarian culture and language in a more informal setting, I would totally recommend this university. I don't think this university is the best for psychology students, since you could follow more interesting courses in another university.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

It seems like a lot of paperwork, but just take this chance! You might never again have such a great opportunity in your life.