

2018-2019

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

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

destination city & country	Rome, Italië
name university abroad	la Sapienza
start date	1 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	28 / 02 / 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 process of application from out the Netherlands was well arranged and worked well.	
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
the support of Utrecht University was good and clear in the form of different workshops.	
academic preparation	
I did not prepare myself in a special way for my study abroad.	
language preparation	
I did not do a special language preparation for my study abroad.	
finances	
I saved some money, found a job in Rome, so that together with my Erasmus scholarship I could manage.	

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
it took a while to find my way in the enormous Sapienza University. Also some course I choose before my mobility were not teached anymore, so I had to change my study program. But I also liked this adventure and after a couple of weeks I felt at home in the faculty Lettere e Filosofia at Sapienza. At the end I followed a big Roman History course in Italian, a Filosofoy course on ethics, a Renaissance Culture course, and a Art History course on Impressionism.	
academic quality of education activities	
the quality of knowledge present in the courses was huge. The way of teaching very different from UU. The professor talks, the students listens. That's it. But I liked this way of academic education.	
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
not very present because the university is so big and a bit messy. But again, this made my experience a charming adventure, and at the end everything will end up fine.	

transfer of credits
la Sapienza also uses ECTS so this is easy (hopefully).

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
Nice and warm welcoming program, with ESN organisation organizing a lot of stuff.
accommodation
They offered help but I arranged accomodation by myself.
leisure & culture
Again the ESN organization organises a lot of stuff.
suggestions/tips
There are plenty of websites to find nice housing in Rome by yourself (check out: easystanza, uniplaces, subito), so you are not depending on the accomdation search organized by the university.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes I would for sure, because even though Italië is Europe and not so far away from the Netherlands, it is a place with a whole different (academic) culture and way of life. It takes some time to get used to it but as soon as you do it will feel less structured but more relaxt compared to the life in the Netherlands. And I learned a lot from this experience.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Trattoria Peppo al Cosimato in Trastevere, they have very good pizza!

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	Italian Language and Culture

destination city & country	Rome, Italy
name university abroad	Università Degli Studi Di Roma La Sapienza
start date	06 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	31 / 07 / 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 went pretty smoothly. I didn't have any troubles with getting papers signed. However, the amount of different forms you have to fill out is something to be warned for. The most time for me took finding out what forms there are and where to find them.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The counselling and support at Utrecht University was always willing to help and to answer my questions. The website of the university is very helpful. All the information you need is there, so you can do the application process perfectly independently.
academic preparation
I did Erasmus in my second year, that means that I had only had one year of studying. Therefore I chose courses that suited as a continuation of my study.
language preparation
Since I had already had courses taught in Italian at my home university, I was good prepared for living in Italy. I started already with a higher level of Italian than was requested by Erasmus.
finances
I calculated the costs that I would make, including housing, food and social activities. What I hadn't thought of, was the fact that I would make a lot of trips through the country. Erasmus is an amazing opportunity to not only get to know one city really well, but also to see a lot of the country. This ended up costing some money that I hadn't calculated. The grant covers a lot of costs but not everything. Making trips is not necessary of course, but I think the trips that I made will be one of the most valuable memories that I have of my stay.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Finding courses was pretty difficult, since the website of my receiving university is easy to get lost in. The offer of courses is very big, and since as Erasmus student you can choose whatever course you want, it's a big selection. Luckily Erasmus allows you to make changes to your Learning Agreement, in case courses turn out to be not how you expected them.
academic quality of education activities
The way courses are taught at my receiving university is very different from what I'm used to. But it's important to try to adapt to their system. The classmates were often nice and willing to help you.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Since my Erasmus was at the biggest university in Europe, there was very little personal attention. The opening hours of the Erasmus office were limited and email communication took a long time.
transfer of credits
I didn't get all my results before 1 st of July, and the credits of the language course took even longer.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
There was a welcome day, where they explained everything. That was also a good first moment to meet other Erasmus students.
accommodation

Italy – Sapienza Università di Roma

It was not so difficult to find housing, because the university was very helpful and friendly finding a nice room. They gave me a lot of options. Everything was arranged before my Erasmus started so I could come to Rome without having any stress about having to find a room.

leisure & culture

There are a lot of activities organized for Erasmus students, together with the other universities in Rome. There I met a lot of people with whom I ended up spending most of my free time. In the university area there is a lot of student life. The Italian culture is very social and warm, so feeling at home here took me almost no time. With friends you can visit cultural things and go eating all the time, two of the things you find the most in Italy.

suggestions/tips

Go to the organized activities in the beginning! Everyone is open to meet new people so that makes you feel at home really fast. The organized activities will also show you a lot of nice places and guide the cultural trips. As soon as you found your group of people you can organize your own activities.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Sapienza University is very big when it comes to the amount of students attending, especially if you study at the largest faculty Literature and Philosophy. Therefore you don't really get to know your teachers or the students. On organizational field I felt the university couldn't keep up with the amount of students. There is a lot of waiting for exams or for getting papers signed. On the other hand, the campus is very beautiful and there is enough space to relax with your friends. There are grass fields, benches, trees for shadow, coffeeplaces and stores to buy study books or concert tickets. If your looking for your class room, they're always willing to help you because they're used to a lot of Erasmus students.

Rome is a great city to do your Erasmus. The Erasmus social organization is big enough to have an amazing social life. Apart from that there are tons of musea and parks you can visit. Futhermore just a casual walk through the city center is also nice as you get to know the city very well if you do this often. All in all there is never a dull moment in this beautiful city.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Try to learn the language as well as possible before going to your destination. It will make things easier as well as more fun since you can make yourself more one with the culture. Another advice would be trying to make some local friends. They will show you places you could never come up with yourself or tell you inside information about the city. Plus you have a reason to go back to the city to visit your friends.