

**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	History

destination city & country	Glasgow, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University of Glasgow
start date	03 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	14 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	
	It was very doable, but there is a lot of paperwork involved. It is important that you keep track of it.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The counselling and support at UU was great. The international office is very helpful and they respond to any enquiries quickly via mail
academic preparation	
	None
language preparation	
	None
finances	
	I saved up some extra money before departure. I got very lucky with housing, but a lot of people I met paid at least 150 pounds a week. Tip: join several student housing Glasgow facebook-pages and post a message, I found my room there and it was great, within a 5 min. walk of UoG and relatively cheap. And a bonus: I had a local very friendly roommate.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	Do not count on following the courses that you planned on following in your Learning Agreement. All of the courses I wanted to follow were full upon arriving. Make sure you enroll in the courses ASAP. They tell you that you do not need to enroll before arriving, but if you are really keen on following certain courses, you should e-mail the international office there in advance. Warning: the organisation at the UoG can be very chaotic.
academic quality of education activities	
	The courses were of good quality. Each course only has two contact-hours a week, so there is a lot of self-study involved. My experience is that even with a little amount of effort, you can pass the courses. You should try your best to keep up with the readings, since there are a lot.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The international office was very nice and wanted to be helpful, but my view on them is mainly chaotic.
transfer of credits
I have not (yet) received my official transcript of credits, but they have been posted online in time.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
There is a huge welcome programme for all new students in Glasgow, called Freshers Week. You need to buy a ticket to go to all festivities, I chose not to buy it because there are plenty of other events that you can attend. Tip: go to the Glasgow University Union, Hive nights are great. The UoG also had its own welcome/orientation programme, which had a couple of nice events. Check out the Student Association Fair, you might want to join one. There is an Association for everything, from whiskey to capoeira to a Dutch society.
accommodation
As mentioned before, I got very lucky using facebook but I'm an exception. Most of my exchange-friends were in student housing (Unite Students) which was very expensive (>150 pounds a week) and where the rooms felt like a hotel. Someone else had an expensive room in Maryhill, which is not the best area. My tip: check out facebook and post something like 'Hey I'm ... and coming to Glasgow for an exchange from xx -xx. Can you help me out? Thank you!'. That's how found my great room.
leisure & culture
Glasgow is a great city for culture and leisure. Almost all musea are free, there's always people in pubs/bars. Comedy is a big thing, as well as live music shows. Check out Stereo, Ashton Lane (Brel, the Grosvenor). There are a lot of student deals throughout town. The UoG has its own gym with a lot of facilities, I would definitely get a membership if you're a bit sporty. You can also go for beautiful runs/hikes through Glasgow (botanical gardens, past the Kelvin/Clyde rivers. You should also definitely go hillclimbing! There's a bus leaving from Glasgow that takes you to the hills in 45 minutes. That's an unforgettable experience. You can also go to a classical concert in the Royal Concert Hall. There is a huge firework show in the beginning of December which is worth checking out. Tip: bring your own drinks, they do not sell alcohol there. Furthermore there are many many clubs, you should definitely check out Garage. Make sure to make enough trips in the weekends to Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, Loch Ness, the Highlands etc. Scotland is a beautiful country, but you do need to make an effort to get to know it.
suggestions/tips
See previous

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Definitely. Glasgow is an amazing city and a great starting point to experience Scotland. The weather might be awful sometimes, but that shouldn't stop you from going. The people are great and the country is truly beautiful. The university building is stunning! The only downside might be the chaotic start at the university, but eventually I followed very interesting courses. I had a wonderful experience in Glasgow!
do you have any additional advice or comments?
No

**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	BA History

destination city & country	Glasgow, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University of Glasgow
start date	07 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	14 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	The application for exchange was very straight-forward and as long as you start in time it's not too nerve-racking. The online application process can be a bit complicated, but careful reading of the e-mails send by the University of Glasgow and some common sense makes that it's not an overly complicated process. I don't recall having any trouble, although the International Office in Glasgow at times takes a long time to reply to emails. (that's why starting early is preferred, so that if you have any problems you can get it fixed before everyone applying late starts swamping the IO's inbox)
counselling & support at Utrecht University	International Office at Utrecht University was always very easy to reach over email and replied quickly, so I have no complaints. Administration for the Erasmus Grant can be tedious but they coach us through it pretty well.
academic preparation	I don't know if I did much academic preparation for Glasgow. It's important to remember classes there are very short and picking level 4 courses can be difficult. Pick a professor whose work fits with the courses they teach: it makes everything much much better and the classes are of much higher quality if the professor has some personal interest in the topic.
language preparation	As I study in the English track of the History bachelor here in Utrecht, I would say my first 2 years at the UU were plenty of preperation. If you've had lectures in English and read English texts regularly you should be prepared enough. Be aware there might be some professors and students with Scottish accents that are hard to understand. (there are also plenty of students and professors imported from outside Scotland who are easily understandable, don't worry)
finances	I was pretty well prepared since I had quite a lot of savings still, which meant I could afford more expensive housing in Glasgow and didn't have to worry about money too much. Make sure to fill in the financial plan carefully and get that Erasmus grant! I paid about two months rent with that money. Start early on finding housing so you can find somewhere cheap.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
I had some trouble signing up for courses in Glasgow because the courses I choose at the time of application were not available when I actually got there. Because you're a 'new' student at the UofG, the system registers you as a first year, and you can't sign yourself up for the higher level courses. This means International Office has to do it for every single exchange student, manually. This is so much work that a lot of courses might be full before they get around to enrolling you, as was the case for me. You can't really do anything about this. Keep an open mind and make a plan A, B, C and D for which courses you want to do. Read the descriptions of courses carefully: Even if the title hasn't changed between your application in May-July and your actual enrollment at the end of August, the content of a course can change drastically.
academic quality of education activities
Education at the UofG can change pretty drastically between courses. One of my level 4 courses (War and International Security) was absolute garbage organisationally, while another one (Sex and Religion between 1940-1980) was very well organised. This is entirely dependent on the teacher, as most level 4 courses are entirely organised and taught by one professor.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
International Office is pretty supportive and has regular office hours, but at moments of crisis (like when course enrollment is happening) they are so swamped that they're not much help at all.
transfer of credits
Honestly I haven't done this yet, but I don't think it will be much trouble. Although UofG doesn't use ECTS but instead just 'credits' they are easily convertible and have a conversion guide available if you just google it. The ECTS is also mentioned on the Transcript of Records for easy conversion for the UU.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
If you go in September, the first week will just be Fresher's Week, which means a lot of fun, a lot of parties, and no class. I absolutely recommend it. Go to the Student Council for the full programme and sign up for plenty of activities. Find a society you like and make friends!
accommodation
Accommodation can be very hard to find when you're on a budget. It's not provided by the UofG if you only go for one semester, so private accommodation is your only option. Start searching early on and don't put too much hope in Facebook groups (although you can of course use those).
leisure & culture
Glasgow is beautiful and the University is connected to a student tour company that organises regular day trips to lots of pretty locations. There's also a great train connection to Edinburgh if you want to take a look around there (fair warning: Scotrail is owned by the same company as NS - better wifi though). There's busses going to Manchester and other places down south if you're especially adventurous.
suggestions/tips
If you go to Glasgow, be sure to visit it's Necropolis. It's behind the Cathedral and gives a beautiful view of the city, especially at sunset. I would also highly recommend you visit a Ceilidh, even if you might be wary of dancing. Trust me. Just go and watch.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
I would recommend this destination, but if you're looking for a big adventure, this isn't it. Glasgow is like a smaller, gothic London, and although it's a great place for parties, making friends, and studying, it's about as plain and simple as Utrecht. There will still be culture shock, but it's not a life altering experience unless you make it so.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	
No additional advise.	

### **Report 3**

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

destination city & country	Glasgow, Scotland (UK)
name university abroad	Glasgow University
start date	03 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	24 / 05 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	
My study, Liberal Arts and Sciences, is a very broad study, therefore I was searching for a study wide University. Which means there are multiple programmes at the University. I wanted to study within Europe, for financial reasons, but also so I could always easily revisit the place. Quickly I limited my search for the UK and Ireland, because it is very easy to make local friends when you speak the language. In combination with the programme, the partner University of Utrecht, and an English speaking country, I found myself on the page of the Glasgow University.	
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
Utrecht University was very helpful in providing information. A lot of steps need to be taken, but overall it was clear what to do.	
academic preparation	
I e-mailed my study tutor and he gave me some advice on courses, but it was fine overall.	
language preparation	
no need.	
finances	
I worked for half a year, had an erasmus+ grant, and got financial help from my parents.	

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The economic and social history courses were very interesting. I loved that all the examples used were from a UK perspective, and not a Dutch perspective. It was also nice to have courses with Scottish people, and not international exclusive.
academic quality of education activities
The quality was equal to the Dutch universities.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The help from Glasgow University was really good. I received e-mails back in a day or less.
transfer of credits
Nothing yet.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
The welcome week was really fun and well organised. It was a little bit forced, but I guess that's with every orientation programme.
accommodation
I got accommodation through the university, so I was in student halls (Cairncross housing). I thought this was the cheapest option, however private renting could also be cheap, and you get lots more space. Make sure you live close to the university. Busses are not great, and it's also hard to cycle due to hills. You don't come often in the city centre, but mostly in the West End (which is around Glasgow Uni).
leisure & culture
Beautiful country, people are very nice. It's just really fun to live in Glasgow. You will learn a lot about Scotland, Scottish people, but also about your own culture.
suggestions/tips
Public transport (especially busses) are not great, make sure to live close to a subway or that everything is in walking distance. Also I would advice you to join a student club, most students join a sports club. We had many students that didn't go to trainings, but joined the socials (which was every week).

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, it is a well organised university, good courses, lots of fun.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
no

**2017-2018**

**Report 1**

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

destination city & country	Glasgow, Scotland
name university abroad	University of Glasgow
start date	04 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	15 / 12 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
As the main purpose of my exchange was to study with a certain professor, I started by sending him an email to ask if he would be willing to supervise my research project. He readily agree to do so, but I still had to do complete the official application. This was more complicated, because there was no agreement between my study programme in Utrecht - Musicology - and the Music Department in Glasgow. In the end, my application was accepted on a contract from Chemistry. After my application in Utrecht, I had to submit an online application to the University of Glasgow, which felt more like a formality.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The staff of the International Office was very helpful throughout the application process and during my stay. They were always willing to answer any questions that I had and, obviously, sign the important documents. Especially during the initial application process, it was great that the International Office was able to put me on a contract from Chemistry - otherwise my exchange would not have been possible.
academic preparation
My academic preparation primarily involved coming up with a proposal for the research project that I conducted during my exchange. I was able to discuss this with my research supervisor from the University of Glasgow prior to my departure.
language preparation
As my score on the OLS language test was C2, I did no additional language preparation.
finances
My income included a monthly allowance from my parents, the Erasmus+ grant, and Public Transport (OV) compensation. I was able to get a relatively cheap room, because I managed to do a room swap with a student from Glasgow who went on exchange to Utrecht in the same time period. While my room was fairly close to the campus on Gilmorehill, I purchased a bike via Gumtree within a week after my arrival. This saved me quite a bit of time and money, given that the public transport network of Glasgow is not the greatest. In terms of daily expenses, I probably spent about 20% more on groceries compared to the Netherlands. That said, the Erasmus+ grant was easily able to cover the difference for me.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	My study programme consisted of an individually supervised research project and two regular courses. Unfortunately, I could not take the two courses I intended to do in the first place. One (on the music of Bach) was not organised during my exchange period; the other (on Scottish music) was already full, with priority being given to full degree students. I was only notified about this after my arrival in Glasgow. Nevertheless, I was able to choose two other courses - one on Opera and the other on Music Criticism. The Opera course was quite interesting, allowing me to broaden my horizons.
academic quality of education activities	The academic quality of my courses was not as high as what I was used to in Utrecht. First, the classes were much larger than in my Research Master's programme and involved little interaction. The classes were also much more top-down, with the instructor just lecturing for an hour and occasionally asking questions (which often remained unanswered). Moreover, the lecturer made barely any reference to the reading list, leaving the relevance of the literature unclear. The individual supervision of my research project, on the other hand, really allowed me to bring my work to the next level.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	Both the Study Abroad & Exchanges team and the Exchange Coordinator of the Music Department were helpful by quickly answering any questions and signing the Erasmus+ documents.
transfer of credits	The transfer of credits was fairly straightforward: 1 ECTS equals 2 Glasgow credits. As I stayed for one semester, I thus received 60 Glasgow credits - 30 ECTS. Important to note is that the first semester runs from September to half December, which makes it easy for Utrecht students to obtain the required amount of credits.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>	
welcome & orientation programme	The International Student Orientation and Welcome Programme is a must-do for exchange students. During four days, I learned all there is to know for international students in Glasgow: what is required during the exchange in terms of academic procedures, how to make my way around campus, and what the Glaswegian student life has to offer. The social activities allowed me to meet many other international students, which was good fun. Most memorably, I participated in a ceilidh - an event involving traditional Scottish country dancing.
accommodation	The University of Glasgow only offers accommodation for students staying the full year. As my exchange was only one semester, I had to look for private accommodation. This can be quite difficult and rather expensive, but I was lucky enough to do a room swap - as I mentioned above.
leisure & culture	Glasgow has plenty to offer in terms of leisure and culture. There are many nice pubs, especially on the idyllic Ahston Lane, where a lot of students go. The city centre is great for shopping, going to the theatre, visiting free museums, and having a night out away from the university. In addition, the university is close to the beautiful Kelvingrove Park and the Botanic Gardens and there are many organised trips to see the rest of Scotland. A trip to Argyll Forest Park was one of the most memorable experiences during my exchange. Also good to mention is that the university hosts numerous sports and cultural societies. I participated in the Choral Society, which was a great experience as well.
suggestions/tips	



There is so much to do in Glasgow besides studying, so make sure to go to the Information Fair during the International Student Orientation and Welcome Programme.

### CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I would certainly recommend going on exchange to Glasgow. Even if you cannot take the courses you intend to do in the first place, it can be a great contribution to your academic development - at least in my case. Classes might be given in a different way, but the content is still what you can expect from a well-established institution as the University of Glasgow. Apart from academic considerations, Glasgow is an interesting, vibrant city with arguably the friendliest people in the UK.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Do not be discouraged by what others say about the Glaswegian weather. At least for me, it was much better than I expected and oftentimes sunnier than in the Netherlands during my stay.

### **Report 2**

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

destination city & country	Glasgow, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University of Glasgow,
start date	05 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	15 / 12 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

### PREPARATION

exchange application process

There is a lot of bureaucratic stuff you have to deal with. Sometimes you would think information or documents could have been shared better. For example your grades: first you need to print them (in the right manner, so you need to go the study point), get them signed (which can only be done twice a week) and upload them. It feels like this could have been done a lot easier.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support I received was fine.

academic preparation

I did not prepare myself academically, something I regret in hindsight. It does take some time to get used to a different university, so if you prepare, you will have better chances of getting good grades.

language preparation

I did not take any language preparations, I had experience with reading and listening English.

finances

It applied for the Erasmus grant and made sure I had enough money on my bank account to get me through the semester.

### STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

One of the courses I chose was not available anymore, and the replacement options did not appeal to me. So I ended up doing a course I did not enjoy at all.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality is very comparable to the academic quality of Utrecht University. Seminars were a bit difficult to follow for me, the level of English is a lot higher than I was used to.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support I received I choosing a replacement course was fine.

transfer of credits

If have not received my transfer of records yet.

### STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome and orientation programme was decent. I met some people and after a while a met enough people to enjoy myself. It does take some work to

accommodation

It did not have any accommodation sorted before I got there, this was a big mistake. I stayed in a hostel for a week and found something, but the place I found did not seem reliable to me so I ended up leaving it. In the end I found an accommodation via the University, this was fine. Finding an accommodation before you arrive is something I recommend. It cost me a lot of money the way I did it.

leisure & culture

I decided to join the Glasgow University Boat Club (GUBC) in order to meet people. I met a lot of people there, from Scotland and other countries. It was a very good way for me to have something to do in Glasgow and to stay fit.

suggestions/tips

Join a sport if you do not want to just be friends with 'internationals'. The GUBC was a good way for me to get see another part of Student Life in Glasgow than just the normal 'Erasmus experience (=drinking / partying with other Erasmus students), I did meet other exchange students but I met some locals too.

### CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend this university and especially the city of Glasgow to others. The university is beautiful and the city is super friendly. Scotland is a beautiful country, I really enjoyed going to the highlands and seeing the mountains.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No

**Report 3**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> mariekesybrandi@hotmail.com
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	Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University of Glasgow
start date	01 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	31 / 12 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	
	It was a lot of work going through everything but definitely worth it in the end!
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The support I got was ok, but what helped me most was talking to fellow students on exchange to update myself on anything that needed to be done.
academic preparation	
	My courses at UU were a well enough academic prep.
language preparation	
	I was already fluent in the language before arriving.
finances	
	It was useful to write the financial note that is required for the application. It made me think realistically about the financial side of the exchange.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	History
academic quality of education activities	
	It was very good and academic. I learned a lot and it was useful knowledge mostly.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	

I did not have any personal contact with staff at receiving university, asking questions and talking to my fellow students proved to be more helpful and efficient.
transfer of credits
I hope that works out.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
Very nice! It helped me settle in, find my way around campus and get to know people, even though I didn't see them anymore after the first week.
accommodation
The university did not provide accommodation for me so I had to find that myself which was a real big trouble!! I only found a room 1 week before I arrived so it was very stressful.
leisure & culture
Very nice! I loved the culture and there were plenty of leisure opportunities offered by societies and in the city itself. Never a boring moment!
suggestions/tips
It would be great if the uni provides accommodation for ALL incoming students!

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would it is a lovely place and a great city to live in. However the accommodation issue is a real issue!
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Befriend the locals, it is the best thing to do for an authentic experience of the culture!

### **Report 4**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> henriettebloema@gmail.com
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	Glasgow, Scotland
name university abroad	University of Glasgow
start date	05 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	15 / 12 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	The process of applying takes a lot of time and I quite underestimated all the paperwork you had to do. But the International Office is really helpful and they remind you a lot so that helps. Picking courses I wanted to do in Glasgow took most of my time because there was so much choice. Overall the application process went well, thanks to the help of the International Office.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The counselling and the support at Utrecht University was quite good. You could email the International Office with all your questions and they would reply within a few days. Also they gave information about the exchange program with a meeting and you could find everything online. Still it was a lot of searching on websites and emailing before everything was clear. At the University of Glasgow they gave me an envelope with folders and a handbook with all the information you needed to know. That helped me a lot because all the information was bundled.
academic preparation	I didn't had to do any academic preparation because the level of the University is quite similar and because they speak English I didn't need to do a language course. What I did to prepare on the academic English the courses were in, was taking an English minor. This minor was half a year so I had 4 courses in English. I think this helped rather well because I was already used to hearing English in lectures, speaking English on an academic level and writing papers and notes in English.
language preparation	Like I said because they speak English it is not really necessary to do a language course. If you want to get a little used to academic English, you could also take some English courses in Utrecht.
finances	<p>The United Kingdom is a little more expensive than Utrecht. Not that expensive due to the Brexit but still accommodation is a lot more expensive. It was possible to be in student accommodation which looked really nice: there were a lot of international students, a really cool common room with a tv, a pingpong place, a playstation and more, but it was really expensive! You paid 700 pounds for a room. I just found a room on a website with Scottish roommates, because I liked that more. I paid only 350 pounds and I could walk to the University in 10 minutes.</p> <p>The best thing is you get a proper student card which gives you discount almost everywhere. Also there are two student communities where you could get meals for 3 pounds or even Subway with discount.</p> <p>Also groceries weren't that more expensive in Glasgow than in The Netherlands.</p> <p>I haven't got all my Erasmus Grant yet, but it won't be enough to cover all my expenses. Also because I did a lot of travelling in Scotland and trains are really expensive if you don't book a week or more before.</p>

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	The University of Glasgow is an enormous university with a almost every study you would like. Also the study History is taken a lot more serious in Glasgow. I did a second years history course about North American History and I was in a big hall with more than 400 people. There are also a lot of history courses I could choose from. I chose Renaissance Scotland, Saints and Sinners and North American History. The first two courses were 4 <sup>th</sup> year courses (their bachelors is 4 years) and they were quite challenging. They called it both Honours courses and you had to really be very active and well prepared in the seminars. This was because you had small classes and

you got your own assignments which required a lot of work. But the teachers are very helpful and they always reply within one of two days.

The organisation of the University is also perfect. You get a student number and an email address and there is one website which contains everything: your email, your courses, your timetable, your results, your absences, a link to Moodle (a sort of Blackboard), a student forum where you can buy and sell things and get help with accommodation, a link to book a room in the library, really everything you need. I thought the website was really structured which helps a lot for international students. In Utrecht you can also find everything online, but I think for an international student it is quite difficult to find the way in the maze of Blackboard, Osiris, the Library website and more.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality is quite the same at both Universities. The only thing is you need to do three courses in Glasgow to get the same ECTS. This tends to make you do more studying sometimes. Also the essays you need to write are of a high quality. You needed to read a lot more secondary and primary articles and books even for small papers. But the thing is that the semester is a lot shorter. I had classes which started the end of September till the middle of December, exams included. So you need to work quite hard but there is before and after the semester a lot of time to enjoy the country as well.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

This was very good. Around the University was every building you needed. Next to the University you had to cross one road and then you found the 11 storey high Library and the Fraser Building. The Fraser Building is a huge building with a massive cafeteria, a bookstore, the student general practitioner (which is free for students there) and the student information desk. You had to go there to get all your documents and if you wanted to get one signed you had to drop it in a box and 3 days later it was signed and ready to get picked up. I had no trouble with documents whatsoever.

Also if you had a question about your courses, the timetable, the library, your student card or anything, they would help you in a second.

I also had to go there when I was quite ill. I made an appointment with the head of the history department to talk about my situation and she helped me a lot! We made a plan of what to do and she even offered to email all my teachers to explain the situation and asked them to move the deadlines for me. So they are very helpful and everything you need for a student is really close.

transfer of credits

I haven't received my transcript yet because I had to do a lot of paperwork and I had to arrange something because of the fact I was ill. I think this month my transcript will be sent to me.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme was fantastic! Before the courses started there were two weeks of introduction with a lot of activities and a lot of partying. Before your arrival you had to sign up for the activities which included a hunt through the city, traditional dancing, Scottish films screenings and a tour through the student part of the city. This was really good because I got to know a lot of people which became friends as well. Also there was a lot of time to explore the rest of the country these weeks, which I did with two people I met. And the Scottish islands and the Highlands are also a must to see. There are also organised trips to the most beautiful place of Scotland which you can join. In the introduction week you will get a lot of information about that. In the introduction week it's also possible to become a member of one of the 200 societies of the University. This can be a sport society like field hockey, dancing or even cheerleading or something else like a Disney

<p>society or Whiskey tasting society. Even when you don't become a member (wich is only 20 pounds a year) you can also joint the activities of different societies. It's very open en you are able to try a lotof new things.</p>
<p>accommodation</p>
<p>Like I said you can go for a student accompdation, but they are really expensive. I first stayed in a hostel the first 10 days and I met some Scottish people who told me where to look for rooms online. On spareroom.co.com you can easily find rooms. Gumtree.com is also a good website. It's kind of an English Marktplaats, so you can also find bikes there.</p> <p>The places for the best rooms are in the West End. The city had 5 parts, the city Centre, the West End, The East End, The South Side and the North Side. The West End is the University part which has a lot of nice rooms. The best place is near the Great Western Road. That is 5 a 10 minutes from the University and has all the stores you need. In the South Side it's a lot chaper but quite far and a less nice neighbourhood. The East End is an upcoming neighbourhood with a lot of nice art galleries, musea and cool concert spaces. I didn't know anyone who lived there but I am sure it is quite nice to live. The North Side is okay too but there are less things to do.</p>
<p>leisure &amp; culture</p>
<p>The best part were the pubs with the live music. Every night there was live music somewhere. It's also very common to go to a pub a few times a week, just to grab one beer or whiskey. I really liked that culture. Scottish persons are also very friendly. I experienced that when I befriended a musician in a bar where he played every week and me and my friends got invited to go on several hikes with them. They showed us amazing places we didn't know before.</p> <p>Also in the city centre there are a lot of musea which are free! And there are a lot of festivals and things to do in the city.</p> <p>Around the University there also was a beautiful park with an enormous museum where I spend a lot of time. Also between studying it was perfect to walk through the park to get some fresh air.</p> <p>And next to studying also take your time to discover Scotland. It's nature is beautiful and the country has a lot of old cities with castles which are worth a visit.</p>
<p>suggestions/tips</p>
<p>Enjoy your time a lot and also try to make Scottish friends. Meeting international people is really easy and fun, but meeting Scottisch people is a litle harder because you meet them less often in courses. Still Scottisch people are the most friendly people you will ever meet and you can easily befriend them. If you want to learn about the Scottisch whiskeys it's also fun to go to a bar and ask the bartender because they are really pround of their whiskey so they will definially let you try a few.</p> <p>Also don't stay in Glasgow all the time. The cities and nature can't be undiscovered.</p> <p>One thing that I thought was quite different is going out. The pubs are open until midnight and the clubs are open until 03 in the morning. They close so soon because of the drinking regulation. So if you get invited to a party which start at 8, be there around 8 because that's really what time the party starts. This makes you get a lot out of your day and you will be in bed around midnight. This makes it a lot easier to study in the morning.</p>

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
<p>would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain</p>
<p>I would definially recommend this University and this destination to everyone! The University is so beautiful and so well organised, it is a privelege to study there. For students Glasgow is perfect: there is music everywhere, pubs where it's always fun, enough places to go out, a lot of musea, beautiful parks and nature to escape the city and most of all amazing people.</p>
<p>do you have any additional advice or comments?</p>

I think I wrote down everything I wanted to say, but if you think about going to the University of Glasgow and you have questions, feel free to contact me anytime! I love to talk about Scotland and I am willing to share more tips with you.