


UU Report form - Erasmus 2018-2019

Faculty/college:	Social Sciences
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Cognitive neuroscience

Destination city & country	Hong Kong, China SAR
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	27-01-2019
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	11-06-2019

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

Application went smoothly, everything was clear.

Counselling/support at home university:

Went to the exchange preparation lecture, this was good for asking questions. There wasn't really any new information given that you couldn't find on the site and that was sent to us via email. So good counselling, everything was clear.

Academic preparation:

Didn't really need to prepare, courses were easy to follow

Language preparation:

Everything was in English. Tried to learn a little Cantonese to no avail. Luckily this wasn't a requirement.

Finances:

It was clear how much money you needed. Everything on campus was cheap, but the city was very expensive. So, you could decide how expensive you wanted to make it

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):



Everything kind of sorted itself out. At first it was a little difficult navigating their site and apply for courses. But it is just a matter of getting used to their system.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

Most of the professors were passionate about their subject. Classes were mostly small, so there was a lot of contact with the professors.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

Didn't really need counselling. Did go to the doctor once (also on campus), this was easy to do and felt very organized.

Transfer of credits:

Went automatically.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

A little long, but it was nice it was there.

Accommodation:

Very clean, didn't feel like student housing at all. I stayed at one of the Halls on campus. Shared room with a local. Rooms were smaller than what I was used to, plus you had to share it. I only used my room for sleeping though, there were enough facilities on campus to go to.

Leisure/culture:

You could do almost anything you wanted on campus. They had multiple tennis courts, football, basketball, ping pong, gyms, swimming pools, squash... The list goes on. Almost felt like a resort at times. So enough to do in your leisure time. Of course, you could also take a bus to the nearest MTR station and from there you could very easily go anywhere you wanted in Hong Kong.

Suggestions/tips:

At least for HKUST, you can easily stay on campus for a week without even noticing it. There is just so much you can do. Try to also go out and see the city, because it is beautiful. You can take the best walks, go swimming at the beach. There are a lot of thing you can do without spending too much money. If you have enough money you can go and see all the landmarks like Big Buddha. I had to choose however because Hong Kong is expensive. If you want to go to the highest sky bar in the world for example, you don't only pay entrance fee, but you also must pay almost 20 euros for a drink. Biggest tip, go to Mr. Wong's! Just go and you'll know why.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

Definitely. I believe HKUST has one of the most if not the most beautiful campus in the world. Even though Hong Kong is expensive, it is also very easy to not spend a lot of money and still see some of the most beautiful landscapes Hong Kong has to offer. 10/10 would recommend.



Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

HKUST and Hong Kong were very good to me. I believe it is one of the most beautiful universities you could go to for an exchange. Oh, and the courses are very doable by the way (for social sciences anyway).

I just left before the protests started, I think the day I left it was just starting (it was the Tiananmen Square Memorial Day). So, I haven't experienced the way the city is now. When I stayed in Hong Kong it felt safe and welcome, the people are mostly just minding their own business, but are not afraid of helping a stranger out. I hope everything works out for them, or at least a little.


UU Report form - Erasmus 2018-2019

Faculty/college:	Social Sciences
Level:	X bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Psychology BA

Destination city & country	Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	HKUST (the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)
Purpose of exchange	X study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	27/01/2019
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	03/09/2019

Preparation
Exchange/placement application process:

The process went fairly well. Utrecht University updated me on most of my statuses, although sometimes it may feel like it takes long before a new status update comes out, but that's just how things work. At HKUST it is somewhat weird to sign up for your courses, as you will not do so until like a week before arrival and you will not know whether you are signed into your classes as you wanted to, but things will become very clear once you arrive and the process will be very delightful, and most of the classes will get accepted after the introduction weeks. So do not worry about your application for your classes.

Counselling/support at home university:

The support at HKUST is superb. Let me give an example: I once got sick during my exchange and went to the doctors' office. Once I came back to my room, I already had gotten 3 e-mails from various tutors and teachers about my situation, and whether they could help me with anything.

Academic preparation:

The system in Hong Kong is different from Utrecht University, where grading will be curved. If you tend to get fairly high grades, do expect to work very hard at HKUST to get those grades, because of the curve system. The library is open 24/7, and people in Hong Kong do really make use of it.

Language preparation:

None, should be sufficient if you're already a student at Utrecht University.

Finances:



Things are expensive in Hong Kong, although the university housing is fairly cheap, and so are your options in the cafeteria. Once you get off campus though, things might get expensive, but that's just a choice you have to make for yourself.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

Excellent.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

Some subjects excellent, some subjects good, some average, depends.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

Very good

Transfer of credits:

Very smooth, the universities took care of it all, although it might take some time for your level of subject to come through (e.g. level 3 course or level 2 course).

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

Very nice, you'll get an introduction week at HKUST where you'll meet all of your fellow students etc., will make up for one big group of all-international students who tend to get very close.

Accommodation:

Pretty good for Hong Kong standards. You'll most likely have to share your room, but it is at the most beautiful location you'll probably ever encounter, at the sea, with all facilities closeby.

Leisure/culture:

Hong Kongers and mainland China people tend to be reserved, although you can get through sometimes, but you'll have to try hard.

Suggestions/tips:

Just participate in everything and you'll have a very nice exchange.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

Yes, it's a beautiful university with an exciting culture. Although things might be a little bit more expensive, it's definitely worth it, because you will be studying at a top university in the world where things are totally organized differently. You'll absolutely like it!

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Try to invest in some Chinese people aswell, they're very nice to hang out with once you get to know them.


UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

Faculty/college:	Utrecht University
Level:	X bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology

Destination city & country	Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Purpose of exchange	X study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	29-01-2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	31-05-2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

The exchange/placement application went very smoothly. Especially the motivation letter and your financial plan were important. Those two things also took some time to prepare, so it is important to start early. For me, I had certain reasons to go to this University, such as expanding my Chinese language and culture knowledge. If you have clear reasons to study abroad it makes it easier to write a motivation letter. As to the financial plan it is important to figure out on time what the possibilities are and if you can get some scholarships.

Counselling/support at home university:

I did not need a lot of help from my home university, but they gave me enough information about the host institution and clear instructions on how I could apply for the institution.

Academic preparation:

You will need at least 60 credits. At Utrecht University this means that you will have to pass 8 courses before you can study abroad.

Language preparation:

It is important that you can speak English fluently. I did not have to do a test, because I was already following some English courses. It is important to contact your international office about this.

Finances:



This was for me the hardest part. I worked the whole summer before I went to study abroad and I saved a lot of money. After saving a lot of money I still needed to get a student loan, because studying abroad is expensive. Especially when you study outside Europe and you do not get a scholarship. So keep in mind to start early with saving some money and to make sure you apply to get a scholarship.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

I focused mostly on the Chinese language and I took courses which focused on China. I only had some issues with getting into one course, namely Chinese Language for non-Chinese. I wanted to get into level 2, but this was already full. They placed me into level 3 instead, which was very hard to follow for me. Besides that I passed the course and learned a lot more Chinese than I expected I was able to.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The quality of education is different than in the Netherlands. I have the feeling that the quality of education for some courses was not as high as at Utrecht University. Those were the level 1 courses. The level 2 courses were more at a comparable level with the courses I followed in the Netherlands.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

I did not use this very often, so I cannot really give my opinion or thoughts on this.

Transfer of credits:

You would get 3 credits in Hong Kong which would be 6 credits in the Netherlands. So instead of 7,5 credits you get 6 if you pass a course.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

We got a lot of information on the first few days and the host university really tried to make us feel like home. They did their best to let us settle and organized trips with other students to get to know each other.

Accommodation:

The accommodation was really nice. I was placed in hall 1 at campus and it would be a 10 minute walk from my room to class. The rooms were a little bit small, but that did not bother me. The bathrooms had to be shared with everyone from your floor which was not a problem, because there were enough toilets and showers. Living on campus is also the cheapest option. This is also why I would recommend applying for this. The hall I lived in was very active in organizing activities for the hall which led to a community feeling in my hall.

Leisure/culture:

When you are going to Hong Kong to study abroad you will probably go on trips and see a lot of Hong Kong. This is what I did and I must say I got to love the people, the food and especially the



beautiful nature in Hong Kong. During the weekends I was most of the times away, unless I had exams in the week after. There was time enough to go and explore, so this is also what I would recommend.

Suggestions/tips:

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Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

Yes, I would definitely recommend this host organisation to others, because it was a great experience where I was able to learn so much I would not learn at Utrecht University and you get to know people from all over the world. Living in another place for 4 months in a totally different culture, made me realise that the world has so much to offer and you really get to know another culture and the people there. This expands your views on everything.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

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UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

Faculty/college:	Faculty of Social Sciences
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology

Destination city & country	Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	28/01/2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	31/05/2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

There is a lot of paperwork, most of it is needed for the visa though, but the University in Hong Kong has a very easy to work with website with your personal account that leads you through all the steps you have to take for your application. This site provides you with all the forms you need and all the information that you need to know by arriving.

Counselling/support at home university:

If you have questions or if you need anything, you can just contact International Office and you will get a respond very quickly.

Academic preparation:

There is no need for a special academic preparation, I just followed some random courses that seemed to be interesting and that went well!

Language preparation:

No need, everything is in English, you will adapt quickly!

Finances:

I used the money that I got from DUO. Before I went to Hong Kong I already set some money apart that I got from DUO.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):



You apply for courses via an online website of the University. As soon as the courses start, you have two weeks to find out if you like the courses you applied for. You can still switch to different courses. After these two weeks the application form closes.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

You can enrol in almost every course without some sort of placement activity. The quality of the education really depends on which courses you choose to follow and which faculty the courses belong to. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology is more an engineering and business school than a social sciences school, but I had some good social science courses and some that were less good.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

At the University in Hong Kong they have a big International Office, like we have in Utrecht. They are always there if you need help with something.

Transfer of credits:

In Hong Kong you get 3 credits per course. These are transferred to 6 credits in The Netherlands.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

They have a really good welcome/orientation programme. They have different activities you can apply for that explore the city Hong Kong itself. Also, some halls that you can stay in on campus organise welcome activities. Next to this, you also have some general welcome and orientation programmes that everybody has to attend.

Accommodation:

I lived on campus. There are 9 different halls that function as accommodation for undergraduate students. The rooms are small and you share it with another student. Every floor has one common room. Although it was a bit small, I really enjoyed staying on campus, because you live together with all the other students. Besides that, accommodation was surprisingly cheap; around €200-€225 per month. (Compared to other accommodations in Hong Kong, really really cheap.) The campus itself also has a lot to offer, regarding sport facilities and places to eat.

Leisure/culture:

Hong Kong is an amazing city. After living there for half a year, I still feel like I haven't seen everything. It's of course a big city, but it also has a lot of nature to offer and a lot of beaches. It has everything, you cannot get bored easily in Hong Kong.

Suggestions/tips:

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Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:



I would absolutely recommend this University. It is situated in a really beautiful place, next to the sea, not in the middle of the busy city centre. Hong Kong itself is amazing to explore. Because of the campus and the different activities they organise it's really easy to meet other (exchange)students. Besides that, the University is easy to communicate with and they are really prepared for having exchange students, which makes an exchange way easier.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Enjoy!


UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

Faculty/college:	Social Sciences
Level:	X bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Educational Sciences

Destination city & country	Hong Kong, China
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Purpose of exchange	X study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	10/08/2017
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	16/01/2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

A lot of paper work at one point, but once placed everything from housing to visas was taken care of by HKUST.

Counselling/support at home university:

The exchange office at UU was really helpful and they respond to e-mails really quickly.

Academic preparation:

none

Language preparation:

none

Finances:

I wasn't eligible for any scholarships or subsidies.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

One subject is 3 UST credits, which is 6ECTS, so you have to be careful with that.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The workload was definitely easier than UU, but very interesting nonetheless.



Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

Very bureaucratic and slow. You had to seek help at different instances or persons if you wanted something done.

Transfer of credits:

All credits were transferred to my UU transcript (One subject is 3 HKUST Credits = 6ECTS).

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

HKUST organized a lot of nice activities from tours, to dinners, workshops, parties, excursions etc.

Accommodation:

Shared dorm on campus. You just have to be lucky with your roommate.

Leisure/culture:

Hong Kong has so much to offer: shopping, beautiful hikes, nightlife, beaches, night markets, museums, amazing food. But also definitely save up for travels. It's easy and relatively cheap to travel to other Asian countries from Hong Kong.

Suggestions/tips:

When choosing subjects, make sure you check out the schedule properly. It's nice to have a few days off so you can explore the city or travel to other countries. Also, join some clubs or student associations. It's a really nice way to meet locals and other exchange students.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

I would definitely recommend this destination. Hong Kong is amazing. It had so much to offer and I really felt at home there.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Make the best out of your time, because it passes by so quickly. It can be very confusing in the beginning and you might feel like you're lost in the school system, but once you get in