



UU Report form - Erasmus 2019-2020

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Algemene Sociale Wetenschappen (Interdisciplinary social sciences)

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	23 / 08 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	05 / 02 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I started by collecting information online about all the universities you could chose from. For me sometimes there were so many forms and application rules, that I lost the overview a bit. But the international office was very helpful and in the end everything will be solved and cleared up.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

When I had difficulties with understanding the whole process, I made an appointment with the international office which was very helpful. You can always email them and they will respond quickly. There are a lot of forms and sometimes it is unclear when or what you have to fill in, so it is very useful to have a organisation like that to help you.

academic preparation

I did not prepare myself adacemically.

language preparation

I followed Spanish courses at high school, but after graduating I never used it again. When I decided to go to Spain I started courses again for about a year, but because I almost forgot everything I ended at A2 level. Because a lot of UU reportst said this was low but sufficient I thought it would be fine. For me it was pretty hard to get around with this level of spanish, and in Granada I decided to follow my courses in English and take a Spanish language course. This all worked out and the language course was very good, but I would advice new students to acquire at least B1 level to study in Granada. It will lower your stress and everybody in Granada expects you to speak Spanish.

finances

Granada is a very cheap city, but don't underestimate all the extra expenses you have because you want to travel, parties etc. For me my loan and the grant were enough to live with, but I also saved some money by working in the Netherlands to travel a bit.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Courses in Granada are 6ECT's and a semester is not divided in two periods like in the Netherlands. This means that if you want to have 30ECT's, you have to follow 5 courses at the same time. The courses have quite a lot of



<p>contact hours in comparison to Utrecht. I would advise future students who go to Granada to plan your programme well so you can follow less courses in Granada, so you can enjoy your exchange time a bit more because it can be hard to immediately follow 5 courses in Spanish. The organisation of the study programme is a bit chaotic, but here you also have a international office that tries to help you.</p>
<p>academic quality of education activities</p>
<p>For me, it was quite hard to understand the level of academic skills they require from you in Granada. I had to hand in a lot of assignments and essays, way more than in Utrecht. But they didn't grade this until january, which made it hard to know if my work was good enough. In the end I passed all my courses really well, so I think the academic quality is less than in the Netherlands, but the work load is more. They expect you to hand in a lot, but the assignments are not really hard. So more quantity than quality I would say!</p>
<p>counselling & support at receiving university abroad</p>
<p>The counselling was a bit chaotic, but you can make an appointment with the international office and they will try to help you!</p>
<p>transfer of credits</p>
<p>I did not get my credit transferred yet.</p>

STUDENT LIFE

<p>welcome & orientation programme</p>
<p>The welcome programme from the university is pretty clear, they send you emails about it and there are information lectures. How your timetable is designed is very different from Utrecht. You have to search for all the courses online, for every faculty there is a different website. Then there are 1-2 weeks where you can follow some lectures of the courses you're interested in, and after these weeks you have an appointment with the international office to officialy sign your timetable. For me this was a very unclear time because it is so different from how I was used to do it. But, time will sort things out and there is less pressure for formal deadlines etc in Granada.</p> <p>Different erasmus organisations like Best Life Experience, Emcyet and ESN organise a lot of trips, parties, tapas evenings etc. to welcome all the new erasmus students. It is a very nice concept to meet new friends very soon, so don't worry about meeting people in a new city. I only went there the first few weeks to make friends, but they organise events throughout the whole year.</p>
<p>accommodation</p>
<p>I read in the student reports that it is very easy to get an accomodation in Granada and that it is easier to just go there and find a room. I partly agree with this. It is indeed easy to find a (cheap) room in Granada. I hired an Airbnb for the first week and wanted to look there for a room. In the end I could rent my airbnb for the whole semester, which was very nice. But for me it was quite stressful before going to Granada to not know if you would fine a room. So I think it depends on your personality, are you laid-back and relaxed: go to Granada and search for a room there. If you like to be well-organised and structured: look for some rooms online!</p> <p>I think the best areas to find rooms are close to the cathedral/gran vía if you want to live in the beautiful more authentic city centre. If you want to live close to the party/student area: calle pedro antonio, this is where are the parties are, but it is not that beautiful. Albacyn is also a very beautiful area, but be aware that it is quite steep so you have to climb a bit. Realejo is also a good area. Everything in Granada is within walking distance.</p>
<p>leisure & culture</p>
<p>I think Granada is one of the best cities to study abroad. It is a city full of parties, culture and food. Everything is within walking distance but the city has everything a big city also has. Everbody lives outdoors so there are thousands of restaurants, bars, clubs, pubs etc. There are a lot of erasmus students so you meet people very easily. Furthermore Granada is not that touristic as for example Barcelona/Valencia, so it is really authentic. Waiters in restaurants speak to you in Spanish and not in English, something that I really liked. The Alhambra is</p>



very beautiful, and there are a lot of viewpoint with Alhambra view where you can chill/picnic. Furthermore the life in Granada is cheap, i went for tapas around 4 times a week because it will cost you only 7/8 euros. With every drink you get a free tapas!

suggestions/tips

Prepare yourself well with the language, and just enjoy! Granada is such a beautiful and nice city.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes definalty! As I explained, Granada is one of the best cities I ever went to. In the summer you can go to the beach, and in the winter within 45 min you are in the Sierra Nevada to ski. It is an authentic Spanish city with a lot of culture, but also with a lot of parties!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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UU Report form - Erasmus 2018-2019

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: r.vanzijderveld@students.uu.nl 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: @
<i>See end note for * and **</i>	
faculty/college	behavioral sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	11 / 02 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	02 / 07 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
I made a list of locations and universities I would like to visit, then focused on their specialties and courses
counselling & support at Utrecht University
went to the information that was given by the UU.
academic preparation
I've looked for some basic terms used in psychology in Spanish
language preparation
Did 2 courses from Fuentes in Utrecht (A2.1 and A2.2)
finances
worked the last months before I left (+/- 3 months full time)

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
They did speak spanish with a really big accent (andalucian) so it was hard to follow them (as well in the international office as during the courses).
academic quality of education activities
Some courses were quite hard to follow, because of the accent and the vocabulary they use. At the end I had the feeling I understood more or less everything.



counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Most of the time when I had problems, I asked another Erasmus student or another student. In little of the cases I asked the teacher.
transfer of credits
nothing special

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
Was quite professional and official, especially the introduction of the faculty (a lot of information in little time). after the acte de bienvenida (official opening) you can enter the parque de ciencias and it's worth to take a look at that!
accommodation
Was not really hard to find. If you want a shared house with other students (piso), it's really easy to find it. I found it at housinganywhere.com, but there are more places to find it. Don't go to the accommodations offered by the university, they ask a lot of money for it (+/- 400/500 euros). The average room costs like 230-300 euros. Check with google whether it is in the center or not! Calle pedro antonio is the street where many people go out, so take that as a reference. The ultimate border of the citycenter is Camino de Ronda, the Genil river and until Albayzín (this quarter is actually quite high in the city).
leisure & culture
The city has a lot of difference in height (city itself is at 750 meters with a difference of 50 meters), so if you want to do a walk through the city: bring good shoes with you. As an international student you can enter the alhambra at Sundays for free! there is an office which provides 100 free tickets for the Sunday for people living in Granada (or international students). Bring your matricula (transcript of courses) or your rent contract (at least 6 months) and you can enter the alhambra on Sunday. You have to go early though (around 7:30-8:00) and go to la oficina corral del carbón. If you like to walk, you can go to the Sierra Nevada (you can also do skiing there) or to Monachil. The beach is more or less 40 minutes-1,5 hour away (depending where you want to go). Enjoy the culture, it is as Spanish as it can be and the weather is lovely (in February it's like 20-25 degrees and in july it goes easily up to 40 degrees!
suggestions/tips
If you want to travel cheap, travel with EMYCET or ESN for quite good prices. furthermore, ALL the tapas are included with the drinks, so going out and dining are combined really well!

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Absolutely. The only thing is that you really have to adjust to the accent (for example: they don't pronounce the s in the words). The tuition is really good, although it is very different from what you're used to at the UU. This is more like high school (small classes, small classrooms, as well as for the lectures as the workgroups (prácticas). The schedule of when you have classes you have to find out yourself and it's actually hard to do (you have morning and afternoon groups and within that you also have variation) so I'll advice to do that with a buddy or someone familiar with it.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Enjoy. It is shocking how fast it all goes and how fast it feels like home. Best time to go is the 2 nd semester, because the ypu have an enourmous amount of parties! Carnaval de Cadiz, Fiesta del agua y fuego, feria de sevilla, corpus cristi in granada (a lot of party and a lot of flamenco, paella and tapas!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology and Development studies

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	05 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	11 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process demands some effort and since the starting date of the exchange seems so far away, this can be quite annoying to put a lot of time in. However, it is important that you prepare these papers with some effort, because in the end the exchange arrives way faster than expected.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support I have gotten by the UU was simply amazing and probably one of the best compared to other Erasmus students from other universities. The international office of my faculty where extremely helpful (and fast) with every small problem I encountered. It is important that future Erasmus students don't hesitate to ask any help from either previous Erasmus students or the international office.

academic preparation

Since my time abroad was merely focused on improving a foreign language, the courses I took were not included in my study program of the UU. That is why I was not to focused on getting specific courses and just wanted to choose interesting courses upon arrival at the UGR. For this reason, I did not require any academic preparation.

language preparation

Half a year before my exchange, I started one Spanish course at the UU for half a semester. After this Spanish course, I made sure that I had more free time to study Spanish in the 3 months before leaving to Granada. In these three months I took some private classes (3 hours a week) and did a lot self-study. In the end, I was not prepared that good and took another course in Granada at CLM (Centro de Lenguas Modernas).

finances

Before the exchange I have saved some money for my time abroad, besides that I had also my Erasmus grant and a compensation for my OV (public transport card) in the Netherlands

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

My programme in Granada consisted of one language course (at CLM), one course at Psychology and two courses at Criminology. It was kind of a task to figure out which courses to follow, since the UGR let you figure it out yourself. Therefore I just searched some information how to sign up for a course at CLM and at which hours the other courses were. I attended a few courses to see if they fit me. In the start it will seem really chaotic, but



in the end it will all work out fine. Don't worry!

academic quality of education activities

As said by many, the level of education is a bit lower in Spain. However, it will be quite hard to do it all in Spanish, especially with the Andalusian accent! The way of teaching and testing is really different from what I am used to at the UU. There is in my opinion more hierarchy between students and professors: at lectures students just listen and write, they don't go into a discussion with a professor. Also the testing was different, because all the exams were multiple choice, something I am not used to within my study.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support is not amazing at the UGR, but don't let that scare you! The communication can be a bit difficult and clumsy sometimes (also because of the language) but in the end all the teachers and staff want the best for you and all the Erasmus students. Just go up to someone and ask for their help! This works way better than sending questions via e-mail, since they don't read/answer their e-mail that often. The same applies on the International office of Psicología: if you have any questions or problems, just go to the office in the opening hours.

transfer of credits

I still have not received my transcript of records, but normally the UGR send your records automatically to your International office.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme by the UGR consisted of one general information event, one faculty specific information event and a few activities you could participate in (which I did not do). For me, the welcome programme of the UGR was not that special, but the welcome weeks of the Erasmus students organisations were really nice. Granada have three different students organisations (BLE, Emyzctet, ESN) specially for Erasmus students which organize different activities every week. Especially in the welcome weeks they have activities day and night which are really helpful to meet new people and get around in Granada as a freshman. So don't be afraid you won't meet anyone, because you will meet lots!

accommodation

I found my own accommodation a few weeks before arriving on a Facebook group. However, it is really easy to find accommodation in Granada. Many students just arrive in Granada without any accommodation and find a room within a few days. Granada is not that big, so almost every accommodation is in a good spot, because you can walk almost everywhere. Almost all the students live in a shared flat with other Erasmus students, what leads to houseparty's almost every day in different flats.

leisure & culture

You will definitely fall in love with Granada if you will spend your Erasmus here. This city has literally everything: the beautiful Sierra Nevada an hour away for some wintersports and the beach about an hour and a half away. Granada itself is a beautiful, cosy city in which you will feel immediately at home. It has a lot of culture and history, which you will experience in the Albaicin and Alhambra. I just loved the lifestyle in Granada, spending your days and nights on the terrace with free (!!) tapas and then end the night in a bar or a club. You can experience something new literally every day!

suggestions/tips

Eat tapas as many tapas if you can, I still couldn't decide which bar is the best!

CONCLUSIONS



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

Definitely! Granada is one of the best cities to do Erasmus in. The UGR can be sometimes be a bit problematic, but in the end it will all work out completely fine and you will have probably one fantastic Erasmus! Granada is amazing and the people you will meet there even more.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No, just go!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	25 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

After I was conditionally accepted at the University of Granada, I had to fill in an Online-form and already choose the subjects I would like to do. It took quite a while after they confirmed that they had received my application. Arrived in Granada it turned out the subjects I choose didn't all fit in the same timeslot, luckily I could change this at the International Office of Granada and change my Learning Agreement. It's very convenient to be present at the information meeting, so you know what to do to change and choose subjects and where you should go.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The Counseling and support from the International Office of the Utrecht University was quick and helpful. Whenever I had a question about ECT's or formal paperwork they reacted within a few days with a clear answer.

academic preparation

There was no special academic preparation needed, although I really had to get used to the way of teaching in Granada - it's less interactive and a lot of listening. It would have been better if my level of Spanish language was higher in the beginning. Now I missed a lot of information in the beginning because of my lack of capability in understanding and speaking the language, which has definitely influenced my academic development.

language preparation

I prepared myself by doing the courses Español1 y Español2 at the University of Utrecht. At the end of these courses you approximately have A2 level in Spanish. What I realized from the moment I arrived in Granada is, that this level is mostly in understanding/reproducing grammatica, and not really in applying it. Using and applying the language is a totally different thing, which I definitely learned this semester, but not without the necessary struggles and frustration. In the end of february I decided to join a language-school for a month with individual classes and a lot of conversation; this helped me a lot. Speaking a language is grammar, but more confidence and acostumbration.

finances

In Granada everything is cheaper than in Utrecht, which made that my finances weren't really complicated in Granada and that I could live very comfortably. I rented my room in Utrecht, and the room I rented in Granada was 150 euros cheaper. Living - groceries, beers, going out, transport - is a lot cheaper compared to Utrecht.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)



Beside my 'external' language course, I did 4 subjects on the University of Granada. Two within my own field of anthropology, and two in philosophy. Although the subjects in philosophy were a bit more complicated because of my lack of foreknowledge of the subject in combination with my lack of Spanish, I enjoyed these subjects the most. It was very interesting to go outside my field, and discover new ways of thinking. The Anthropology subjects were quite easy to me; although both were subjects of the 3rd/4th year, they were not very profound.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the courses on the university was not that high as the courses of the University of Utrecht; the classes are not that interactive and the way of teaching is in my opinion slightly conservative [teacher talks two hours, students listen]. Subjects within the courses were not treated very profoundly, and the test were more reproducing information than critical thinking. BUT! Because of having class in a different language is a challenge in itself, it was good that the content was a bit more simple to be able to focus on the language-part [which was personally my priority this semester].

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

From the beginning it was very clear what I had to do with the international office and in what period. Counselling and support from the teachers was usually good; I could send them an e-mail when I didn't understand things and they would respond pretty fast. Afterwards I wish I had more personal contact with the teachers when I didn't understand things, but that has to do with taking initiative myself.

transfer of credits

I haven't transferred my credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The Orientation programme is very practical; which is useful and good in my opinion, but it's not the moment to meet a lot of new people. For meeting new people own initiative is needed - but the city is full of nice, open and interesting people, which makes it easy to find people that suit you.

accommodation

It's pretty easy to find a room in Granada. I found my room by a friend who studied before in Granada, so I reserved my room beforehand. This is not necessary though; in the beginning there are a lot of people advertising rooms on facebook or in the streets. Also in groups like ESN and Emicet there are a lot of people looking for rooms, which give you the opportunity to rent a whole house together for example.

leisure & culture

Granada is full of things to do, and full of people who take initiative and organize things. Yuzin is the Cultural Agenda of the city, which was for me very useful to find things to do. Later on, I heard about things that were organised within my own network. Beside culture and music, Granada is surrounded by beautiful nature. This was one of the most amazing things of the city to me: within ten minutes walking from the city you're in green and mountainous landscapes. In the summer I had a lot of picnics and campfires which I really, really enjoyed. Beside the direct environment, the sierra nevada is also close - in summer for nice hikes, in winter [until the end of April] for skiing. As well, you can go to the sea in 1 hour by bus. To me this endless opportunities of nature and culture and the big international community make Granada a very special place to me.

suggestions/tips

- Have a solid base in speaking Spanish, this makes a lot of things much more easy.
- If you want to improve your Spanish, actively invest time to it. - And speak Spanish when you can, although English is easier.
- Get lost in Albaicin and enjoy it.
- Don't be ashamed to ask things to your teachers, although these things are simple: overall they are very willing



to help, and like it when you take initiative.

- Go to Marrocco, it's so close!
- When you like bouldering: there's a 'hidden boulderingclub' where you can climb for poco dinero: la sala [in Realejo].
- December, January, february, [March] can be very cold, although it's in the South of Spain. - Be prepared, because most houses don't have central heating.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, definetely. Granada is a place I can't compare to other places - I directly associate it to freedom. The city is not big, but big enough to keep discovering new things. Beside Erasmus students, there is a big international community that is open to everybody. The city is surrounded by beautiful green mountains and nature. Like I said before: you're close to mountains, close to sea and even close to desert. Granada is really a city to dive in to, and I'm sure there's something to find for everybody

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Science
level	X bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Interdisciplinary social science/Psychology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	University of Granada
start date	31/01/2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	06/07/2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The process was straightforward and fast. Everything was done online, for which you got a specific link through email. There you needed to fill in your personal information and courses. For the process there is a manual in Spanish and English available. In general, the international office of Granada was quick to respond. However, it took quite some time to find all the information about the different courses available at the University and once in Granada half of my courses were quite different than described in the manuals, so I had to change them.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The international office in Utrecht is very helpful. They respond fast and answered all my questions clearly.

academic preparation

For my courses there was no academic preparation needed

language preparation

All my courses were in Spanish. When I left I had a B1 level. I had already studied Spanish, but did a fast refreshment course in Utrecht before leaving.

finances

Granada was cheaper than Utrecht. Rent was less than I paid at home and especially food, drinks and traveling were cheaper. I received my Erasmus Grant (partly) before arriving and had saved up a little.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

During my stay I followed four courses, two of sociology and two of psychology. Granada University has a semester system, so I had all 4 courses at the same time, for 5 months. Two of my courses were related to social psychology, one was experimental psychology and one was an introduction course to social change. Most of my courses were 1st or 2nd year courses and therefore the content was good to follow in Spanish. Upon arrival I did have to change two of my courses (that I chose before arriving), because one was too difficult and the other was unavailable.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was lower than I was used to in Utrecht. However, the language was enough of a challenge, so it was less stressful that the academic level was not high.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The international office was helpful and responded fast. Most teachers were kind and available to help when



needed. Most teachers had specific hours in which you could get help with the course content or ask your questions.

transfer of credits

My credits haven't been transferred yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There was a welcoming week. In this week a lot of information was given and there was the opportunity to meet people and the international organisations. We also had to enroll for the courses in the first week. The first week of courses was quite unorganised. Officially the courses had already started, but it was complicated to find a time schedule when you hadn't been enrolled yet, so I missed some of my 'official' first classes. Moreover, I switched some courses in the weeks that followed, which was still possible. Fortunately, it turned out that all this wasn't a real problem.

accommodation

I lived in the centre of Granada and found my room through Facebook. In general, there is a lot of accommodation available. Most common is living in a shared flat, usually with other students. I already had a room when I arrived, but I have heard many students that first went to Granada and then searched for a room there. I do recommend looking for housing in the centre to be within walking distance of everything (except the Psychology faculty). However there is a good bus connection between the centre and the University.

leisure & culture

In Granada there are three international student organisations active. All these organise activities and parties throughout the week and trips in the weekends. For me it was a great way to meet other people and see something of the city and surroundings. Besides, there is a lot to do in Granada, the biggest 'student leisure activity' would definitely be going out for tapas every night. In some ways the Spanish culture is quite different and it took me some time to adjust. For example the eating times are very different and usually everything closes between 14-17h for siesta.

suggestions/tips

Go to the activities of the different organisations to meet other Erasmus Students and use the trips to travel in the weekends. Go for tapas and explore the different neighbourhoods of Granada. Do not stress too much about the university and your courses: everything in Spain goes very relaxed and sometimes seems quite unorganised. It takes some time to get used to this, but in the end it always works out. If you have trouble with the language, you can make use of the opportunity to do a language course as a university course (6ects).

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I had an amazing Erasmus in Granada. It is a very lively city, with a lot of Erasmus students. This makes it a very nice place with a lot of activities and it gave me the opportunity to travel a lot. Moreover, living and studying in Granada is a great way to improve your Spanish (& English). However, take into account that the academic level is lower in comparison to the Netherlands.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you have a B1 level Spanish, it is enough to get by at university. However, in the beginning it is not enough to understand everything perfectly, so I benefited a lot from choosing 1/2year courses, so I could focus more on the language instead of the content.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Sociology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	07 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	26 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
I didn't face any big difficulties with the application process. Everything is quite clear in the e-mails.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
When I did have some small difficulties the international office at Utrecht University was always able to help really fast.
academic preparation
I wasn't obliged to do any specific courses, because I was doing my fourth bachelor year and had all the credits I needed. I went to Universidad de Granada especially to learn Spanish and to spend time doing more creative things and therefore I didn't choose very difficult courses. I didn't prepare myself academically.
language preparation
Because the majority of the courses at Universidad de Granada is in Spanish and I didn't know any Spanish when I decided to go to Granada, I did feel the need to prepare myself. I took three language courses from the language school 'Fuentes' and in the summer holiday I went with a small and really nice organization to a small pueblo in Spain to learn Spanish. This programme (you can check it at www.espanolquijote.com) helped me a lot to be less afraid of talking.
finances
Before applying, you have to make a financial plan. This helped to be more sure about having enough money during the stay abroad. I applied for the Erasmus grant and got some compensation for the OV-card that I wouldn't be using. Furthermore, I was prepared to use money of my savings account. Eventually, that wasn't necessary.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Whereas the enrollment in courses happens very organized and usually online in the Netherlands, in Granada every international student had to go to the international office. For me this happened in the second week of education, and I could go to different courses to try them out in the first week. It was a bit unorganized but everything worked out for me. Because I went in my fourth year of my bachelor and I didn't need to do some specific courses, I didn't have to stress about having the right courses. Also the courses were less organized, but I liked how everything always worked out.
academic quality of education activities



I did three courses at the university and one language course at the Centro de Lenguas Modernas. This Centro is related to the university and you can get ECTS for doing this course if your language level is B1 or higher. You do have to pay for this course... I really liked the language course and one course in English: 'Theory of Democracy' of the faculty of political sciences. Furthermore I did a course on psychology of personality and a sociology course on historical movements. Both were in Spanish and quite interesting, but the assignments were really different and of lower level than I am used to in Utrecht.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I was enrolled at the faculty of Psychology and the international office over there has helped me when it was needed.

transfer of credits

I haven't yet received the transfer of credits, but I do know that I passed all the courses.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Granada has a very big international student community. There are at least three erasmus organizations that organize many nice events almost every day of the week. This made it super easy in the beginning to do things and to meet new people.

accommodation

I stayed my first days in Granada in a hostel and from there on I looked for a room. This was a little bit stressful, but I met nice people in the hostel and eventually found a room within 5 days. I had a room a little bit outside the center, but it was close to everything. I paid 230 euro, but gas, water and electricity was not included. The area of Albayzin is really beautiful to live, but it is also on a hill and many houses do not have a central heating. Especially the central heating is really important to have in the house, because in the winter it can be really cold during the nights, although the sun still shines during the day.

leisure & culture

Granada is such a nice, diverse and lively city. Ofcourse you have the Alhambra, which is for many tourists the only interesting thing, but Granada offers so much more. There are super nice and cheap cafes where you can get a drink with a free tapa. Many cafes and other places have often performances: bands are performing or there are some dancing performances or poetry slams. I took some dancing classes at Casa de Porras. This is an institution from the university and they offer many nice creative courses. I also really liked to travel around Granada. With bus you can go very fast and easily to the Sierra Nevada and do some hiking or skiing in the winter. But you can also go to many beaches that are quite near or go to cities like Cordoba or Sevilla, or Marrakech.. with the erasmus organizations or with your own group.

suggestions/tips

I already mentioned some of the things I did and although I could tell much more, Granada offers so much that everyone can find those things that he or she is looking for.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend Granada! It is a really special place, and I definitely want to go back soon. I do think you should think about what you want from your time abroad. If you want to have the best education than it would be nicer to go to a better university, but if you want to learn Spanish, want to know more about another culture, want to learn other things than just what they teach you in the university, then Granada is one of the best places to go.

do you have any additional advice or comments?



I do want to mention that the Spanish accent in Andalusia is quite difficult to understand! So it would maybe be good to keep that in mind while preparing.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

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

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	University of Granada/Universidad Granada (UGR)
start date	11 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	01 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

Overall it's a lot of work to arrange everything and it's important to keep track of all the different deadlines. At the uu it's very clear what you need to arrange. After your arrival at the University of Granada there will be a meeting in which they tell you about all the stuff you need to arrange in Spain. This was a lot and sometimes it was difficult to understand everything in Spanish. Luckily there are a lot of other exchange students who can help you.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I think Utrecht University has helped me very well with all my questions and it was clear what i was supposed to arrange before departure.

academic preparation

I didn't prepare myself academically. The academic level is relatively low in Granada.

language preparation

I had Spanish classes at my high school and followed a language course in Spain one week before my classes at the University of Granada started. In the beginning it was hard to follow all my classes in Spanish but i think in the end the best lesson is to speak Spanish with local people or other Erasmus students. I would really recommend speaking Spanish at home when you live with other international students, even though it might be easier to speak English sometimes.

finances

Living in Spain isn't very expensive. I think you can compare it with The Netherlands, only going out for something to eat and the rent of a room can be very cheap compared to The Netherlands. When you order a beer or a 'tinto de verano' you will get a free tapa in most places.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

On the site of the university of Granada you can find the courses they offer. You have to choose the courses when you'll apply online at the university of Granada. When you'll arrive you can go to your classes to see if you made the right choices. After a week or so you'll have an appointment to officially choose your courses. So you can still change courses in the first week. In this first week it's very busy at the international office of the faculty so there won't be a lot of room for questions and you have to figure thing out yourself. If you really like to speak to someone most of the time it's necessary to make an appointment in advance.



academic quality of education activities

I think the academic quality wasn't that great. The study material was quite superficial. Most assignments were pragmatic and there weren't any strict rules with respect to APA for example. In a paper you simply had to describe what the teachers had said during the classes without it being necessary using scientific sources. The lectures were very interactive, a lot of students asked questions. Because the groups were quite small, teachers know most of their students by name.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

When you ask for help most of the time they are very willing to help you, but you should ask for this yourself. Sometimes you have to be patience when waiting for a respons. Moreover, it isn't always clear with whom you can contact concerning certain issues. My advice is to always contact with the international office of the faculty since they can help you most of the time and they respond quickly.

transfer of credits

The transfer of credits didn't took place yet. I heard this can take some time.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There were a lot of activities, especially in the first weeks. These are organised by, for example, the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) or Emycet. They organize trips to other cities, tours in Granada itself and parties. The university itself only organized information sessions.

accommodation

It wasn't hard to find a place in Granada. I send an email to someone who posted a room on the site Idealista and this woman told me her agency had a lot of rooms. I made an appointment with her and when I arrived in Granada she showed me some rooms from which I could pick. The're are a lot of facebook groups as well in which they offer rooms.

leisure & culture

I'm a big fan of the spanish culture. People live outside so the city is always alive. Going out to eat a tapa is something you can do every day. Moreover, the people are very relaxed.

suggestions/tips

- Speak Spanish as much as you can
- Participate in the activities (best way to meet new people)
- Go out for free tapas!

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend going to Granada since the Spanish culture is great and it's a good opportunity to learn a new language. Besides, it's a city full of students so there are a lot of opportunities to meet new people and participate in student activities. The university of Granada I wouldn't really recommend. The level was quite low and some courses were chaotic.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Try to enjoy your time abroad and don't stress too much about grades.
Don't underestimate the time you need to arrange things and prepare yourself.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2016-2017

faculty/college	UU social sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	02 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 06 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

For me, the exchange application process went very well, because I was very sure of my decision that this was what I wanted to do, move to Granada. I was well prepared, already following a minor in Spanish language. I did have some trouble imagining my financial and study plan, but all of that turned out fine when I took an afternoon to think it all over.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

In the beginning, I was very confused about everything that had to be done and before which deadlines. For me, Utrecht failed to offer a clear overview of the things to be done, but the people at STIP and fellow students helped me a lot in this. Also the communication over email with the people from the IO went very well.

academic preparation

-

language preparation

I prepared myself for this by doing a minor in Spanish Culture and Language at UU the year before I left. At the end of this, I had a B2 level of Spanish, which was a more than sufficient basis to communicate in Spanish.

finances

I saved some money for the Erasmus, but I managed to live mainly off my Erasmus scholarship and stufi.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I followed 4 courses, worth 24 ECTS. The courses require quite a lot of work, eventhough they are academically not very difficult. You just have to hand in a lot of assignments during the semester, which takes a lot of pressure off the exams you take at the end of the course.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the courses was, in my opinion, lower than at UU. At UGR, the focus more on the classics of anthropology, classic literature, theories and documentaries. The depth we are used to in Utrecht, the intertwinements between different phenomena and a more modern outlook on things is what I missed at times.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad



The IO at UGR is not very useful when it comes to helping, and there is a lot of bureaucracy you have to deal with. I think it does help a lot if you speak Spanish, as I noticed they sometimes had difficulties understanding forms that were in English. But they will help you the best they can if you ask it nicely.

transfer of credits

Not happened yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

During the welcoming week, there were not a lot of activities I participated in, but I did attend the obligatory meetings. In those, they give you a lot (a lot!!) of helpful information, so I would recommend going there and bringing a piece of paper and a pen to take notes of all the steps you have to take before you're a student at UGR.

accommodation

The first few weeks, I stayed at an airbnb. It was very easy to find a room through the Facebook page, so I would recommend you start searching when you get there, and not beforehand. First, I was very nervous about not having a room on arriving, but it really is better to be able to check out the rooms in real life when you get there.

leisure & culture

Granada is an amazing city when it comes to spending your free time there; there are so many things to explore in the city but also in its surroundings. The nightlife is very vivid and there is a big student population. My best memories are those of being out in the city during the night, going out with my friends there, or making trips to the beach or the Sierra Nevada.

suggestions/tips

Although I didn't really like it, you can take some trips with ESN or Emycet. I didn't really like it because they were always with very big groups of Erasmus students, but for some activities it is useful to go with them, because they offer transport and a very cheap price.

CONCLUSIONS

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

YES! Granada is an amazing city which will give you a lot of unforgettable experiences.

do you have any additional advice or comments?



UU Report form - Erasmus 2016-2017

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	06 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	21 / 06 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
It was just the regular procedure of the UU, including a curriculum vitae, a motivation letter, a financial plan and a study plan.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
I have not had any.
academic preparation
I did not need academic preparation
language preparation
For studying in Granada there is no official proof of language level necessary. But courses are in Spanish, so level B1 is expected. To reach this I took two courses at the UU.
finances
I received 80 percent of the Erasmus money before going. Besides this life in Granada is cheaper than in the Netherlands. I rented a room in a perfect location for just 250 euro monthly.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Even though I am an anthropology student I had the freedom to take three courses in philosophy and one in psychology.
academic quality of education activities
In my opinion the academic quality at the Universidad the Granada is lower than at the UU. As an example I learned some difficult philosophical arguments and at the exam they asked for simple facts. My psychology exam was multiple choice. So I think they focus more on learning facts than real understanding. Looking back I think the lower academic quality is compensated by the difficulties in language. So in the end I spent more or less the same time on studying activities as in the Netherlands.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Especially in the beginning of my stay abroad language made things complicated. The people who should help you do not speak english and the professors neither. Still having to get used to another language makes it difficult to ask for their help.



transfer of credits

I do not know yet, because i did not receive my grades yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

At the beginning of your stay in Granada there will be a welcome week. In my opinion just the first day was useful, giving practical information about how to subscribe for your courses. The rest of the days were more like a promotion for the city and the university.

accommodation

I rent a beautiful room in the city centre at Paseo del Padre Manjon 2. This was the perfect spot with a balcony straight in front of the Alhambra and I just paid 250 euros a month including the bills. I heard about more similar renting prices and some cheaper ones. I found my room looking at advertisements on idealista.es. I just went straight to the adress and asked if i could see the room. This more direct approached helped me get around the slow process of mailing and making an appointment. This was really helpful, because I think that when you are new in a foreign country an own room is important.

leisure & culture

The south of Spain and especially Granada really differ culturally from the Netherlands. Temperature determines life. So during the afternoon from 14 to 16 pm shops are closed. Because of the heat people get out in the evening. They, especially in Granada, go out for some beers including free tapas.

suggestions/tips

Read about the history of the city, it is fascinating!

Work on your Spanish. Most Spanish people do not speak English and it would be a missed chance if you are only able to talk to other Erasmus students.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Definitely. The city is small and everywhere you want to go you can walk to. The size increases the ambiance. You are close to nature, with the Sierra Nevada at just a 45 minute bus trip and the city being located next to a forrest. In one hour by bus you are at the beach. The free tapas are amazing, just as being able to on the street all day.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Enjoy as much as you can. It is possible to combine your studies with having the best time of your life. Another insiders advice: go to the viewpoint at San Miguel Alto; there are no tourists and the view is the best.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2016-2017

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	12 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	07 / 02 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

At the beginning you are thinking: Where do I have to start and the way to your actual stay abroad seems to be long. Fortunately on the website studying abroad of the UU, you are being able to find the steps you have to take in first preparing your application and of the rest that's included in the process of your stay abroad. A hint I want to give: make a kind of to-do-list for yourself, in this way you have an oversight view and less stress about all the things you have to do. In the end you will consider it as not that much.

It is smart to discover the website of the university abroad a few weeks before you have to decide (temporary) which courses you want to take there. Because in the case of Granada it takes time for understanding the website, also because the biggest part is in Spanish. In the case you can't find directly the courses which would be taught at the University of Granada you always can contact me for help.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

For questions and other cases you can contact the International Office easily. There are always willing to help you and are clear in their answers. After receiving the confirmation that you may study abroad it is a good thing to go to the presentation about 'what to do next', this will give you a clear view about what you have to do between your "application confirmation" and "going abroad". For me it worked as a reassurance .

academic preparation

I didn't need a lot of academic preparation because in my case I went in my fourth academic year abroad. So my academic level was well enough and I think this is the case as well when you do this in your third academic year. The only most important thing for in Spain is to realise that almost EVERYTHING would be taught in Spanish, so the language preparation would be in this case more important than the academic.

language preparation

For the language preparation I attended in two extra courses at Utrecht University: Spanish Language Learning 1 and 2 in the first semester of mine third academic year. Those ones helped me very well for learning quick the basic of Spanish.

Another possibility is to take languagecourses in Granada itself. The university will inform you about this, only you have to take in account that this is rarely expensive and in mine experience is the basic Spanish you learn in the courses of theUtrecht University quite enough for help yourself out in Granada. At the beginning it will be difficult but you will learn the language fast enough (because that is the language you have to talk to communicate).

finances

You will have the right on the Erasmusgrant+ and also on a OV-compensation. With this two you already can cover a big part of the finances for staying abroad. As adjustment I had saved own money and my parents helped me out. A studentsloan would also be an option.



On the average, Spain is not an expensive country to live and studying there is not really more expensive than in the Netherlands, this is especially because they work a lot with online documents instead of real books.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The word to summarize how to behave yourself in Spain: be patient. Furthermore Spanish people are very friendly but they are speaking with each other less polaid than your are probably used to in the Netherlands. Don't take this in the wrong way, for your own seeks: accept it and you will like the people and won't feel stress.

At the university of Granada you will start with an introductionweek, don't worry if you don't understand anything about what the teacher says during the first introduction-meeting, you will understand it sooner or later. A good tip is to apply yourself for a buddy, because this students speaks probably English and can explain it to you once again. In the introductionmeeting it would get clear which steps you have to take for registrate yourself for the university and for the courses. The choice you make for courses at the beginning (with the application at the university before you are going abroad) aren't settled, the actually choice for courses will make in the week after the introductionweek, then you will have time to visit courses of the university so you can meet several teachers and experience how the course is like. Teachers is an important thing, because if Spanish is a new language for you it will be nice to have teacher who speaks the language clear and not to fast. After this week you have to make your choices for which courses you want to follow and with which teacher. The registration for the courses goes in the offline way and not in the online way and this is the reason why you need patience, because you will be stand in a line for a while with the secreterial office to registrate yourself for courses.

Truly, be patient and don't panic if things doesn't work out at once, it will be solved and once it will be you can start to enjoy your stay in one of the most beautiful cities in Spain.

academic quality of education activities

In comparison with the Dutch academic quality, the academic quality in Spain is not that high, if you would consider it from the point of view of a native speaker. But the thing is that the courses would be taught in Spanish and therefore it is still an challenge. Probably you know your own level of Spanish or you would get to know it in the first weeks you are in Spain, based on your own level it would be probably smart also to think about taking courses which you partly already know.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

At each faculty is an international office, here you can go for problems, especially if you want to communicate in English. However, In my experience you have to check if the person with who you speak really understands what you are saying, because sometimes they say that they understand when they don't.

For a back-up for information, help and advice it is really a good thing to have a buddy, which I did mention earlier in this report.

transfer of credits

Your lists of credits will be sent by email to your home-university and to yourself. I didn't receive it yet because I had my exams not a long time ago.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The university will organize activities to meet the other erasmusstudents, but also in the city of Granada are organisations settled who organise activities to meet other erasmusstudents an example is Best Life Experience, if you want to get more information about this organisation and their activities you can like their facebookpage: Best Life Experience Granada, if you won't be able to find it you can ask me. Also before your



departure to Granada it is smart to follow them on facebook so you can see when, where and what kind of activities they organise. Also they help you with practical things like a Spanish simcard for your mobile-phone. By the way, if you take a Spanish number it's not necessary to inform your friends and family about your new number unless you can't communicate with them via whatsapp, because when you change your simcard your phonenumber which is linked to your whatsapp will be the same as your old (Dutch) phonenumber, very practical!

accommodation

From the university of Granada you will get information about where you can find accommodation, the disadvantage of this is that you only can see pictures of the accommodation and you can't check if what you see on the pictures is real. Therefore there are two better options and it is for yourself what you think is best. The first one is to get one on advice of another student (you can ask me if you want), for this you also can watch the facebookpage of Best Life Experience, because a lot of students from the semester before you are posting pictures and descriptions of their accommodation there. The second option is to go there and take for your first days a hostel so you can visit the rooms you have found on the internet in real life, this could deliver you stress, because would you find something? But my experience is that the most students who did it in this way did find something and also good things! By the way, prices for rooms vary from 180 to 300 euros. A cheap room won't say that much about the quality. Only for this relative cheap prices of rooms, is Granada a good city to live in and for many more reasons which you will find in the next section.

leisure & culture

Granada is a cute little city, but it is not too small, you can do there anything and the atmosphere is very friendly and you are feeling safe at nights when you are walking at the streets. One of the best things of Granada in comparison with other Spanish cities is that there are a lot of tapasbars in which you will receive free tapas with your drinks, so you are only paying for your drinks and in the same time you can eat. Anyway, going out for dinner is cheap in Spain and Granada, especially when you will compare it with the Netherlands. The other thing you have to do in Granada for the full experience is to go to el mirador de San miguel alto, from there you have the worlds best view of Granada, you will love it. And then there is so much more to do in Granada and it is easily to get from Granada to other cities and also to get to the sea. But more I won't tell you because the nicest thing of living in a strange city is to discover it all for yourself and to discover your favorite place from it.

suggestions/tips

Just let Granada surprise you, you will see it's beauty and strength, also in comparison with the famous big cities Madrid and Barcelone.

CONCLUSIONS

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

For a higher level of education Spain is not the best country to go, but this is for many countries the case. The challenge you will meet at the university in Spain is the language-challenge, challenge yourself and discover if you also can study and life when the language is strange for you and discover that you will learn a new beautiful language at the same time. Especially in Granada you will learn Spanish fast, because you are forced to speak Spanish because the people there almost don't speak English so you won't be able to take the easy way to speak English.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Don't get scared of the strange language. You will learn it and when you do you are so proud of yourself! :) And studying abroad where-ever it might be is great, one of the best experiences of your life anyway. Please take your chance and enjoy your time!