



ERASMUS+ STUDIES

UU Report

2017-2018

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

destination city & country	Prague, Czech Republic
name university abroad	University of Chemistry and Technology
start date	13 / 02 / 2018
end date	13 / 06 / 2018

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process in the beginning can be fairly slow. You will have to find all the documents required, and you have to know how to contact people. Therefore it can be easy to have a small conversation with the international office before you start preparing. You can also attend some of the exchange meetings, wherein previous erasmus students tell about their experiences.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support by the international office itself was excellent. All my questions were returned quickly and they really helped me out. Only from my own study programme I did not receive much help, there wasn't much information present to help people wanting to on exchange, so I had to figure it out myself.

academic preparation

To go on exchange I had to organize my studyplan around 1.5 years in advance. This was because of the strict requirements of my bachelor programme. There was no certainty that the level of the courses I picked at the receiving university would be accepted by my home university. Therefore I structured my studyplan as such, that I would only follow choice courses in Prague, so I would only need to pass the courses, and all of them would be accepted at home.

language preparation

To prepare for my time abroad, I had to complete an online language assessment, to determine my level in English. As I myself have been an English tutor for highschool students, this assessment was no trouble to me.

finances

A very important aspect for me was the affordability of my exchange period. Before going on exchange I determined what my budget per month would be in Prague. One might think of the following expenses: 160 eu/month for accomodation in a dormitory, 100 eu/month for groceries, 150 eu/month for partying, 150 eu/month for trips and other expenses. To finance this, I had income out of the following groups; 210 eu/month Erasmus+ scholarship, 100 eu/month OV-chipcard reimbursement, 100 eu/month loan from the government and 150 eu/month contribution from my parents.



STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The content of my study programme was interesting. UCT Prague offered all kinds of courses that were not given at my home university. However, making sure that none of my picked courses overlapped with courses I had already taken back home, was very difficult. Therefore I chose to do 9 small courses, all very different from each other.
academic quality of education activities
Some courses were a little easy compared to back home. Often these courses discussed techniques we had already discussed in the 1 st or 2 nd year of the bachelor. Other courses however, gave a good insight into industry and discussed applications more than Utrecht University would.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The support at UCT Prague was fine, I always felt welcome to walk into the International office and ask any questions I might have.
transfer of credits

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
Very good, the first few days in Prague were full of introduction parties and events. When the semester officially started, we also had an introduction week by our own university. Here we got to know the city, our classmates, and all other information needed for this semester.
accommodation
Accommodation by my own university was good, but very far away from the university campus and the city center. Going to either the university or city center took at least 45 minutes. Before I went to Prague I informed after this fact, and ESN members from UCT Prague told me it was actually quite nearby, and everybody lived at the university dorms. After 2 months I managed to get into a dormitory on the university campus, which I liked way more than the other dormitory. I just wish UCT Prague would have informed students about the fact that accommodation at another dormitory was also possible.
leisure & culture
Amazing, Prague is a city with an incredible history and many architectural styles and influences. For students there are many good clubs and pubs, and drinks are around 2 times cheaper than back in the Netherlands. Also going out for dinner is almost as expensive as making your own food.
suggestions/tips
Try to live in an accommodation that is fairly close to the city center and your university, that makes it easy to get back home after a night out.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
yes i would, the average level of education is fine, and the subjects are very interesting. The campus is quite beautiful and things are quite well organised here.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
try to learn a little bit of the Czech language, the people actually appreciate it, and it is a good starting point for a conversation!