



University of Hull

2017-2018

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The application process was clear and easy to follow. The information gathering by the International Office was really useful.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The international office was always really helpful when I had questions. They always responded on my e-mails within a short period.
academic preparation
I didn't do any academic preparation.
language preparation
I didn't do any language preparation.
finances
In the beginning, you have to make a financial plan. I used my student loan to the maximum in the months I was in Hull, but that was because I did a lot of trips.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
In Hull I enrolled in three courses. One of them was a law course, the other two were courses of the War Studies programme. The content was good, but sometimes I missed the guidance of a text book. In all three courses, all the content was online.
academic quality of education activities
I followed two level 5 courses from the second year, and one level 6 course from the third year. The difference was really noticeable. The level 6 course was quite hard and a bit vague in my opinion. The level 5 courses were quite easy.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The International Office of Hull University was really helpful and kind. You could always walk in there and ask for anything, and they would always help me.
transfer of credits
I am still waiting on my results.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
The welcome programme was alright. There was a week with parties every night, and information fairs during the days. There was also some university introduction, but this was rather useless. This first week was very important in getting to know people. The parties were very good, especially the first weeks. There is a club on the uni campus that is really good.
accommodation



I lived in Cottingham The Lawns, in a place just above Hull. This is where all the freshers are placed too. But because there were a lot of internationals living here, it was really fun. The bus ran every ten minutes until late in the night, so the location did not really matter. Also, you get a 'free' bus pass. The dinner was provided every night, this was relaxed because you don't have to cook, but it also got a bit boring after some time. The room itself was alright, but the shared facilities were really basic. I was in the oldest hall, which used to be an accomodation for soldiers. Fortunately, this Hall will be torn down after this year. I recommend to get in a house on Newland or Cranbrook avenue, and not in the student halls. There are plenty of rooms there, so don't just take an offer from the uni for The Lawns.

leisure & culture

In the UK, uni sport clubs are really important. Every Wednesday you have a social with your team and then go out in the uni club. Every Wednesday there is a theme, and everybody looks like retards which I found fun. You can also join non-sport societies like debate clubs, which also have socials. Also, there is a lot to do when you find friends among the internationals and English people. You can go out almost every night in Hull, the clubbing is really good. Also, I went on a lot of trips, to London, Manchester, Edinburgh and even Iceland. The last one was quite random but really fun. I made a lot of international friends from everywhere in the world.

suggestions/tips

You should be sociable in the welcome week and make friends. Also I recommend to plan trips, the UK is a really good place for making trips. Also, get a Railcard, it saves you a lot of money on train tickets.

CONCLUSIONS

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

It was my third choice, but I really liked Hull. The city is not special at all, and so much uglier than Utrecht. The studentlife is really good on the other hand, and I think that every destination is as fun as the people you meet there. The uni is good and quite new. If you get a place at Hull uni, also when it is not your first choice, just do it, you will have a nice time.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Plan your courses in the way you have free Fridays or Mondays, so you can take trips on the weekends.

2015-2016

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I applied as soon as the application was open.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I couldn't go to my initial destination, so the International Office of my University helped me to find a different destination. This was Hull. I am really happy with the help I received.

academic preparation

I didn't do an academic preparation.

language preparation

I did a course called "Legal English" at my Studies association, to prepare myself for my Erasmus period.



finances

I got a job over the summer, to make some money for England, since the Pound is quite expensive for us. Also, I made a budget, to calculate the expenses for living.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

In my learning agreement I subscribed for courses that I had found online. When I arrived in Hull, the law department of the University of Hull told me that a lot of these courses are only for a whole year (long thin, as they call it), this meant that I had to subscribe for different courses. During this process two teachers helped me to pick my courses. It was a bit of a chaotic meeting, where the German and Dutch students were mixed and there was some time pressure to finish the learning agreements. Because of this, I chose my subjects in a bit of a hurry. I chose Public law and Administration, Introduction to Islamic law and Legal skills and Methods. I think that I would have chosen 2 different courses if there were more available, but this was unfortunately not the case.

academic quality of education activities

The lectures and seminars at the University of Hull were really different from the ones in Utrecht. First of all, because I think the overall academic level in Hull is lower than in Utrecht. Second of all, because for my Legal Skills and Method course, the teachers explained a lot of subjects, where we only had to write an essay about two subjects. In Utrecht, we usually have an exam that covers all the subjects of the course. Nevertheless, the overall academic quality was good, the University had organized everything very well. There was a lot of support for the International students and the work load was not too high.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The International Office helped me very well when I had a question about my learning agreement. I didn't receive much counselling from the law department. I didn't ask for any help, but I think if I did, that they would've helped me well.

transfer of credits

In Hull they work with a different credit system. I still have to receive all my credits, but so far I passed 2 out of 3 essays and 1 out of 2 exams. I think I have passed the others as well.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome programme was very nice. In the first three weeks (called Freshers' week) they organized a lot of activities to welcome the new students and to make them acquainted with the University of Hull. They organized nice parties on Wednesdays, they organized fairs where you could get to know the sports teams, the fitness center, the societies (for example the law society) and all the other social events. They had movie nights and much more. It was great! For the law department they organized a meeting in the first week where they explained what we could expect and some formalities. The week after this the normal lectures started, a week after that the seminars started.

accommodation

Initially I wanted to get a room at the campus of the University. But because there were a lot of applications, I couldn't live there. The University emailed me about this and assured me that they would find an alternative. They did, I got a house on Cranbrook Avenue, five minutes walking from the University. Later I discovered that nearly all the International Students lived there! I was so happy that I got a room in Cranbrook Avenue, instead of at the campus. It was a nice house where I lived with 3 other people. One of my housemates became one of



my best friends there. When something was broken, you could report it to the University and they fix it for you. The location was perfect, you were at the University within 5-10 minutes and there was a bus stop in front of the house that took you to the city center withing 15 minutes.

leisure & culture

In 2017 Hull will be the city of culture of the UK, because of this they are renovating a lot of things in Hull and many activities will be held. You can visit the Deep, which is a big aquarium. Also, there are 3 big shopping malls, the one i prefer is St. Stephens. All the museums in the city center are for free and the old town has a beautiful church called " the Trinity church". Near the campus there is a big street called "Newland Avenue" where you can find many bars, little coffee places and shops. My friends and I went to the Boathouse on Mondays to get free pizza (when you pay for 1 drink you get half a pizza for free). Also we went to bars such as Tofts, Ella st. Social and Adelphi (in the last two they play live music which is great!).

suggestions/tips

I made many trips when i was in Hull, this is a big recommendation! I went to Scotland to see Edinburgh and Glasgow. Edinburgh is one of the most beautiful cities i have ever seen! Also i went to Leeds, York, Oxford, Warwick and Liverpool. All these cities are so nice, i am really happy i went there. One of my tips is: don't be shy to approach people, make new friends. Those people will be your best friends in Hull and because of them you won't feel homesick. I had the best time in Hull because of all the great people I met. Also, try to find a balance between studying and doing fun stuff, you want to pass all your exams, but you don't want to look back and think, of i wish i made more of my time in Hull!

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, i definitely recommend the University of Hull to others. At first, I didn't know where Hull was located and what to expect when i found out that i could go there. But it was the best experience of my life! The University if very well organized, i made so many new friends from all over the world, i learned a lot of things. Also, from Hull you can travel to many cities in the UK, which is great. Hull is not a beautiful city, like Oxford or York, but it has a lot to offer and is definitely a great city!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Don't be too disappointed when you don't get to go to your first or second destination. Wherever you go, you have to make it a great time. Be open to new people and everything else will be fine. Going abroad was the best decision i ever made!

2015 – 2016

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The first decision I had to make was where I wanted to go for my exchange program. My first choice as destination was a place in America. I always wanted to life in the United States. But unfortunately I couldn't go there. So when I had to choose out of the Rest-destinations, I choose for the University of Hull. One of the main reasons for me to apply for an exchange program was to improve my English. To apply for a place in the United Kingdom was therefore logic.

First I had to apply at the International office of Utrecht University. When I was accepted by Utrecht, I had to apply at the University of Hull. The international offices of both Universities were very helpful with the process of application. I remember when University of Hull accepted me. They sent me a clear and useful



<p>mail, with a list of documents I had to provide. It was therefore very easy to complete the application. Next to the application of the University, I also applied for an Erasmus grant. That was very easy as well. Therefore I only needed to fill in some documents and make a language test.</p>
<p>counselling & support at Utrecht University</p>
<p>As mentioned above the International offices of both universities were very helpful. I had a problem or a question they helped me as soon as possible. If I sent them an email, they mostly replied the same day. They also sent a lot of emails to remind the students what still had to be done and to remind students of the deadlines. Also I received a few emails from the Hull international office to make me excited to go the University of Hull. The offices were very supportive.</p>
<p>academic preparation</p>
<p>Before I went to Hull. I had to choose the courses I wanted to follow there. And I had to make a studyplan for when I'll come back to Utrecht. So that the University of Utrecht knows what my intentions with my study are.</p>
<p>language preparation</p>
<p>Before my exchange I did not make any language preparation for my departure to England. One of the main reasons I went to England was to improve my English language. I knew my English was good enough for a regular conversation. And I knew that the University of Hull would help me with language problems if they occur.</p> <p>To improve your language, it is important that you dare to speak that language. Don't be afraid to make mistakes. In first weeks the most Erasmus students aren't speaking fluently and are insecure about their speaking, but don't have to be insecure about your ability to speak the foreign language. Just try.</p>
<p>finances</p>
<p>I received the Erasmus grant for my exchange program. But that is not enough. I used a lot of my savings and also my parents sponsored me. Make sure before you leave you have enough money to live from. It is important to keep in mind that the United Kingdom is pretty expensive for people from the continent of Europe. In the first place because of the difference between the Pound and the Euro. And second the living costs in the UK, for groceries for example, are more expensive if you compare it with the Netherlands.</p>

<p>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</p>
<p>study programme (content and organisational issues)</p>
<p>My study programme in Hull contained three courses. Each course was worth 10 ECTS. The durations of the courses were one full semester. Every course had about 2 till 4 hours each week. In the first week you could change your full study program in consultation with your</p>
<p>academic quality of education activities</p>
<p>The education was pretty similar to the university of Utrecht. I had lecture with a big group of students (+/- 150 students) and seminars with a smaller group (+/- 20 persons). Some courses did not have lecture, but only seminars. The quality of education was in my view a little lower than at the Universities in the Netherlands. But the level of teachers was pretty high though.</p>
<p>counselling & support at receiving university abroad</p>
<p>As mentioned above was the University of Hull very helpful. The University of Hull did everything to make my exchange period a success. The Student Union of the University and the International office were very helpful with every issue thinkable. Also all the teachers were approachable if you had any problems.</p>
<p>transfer of credits</p>
<p>In one semester it was normal to get 30 ECTS, that is the same as in the Netherlands. The grading system is different, but the receiving credits are the same.</p>



STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I arrived in Hull a week before the lectures begun. The first week was the welcome week/ freshers week. There were a lot of activities at the campus to meet new people. You could apply to join a social or sport society of the University. I applied for the football society. There were special events organized for international students. The University of Hull encouraged student to meet new friends and to improve your social life with the planned events. In the week the courses started, all the courses were lecturee of the introduction of the course. At the end of this week you could still decide to change your courses. But you also needed permission from the University of Utrecht to change your courses. In the first two weeks were several information meetings to explain how everything works at the University of Hull. My advice is to use the welcome week, go to as many events as possible to meet new friends.
accommodation
The University of Hull contacted me when I was still in Utrecht that I could apply for a student room in Hull. I applied immediately for a room. The university arranged a room for me, by a private agent. But many students were placed in houses of the University very close to the campus. I was placed in a house of a private agent with 5 roommates. But if I could choose, I would place myself in a studenthouse of the University. Because these university properties were very close to the campus and more important, almost everyone who lives in your street is a student. Your literately surrounded by students. The accomodations all looked pretty good.
leisure & culture
The United Kingdom is a beautifull country. There are beautifull cities, beaches and nature reserves around Hull. I was there just from September till January, but I think the surroundings are more worth going to in the summer months. If you like football or other typical English sports as Rugby or cricket, you would love to life in England. For just 10-20 pounds you could visit a football match from Hull City or other football clubs. The weekends in the UK are all about sports especially football and going out. A lot of people spent their free time in the pubs of bars. I really liked it, to drink some pints in the pubs and watch some football matches. It is in the culture of the British people to drink a lot in the pubs. Most people are friendly and polite. There is enough to see and to do in and arround Hull. But it is pretty expensive to travel to different cities of other nice places if you can not use a car. Hull is in my eyes not a very lively city. I prefer other cities in the UK instead of Hull, Leeds or York for example.
suggestions/tips
Try to make as lot as friends as possible. Go out in the Princess Avenue and Newland avenue there are the nicest pubs and bars in my opinion. Apply for a society, that is a good way to meet English and International students with the same interests and every Wednesday evening is one big party if you join a society. Visit a Football Premier league match, visit different pubs, try different pints to experience the British culture. Try to travel arround and the must seen city for me is York. But most of all, try to make a lot of fun during your semester away.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I really enjoyed my time at the University at Hull. The facilities and the life in and around the university was very nice. But I would not recommend you to go to Hull. It was also not mine first choice. I did not like the city Hull. The city is not really lively in my opinion. But the student life in Hull was fantastic. I had a lot of free time, but travelling without a car was pretty expensive and difficult. Hull is not very well located in the UK. So I would definitely recommend the University of Hull. But I would not recommend the destination Hull.



do you have any additional advice or comments?

I would advice everyone to follow an exchange program. In my opinion it doesn't matter where you go, it is just that you go. At every destination you will meet some wonderful people, who all want to make a super nice exchange semester. I am really glad I went on exchange. Now you have the chance to do it, this is the time of your life to explore yourself and the world. And a good way to do it is to apply for an exchange program. The worst thing that could happen is that you hate it and you want to go home. But then you just go home. But my advice is to apply as soon as possible for an exchange program. If I could do it again, I would do it immediately.

2015 – 2016

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process seemed very complicated, but actually was pretty easy. You just have to pay attention to the relevant deadlines and required documents.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The university of Utrecht was very supportive during the application process. E-mails were replied quickly and they helped to remind me of things that had to be done, for example the application for the accommodation in Hull.

academic preparation

As preperation, I took the course 'Legal English for Academic Purposes', which was very helpful.

language preparation

The course 'Legal English for Academic Purposes' focuses on the English legal system, as well as on the English legal language.

finances

The exchange turned out to be more expensive than expected, but it was worth every penny. I made a budget in advance, but the GBP turned out to be increasing in value when I was in Hull. Fortunately, I had sufficient financial reserves.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The university of Hull is very well-organised. I could not take all the modules I applied for, but the other modules were good as well, and I was even allowed to take a module in History.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of education is in general a bit lower than in Utrecht.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

As said before, the University of Hull is very well organised. There is plenty of support and the staff at the university is extremely friendly.

transfer of credits

I was able to transfer all of my obtained credits to Utrecht.



STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I arrived in September, well before the so called 'freshers week'. During that week, the different societies present themselves to the new first year students and to the new international students. It was very useful to go there. I met a lot of people.

accommodation

I stayed in university owned accommodation. It was not on campus, but it was only a few minutes walk to the University. The room was large enough and contained everything I needed for the semester.

leisure & culture

Hull is the next city of culture of the UK (2017). At night, you could go to town (10 minutes by bus or cab), or go to the university's own nightclub.

suggestions/tips

Join a society. There is a wide range of societies and it is a good way to meet new people and feel at home.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes. Hull may not be as beautiful as Utrecht, but the people are friendly and the university is very cooperative and organises activities that allow you to meet other (international) students.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Go to as much activities as possible. They may be boring, but you will meet people that make your exchange a great experience.

2014 – 2015

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The exchange application process was a bit complicated due to the amount of paperwork that needed to be done in order to apply for the exchange. However, the employees of the International Office of the University of Utrecht and the University of Hull were really friendly and helped wherever they could.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

In case you have any questions, just contact the international office. Especially the Europe coordinator helped me to prepare for the exchange by answering all my questions (during office hours and via email) and signing my documents. The different criteria you have to meet before you can go on an exchange are quite confusing, but the International Office will help you sort everything out.

academic preparation

Before going to Hull I did not do much of academic preparation. Instead of preparing for the courses in advance (that really wasn't necessary), I decided to focus on finding out as much as possible about the city itself and the surrounding area, the university and the activities. In case you would like to take other courses (beside law courses) you might need to prepare yourself in advance. Law courses in Hull are quite similar to those in Hull, so you should be able to take those courses without academic preparation.

language preparation

Since I already had three Cambridge Certificates in the pocket, I did not feel the need to take any English



languages courses before going to Hull. However, the "Hullish" accent is sometimes very hard to understand. Watching BBC in advance or looking up "Hullish" words might be helpful preparation (most of the teachers/professors come from the south of England though, so you shouldn't have any problems understanding them).

finances

In order to decide whether or not to sign up for an exchange to Hull, I wrote down all estimated costs and sources of income. Eventhough Hull is one of the most inexpensive cities in the UK, the cost of living is still higher than in Utrecht. Looking up prices online was helpful. A brief overview of estimated costs could also be found on the site of the University of Hull.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The University of Hull has quite a lot of courses to offer. However, when I arrived there I found out that some courses would not be taught or had some extra requirements. The different departments helped to find other interesting (and still available) courses. In the end, I signed up for four courses: Criminal Law (first year course), International Human Rights Protection (third year course), English for Law and English for Academic Purposes. The two language courses were enjoyable but not very exciting. The Criminal Law course was structured and organised, discussing a lot of content. Nonetheless, since the English criminal law system is quite similar to the Dutch one, the course was a bit dull at times. In the course International Human Rights Protection, interesting topics were being discussed, but the professor didn't cover much of the important points in his seminars. Instead, he would just tell stories about his experience as a lawyer, interesting but not helpful in order to learn more about the different Human Rights Systems and how to apply them. Furthermore, the final examination was completely different from what I'm used to in Utrecht. The questions were philosophical which made them hard to answer.

academic quality of education activities

The courses were decent and interesting and the professors had a lot of experience. Nonetheless, the courses could have been more exciting and it felt like the seminars were falling short. The style of teaching and assessing students knowledge on subjects is very different from the Dutch system though. Therefore it might take some time to get used to it.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The international office as well as the Law, History and Languages departments were all very friendly and helpful. They helped sorting everything out, from signing up with the university and signing the housing contract to signing up for courses and filling out my erasmus forms.

transfer of credits

Most courses in Hull are 20 UK Credits. This means that you can transfer them for 10 ECTS each. (Language courses are 10 UK Credits, so 5 ECTS).

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I choose to go on exchange in the first semester, which turned out to be very wise. The welcome week was absolutely amazing; there is one international welcome week filled with activities so you can meet your fellow international students and the city of Hull itself. Afterwards, an introduction of three weeks for the entire university started, filled with lots of parties (foam party, glow in the dark, rollerdisco), trips to cities such as York and Beverly, and other fun activities such as laser tag.

If you choose to go in the second semester, be aware that there is no introduction for the entire university and the international welcome consists of just a few days instead of an entire week. Furthermore, there are usually



a lot more international students in the first semester.
accommodation
I was lucky enough to get a room from the University of Hull. Eventhough it was expensive (450 euro a month), the room itself was well proportioned, clean and furnished. I lived together with 5 other international students (girls) in a large house (nice size livingroom and kitchen) nearby the University grounds (it was just a 3 minute walk to the Law building). Eventhough everything was very basic, everything you really needed was provided for. And it turned out that the house was a perfect place to throw houseparties.
leisure & culture
I had quite a lot of spare time to travel and socialise. The city of Hull itself does not have a lot to offer, the old city centre is beautiful but that's about it. Nonetheless, the relaxed atmosphere in the city is great. And, since it is one of the cheapest cities in the UK, you'll be able to save a lot of money for travelling. Nearby cities such as York and Scarborough are very exciting. Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield and Newcastle are quite closeby as well. And a trip to Scotland should definitely be included.
suggestions/tips
If you would like to rent accomodation of the University, try to hand in the online form as soon as possible. The earlier you apply, the more likely you get a room (University accommodation is most of the time located close to the University and you'll be living with other international students) Tip: would you like to travel a lot? Hull is quite well located and cheap, which makes it easy to travel a lot. Furthermore, there are lots of pubs, bars and clubs located close to the university and in the city centre (the university even has it's own club!). Try to sign up for a society, whether it is a sportsociety or a social society! It is a great way to meet British students and you'll have a "social" every week where you party and socialise with your fellow students.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Hull is a great city and I would definitely recommend it, and the university, to others. Eventhough it lacks culture, the people are friendly and the overal atmosphere is relaxed and easy going. The University itself consists of beautiful old buildings and the people working there are always willing to help. Furthermore, there is an amazing international community, that makes you feel at home in Hull the instance you arrive. The Student Union and the International Students organisation both organise a lot of activities and trips, which are generally well organised, cheap and a lot of fun. The city itself could use a facelift, but, since the city was named "City of Culture of the UK 2017", many areas are being improved and the amount of cultural activities is expanding. All in all, I had the time of my life in Hull and enjoyed every aspect and every single moment of it.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Just try to enjoy every moment of your exchange. It isn't so much the place that matters, but mostly the people you meet there and the things you do together. Try to travel, soak in the local culture, relax, engage in another system of studying/ lecturing and, most importantly, try to meet as many people as you can (it isn't so much the place that matters, but mostly the people you meet there and the things you do together). Hull is defenitly a great place to do all that!

2013 – 2014

preparation
exchange/placement application process



The first step I had to take after I decided to go abroad was, where to go? Choosing my destination was I think one of the hardest decisions I made. You never really know what the city and university will be like, I chose the university that attracted me the most. Things like a big student/international student organisation indicate an active and welcoming university. The University of Hull has both, and one of the biggest Student Unions in the whole United Kingdom. Now I knew where I wanted to go the real application started, this is basically writing a lot of emails and documents that need to be signed. It was all pretty clear what was expected from me, when you follow the instructions that the universities give to you everything works out ok. But keep up with the deadlines! Submit everything before the deadlines, those are pretty strict most of the time!

counselling/support at home university

The international office always helps you out. The support is great, but start early! It is your exchange program so you need to invest a lot of time in it to make it happen.

academic preparation

There was no academic preparation required for the courses I chose.

language preparation

The level of English that I acquired during my "high school" years was enough to apply for the university of Hull. Because of that I didn't do any language preparation, what turned out to be no problem at all. You quickly learn to speak English fluently because you have no choice. Writing English was a bigger problem, with hindsight it would have been better to learn some legal English before going to Hull. This helps you a lot with writing essays.

finances

I got the erasmus grant and the usual government support for Dutch students, this helps a lot but fortunetly I saved a lot of money before I went to Hull. Living expences are higher than in the Netherlands and you want to do a lot of fun stuff when you're there. So make sure you have enough savings, in the end you're always short on money.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

My plan was to take three English courses that would match my program in the Netherlands, all three got approved. When I arrived in Hull the first two weeks were to sort out your courses and schedule, after I consulted my tutor of the Law department it appeared I couldn't take any of the three courses I chose. This because of changes in the course or the course itself didn't run at all. This was not really a big problem because there were a lot of courses left I could choose from, but it was a bit disappointing. After all I chose three courses, UK and European competition law, Law and economics and Legal Systems. So approval of your courses doesn't mean anything, you'll know for sure which courses you'll be taking when you're in Hull and talking with



your tutor or advisor of your department.

academic quality of education/placement activities

The quality of the education is lower than in the Netherlands, at least that is my experience. By accident they put me in the post-graduate course of Law and Economics, I was a bit worried because I don't know that much about economics but in the end everything went fine. I expected it to be much harder, and overall I didn't have to do that much. Also the system for grades is different, you only need 40% to pass, which I think is pretty low and easy to get.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

The University of Hull offers great support during your stay, the international office can always help you with interenational struggles and teachers are really helpfull and understanding towards international students.

transfer of credits

The courses are worth 10 ECTS, the "examencommissie" checks the courses I took and if they deem them compatible with my studies in Utrecht the credits are transferrable.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

The University of Hull organised an international welcome week. During this week there were parties and social activities to meet new people from across the world. There were also a few compulsory support/counselling meetings during this week, at those meetings the University of Hull provided you with essential information. The welcome week is a great time, you meet new people from all over the world, you get information that is essential for your life in this new city. This is your start in a new country at a new university and personally the University of Hull did a great job in introducing me in the English student life! After the international welcome week the University of Hull organised the freshers week, basically this is the week that all the English student arrive at the University. Again a week with a lot of social activities and new people. During this week the real student life starts, there are numerous 'fairs' where you can attend sports teams, societies and other social clubs. Sports is a lot bigger at English universities, almost everyone joins a sports team and I think this is a great opportunity to get in contact with the locals and taste the real student life.

accommodation

The University of Hull guarantees you accommodation, submit the accommodation forms in time! If you do so you are guaranteed a place in one of the great student houses next to the University campus. Two streets completely occupied by student, this creates a really good vibe and good houseparties! If there is no place in those houses the university puts you in the "scheme", this means the university gives your information to private landlords who will arrange accommodation for you. They always make sure you're in a house with other students and close to the university. In conclusion, accommodation is nothing to worry about if you go to Hull.



leisure/culture

The city Kingston Upon Hull itself is nothing special when it comes to leisure or culture. Of course you have the basic things in Hull like a cinema, theatre, shopping centre and musea, but thats it. The old city centre is good, you have a lot of nice pubs and shops. If you're looking for culture you need to leave Hull, but thats no problem because Hull is close to a few big and great cities! Leeds, York and Scarborough are only a hour away from Hull, and within 3 hours with the train you're either in London or Edinburgh. Leisure on the other hand was no problem for me in Hull, the student union of the university is huge, they organise something almost every night/day of the week. Besides that I joined the rugby league team of the university, this allowed me to get to know a lot of English students experience their student lives, what in one word was awesome.

suggestions/tips

Join a society or a sports team, the English students will show you things you'll never experience without them and you'll get a taste of the real English student life!

When you're in Hull don't stay there your whole exchange period, go travel! Scotland is only a few hours away and really worth seeing. Also London and Dublin are close and easy to visit, there is so much more to see than the city of Hull!

conclusions

would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain

I recommend Hull as a destination for an exchange program. But not everyone will like Hull, if you're looking for a cultural and beautiful city don't choose Hull. On the other hand if you're looking for a city where you can enjoy your time making new friends and if you like a good party now and then, choose Hull! It exceeded all my expectations, you meet wonderful people and make new friends from all over the world. When you're done with studying for the day you are in a city with loads of opportunities and you can really enjoy every day in Hull. The campus in Hull is a "student city" and that with 2000 international student creates a great place to study and live!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

2012-2013

preparation

exchange/placement application process

To apply for a place at the University of Hull I needed to fill in several forms. Amongst them were a learning agreement, a reference letter and a studyplan. The university's



website explains everything and once you have filled out all the forms you just e-mail them to the University of Hull.

counselling/support at home university

During my application I had a lot of questions regarding the forms I needed to fill out. The international office helped me with all my forms and questions. Nevertheless, my advice would be to start early. This is because the international office is very busy, so it may take some time before they are able to answer your questions.

academic preparation

I did not follow any particular course to prepare for my semester abroad, apart from a language course.

language preparation

I took a one language course at my home university. This language course was called 'Legal English for Academic Purposes'. This course helped preparing for my semester at Hull University. But I think it only gave me a slight advantage, even though the module took up a lot of my time. This is something to consider before applying for a similar language course.

finances

Living in the United Kingdom is in general more expensive than living in the Netherlands. Therefore, next to my own savings, the Erasmus grant and the state grant (DUO), I still needed more money. That is why I decided to borrow €100,- a month from the state (DUO). Together, these amounts were enough to pay for the rent and academic supplies, but also for trips to Scotland and other places within the United Kingdom.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

I decided to follow three courses/modules at the University of Hull. The first one was 'Evidence and the Criminal Trial'. I picked this course, because in the Netherlands criminal law is my favourite subject. From previous courses in Utrecht, I already knew that the common law system is very different from the Dutch system. So, I was interested to really learn about the English criminal system in detail. This module discusses every evidence related question in great detail. To do this, you have to read a lot of case-law. So, if you want to learn a lot about rules concerning evidence in a common law system, this course is perfect for you.

The second course was 'Sex(uality), Gender and the Law'. The University of Utrecht does



not offer a similar law course (or not to my knowledge at least). But via a lecture in an honours programme (Descartes College) I had already learned a little about gender studies. This lecture really sparked my interest, so I decided to take this module. The course did not involve a lot of law, so if gender studies are not your thing you should not pick this course. The module focuses on several topics, including: 'what is gender?', religion and sexuality and equality.

My last module was a post-graduate module called 'Foundations of Human Rights'. Human rights are increasingly becoming important within the field of international law. This is why I thought it would be useful to follow a module about them. The mandatory reading for this module was very interesting, but the lectures lacked structure and were often boring. This is why I would not recommend following this module.

academic quality of education/placement activities

The academic quality of the education at the University of Hull is similar to the quality of the education in Utrecht. In my experience, I found that during the semester I did not have as much to do as I would normally in Utrecht. This is because lectures are mostly only one hour and not every module has a tutorial for which you have to prepare questions. Nevertheless, the mandatory reading was always very interesting and of high academic quality. Towards the end of the semester you do have to work hard in order to finish all your essays and pass your exams.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

The University of Hull was really great at supporting me while I was there. During the first week, the International Office was always open to help you. During the rest of the semester, I just went to the law enquiries office and the staff there could always give me advice. Furthermore, if you e-mail a teacher they reply nearly every time on the same day or even within the same hour.

transfer of credits

My modules were worth 10 ECTS each. If the 'examencommissie' finds that they do not overlap too much with my Dutch courses I can transfer these credits to the University of Utrecht.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

The University of Hull has an entire welcome week for international students. During this week you receive a lot of information, but there are also other activities such as a campus tour and a library tour. Of course there are also social events, such as a pub quiz



and the first international students party.

accommodation

Before your period abroad starts you need to fill out a form to apply for accommodation. I applied for 'univeristy owned houses'. In these houses, you live with close to the campus with about 4 or 5 other students. So, this is also a great way to meet new people. Furthermore, in the form you can state if you are a smoker, a tidy or a messy person etc. This way, the people you are going to live with are not your complete opposites.

leisure/culture

The International Students Association (ISA) organised many trips. For a small price you can visit a lot of different cities within the United Kingdom. This organisation also organised a lot of parties and even a winter ball. Furthermore, the university has a programme called the 'Buddy Scheme'. This programme organizes free events, such as an international quiz and trips to get to know the English culture. For example, we visited a Christmas fair in Beverley and we went to a bonfire on Guy Fawkes Night.

suggestions/tips

Be sure to join the ISA! During their events you get to know a lot of international students and this will make your time abroad unforgettable. I made some friends for the rest of my life.

conclusions

would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain

I would recommend the University of Hull to other students for several reasons. First of all, living in Hull is not as expensive as in other parts of the UK. If you have a limited budget, Hull thus might be a good choice. Furthermore, the entire university staff is really friendly and will help you with all your questions. Next to this, there are a lot of associations you can join to make your time abroad unforgettable.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

2012-2013

preparation

exchange/placement application process

There were a lot of forms to fill in before I could actually leave, but I had enough time to do it. The International Office of both Utrecht University and the Universtiy of Hull were



really helpful, so it all turned out fine. I was afraid that something would go wrong, but they always let me know when something was wrong, so nothing to worry about.

counselling/support at home university

The International Office in Utrecht was very helpful and answered all my questions. They have a lot of experience, so they can help you with almost all the questions you have. They also remind you when you have to hand in things, also for the erasmus grants.

academic preparation

I chose modules that didn't require any preparation, so academic preparation wasn't necessary.

language preparation

I didn't do any language preparation and I was a bit worried before I left, but I got used to speak English very fast. I was living together with international students, and none of them is speaking perfectly English. All the English people don't care about the mistakes you make, as long as they understand you. So there is no pressure to speak perfect English and you will get better and better when you are surrounded by English. So I learned a lot by just being there. My English grammar was not very good, so some friends checked my essays before I handed them in. My bad English grammar wasn't a problem in the end.

finances

I got an Erasmus grant, DUO grant and a compensation for my public transportation. All together almost €590 a month, so a lot of money. Unfortunately was the rent for my room a lot as well, so I could only pay my rent and food of the governmental money and used my savings to do the fun things.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

I took three modules: Sexuality, Gender and the Law, International Human Rights Protection and Law & Economics. They were all worth 10 ECTS and were running for one semester. They were all examined by essays, so that was very nice. It was difficult to write the essays, because it is so different than the writing assignments in Utrecht, although still better than written exams. There are no laws to apply, so the modules are viewing law in a broader perspective. That was very nice and I really enjoyed it, especially the Sexuality, Gender and the Law module. They have a different way of educating and you really start thinking about the subjects.



academic quality of education/placement activities

It is very nice to study on a different way, although I think that the quality of education is higher in Utrecht. Examining by essays is much easier than written exams, because you have to do research for it, so all the literature of the regular weeks do not really matter. Although the seminars were very interesting and I learned a lot of all the discussions. It is, in contrary to Utrecht, really normal to say a lot in the seminars, so they always contain discussions. So I learned a lot, but the examination was not very hard.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

British people are always willing to help you, so at the University of Hull as well. In the first two weeks, the International Office in Hull was even open during the weekend! Only to make sure you could go somewhere with all your questions. The people working in the International Office are really nice and can help you very good.

transfer of credits

All the modules are worth 10 ECTS and are running for one semester. You're only allowed to take three modules, so 30 ECTS for a semester, just like Utrecht.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

The first week was for international students with an introduction program with campus and city tours. This was very nice, because you could get used to all the new things. The second week was to arrange the modules and the lectures and the seminars started in the third week. So the first two weeks were to get used to everything and that was really nice, because all the new things are a lot to take. It is also very easy to make friends, because all the international students are new and very open to meet new people. The introduction was a great start of my time in Hull and it made me feel welcome immediately.

accommodation

I was living in university owned houses, very close to the university. The rooms were fine and pretty big, although all the rooms in the house have a different size. I had a bed, sink, closet, drawer and desk in my room. The common rooms are cleaned by a cleaning lady every week. The rent is a lot, but it's worth it because the houses are nice and very close to the university. I shared my house with 4 other international students, because all the houses close to the university are for international students.

**leisure/culture**

The city Hull itself is not very special, but it was good for shopping. There are four shopping centers so enough to shop for a couple of days. There are also a some nice museums, but besides that isn't there a lot of culture. That's probably because it was the second most bombed city in the UK in the Second World War. The International Students Association is organising some nice trips to cities in the UK, like London, York, Manchester and Liverpool, so there is enough to see in the UK. I also went on a trip to Scotland and that's only a 5 hour drive, so not that far away. Going out in Hull is really nice, because there are many pubs around the university and some nice clubs in the city center. On the campus itself do you have a club and two pubs, so that makes the campus even better. There are parties every single night, so there is always something to do.

suggestions/tips

Join a sportsteam or a society, because it is a nice way of meeting new people. Besides that is it a good way to meet English people instead of all the international students you're living with. I joined the volleyballclub and I played some games against other universities, so an easy way to see something of other universities as well. There are many sports teams and societies, so there is something for everyone.

conclusions

would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain

Definitely! I think I was very lucky with the people I was living with, because they could have been my best friends in the Netherlands. I made friends for life and did so many nice things. I also made a lot of trips in the UK and it is so beautiful. Especially the Highlands in Scotland are amazing and we were almost alone when we visited them in December. Besides all the fun trips was living with international students also amazing! . There is always something to talk about, because everybody has different habits and it is so much fun to compare them. We partied a lot, but also drunk a lot of tea together while we were talking about serious things. It was the best time of my life and I am extremely happy that I did it.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Enjoy your time, because it is over before you know it! And don't invite too many people over, because I had so many visitors that I didn't like it anymore in the end.