



## Queen Mary University of London

2018-2019

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The exchange application process was not hard to fulfill. It was very clear what you had to do and which deadlines you had to meet. If you keep an eye on your email and Osiris, you will not miss any deadline. Also, the UU is very helpful, as well is QMUL.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The International Office at Utrecht University is very helpful. You can email them or go by the office with all your questions. They reply to your emails as soon as they can. A lot of signatures, you can also get via the email.
academic preparation
I did not do any academic preparation. Just make sure you practice your English a little before you go. It is not necessary to learn about the English legal system in advance.
language preparation
To get in to Queen Mary University, it is required to do a language test. I did an IELTS test, but Cambridge or TOEFL also comply. You need to get a minimum of level B. For me it was not hard. I think when you practice the test online before you do the test, you will pass it. Just bear in mind that you need to book a date for the test in advance. It could take a few weeks before you can actually take the test and you have to finish your application for QMUL before May.
finances
From the moment I knew I wanted to go abroad, I started saving money. London is an expensive city, especially the rent is higher compared to Utrecht. I saved up to 3000 euro, and that was enough to pay my rent in advance. Furthermore, I have a student loan which was really helpful during my time in London.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
You have to choose the modules you want to take in advance. However, when you arrive at QMUL, there is enough time to change these modules. My choice of modules had not come through well, but within two weeks of the beginning of the semester, you could add and drop modules. Eventually, I chose Law in Asia, UK Human Rights and Equality and the Law. The modules were all well thought, most of them in small groups (10 people max.). Therefore, it was necessary to prepare well for the tutorials and seminars.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality of the education was comparable to the quality in Utrecht. The level of education is quite high and teachers expect you to be always fully prepared and that you actively participate. The seminars are given in small groups of students. I had a module that only ten students were following. It is therefore necessary that you are always prepared well.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
QMUL has been very helpful from the beginning. When you do not know who to email about certain things, they immediately answer to help you. When I arrived at QMUL, the Global Opportunities Office kept on being super helpful. So was the law department. When you had a problem with anything, you could just send an email, or pay a visit to the office.



#### transfer of credits

My credits have not been transferred yet, but most modules at QMUL are 15 points there, which is the same as 7,5 ECTS.

### STUDENT LIFE

#### welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme started already the weekend I arrived on campus. The first weekend was especially for everyone who was going to live on campus. After this weekend, 'Freshers week' began. During the whole week, a lot of events took place. It is a good opportunity to get to know other (international) students and to get to know the university. There also is a welcome fair, where you can meet all the different societies. I would definitely recommend joining a society, because it is a good way to get to know people and it is a lot of fun.

#### accommodation

I was living in halls (on campus). I really loved it, and it was not that expensive compared to other student apartments in the city. During the application process, I read everywhere that it is not possible for Erasmus+ students and students who only stay for one semester, to live on campus. However, sometimes there are more rooms than students, so there is a chance that you get a room. Just make sure you meet the deadline for applying for a room on campus, otherwise you will be put on a waitinglist and you'll only know three weeks before you go if you got a room. This can cause a lot of stress. If you don't want to live on campus, or it is not possible, it is good to contact a home agency or visit London for a weekend to look at houses. In the beginning it seems hard to find a room, but you just do not have to give up.

#### leisure & culture

There is so much to do in London. I went to a lot of different restaurants, pubs, bars and clubs with my friends. Also, all the museums in London are free. Furthermore, when you join a society, you have socials. These nights are so much fun and a really good way to get to know all the people in the society better.

#### suggestions/tips

Try to find accommodation close to the university. That is eventually where all your friends live, where your lectures are and where university activities take place. The other part of the city you can always explore by tube.

### CONCLUSIONS

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

I definitely would recommend QMUL to other students. The university does everything to make international students feel at home. You can always go to the Global Opportunities Office with questions or inquiries, and they will help you immediately. Also, I would recommend going to London! There is always something to do in the city and you will never be bored. I had an amazing time!

#### do you have any additional advice or comments?

I would definitely recommend to participate in as many as possible welcome week activities, especially the ones organised for international students. Also, do not hesitate to join a society or more societies. It is so much fun and you make friends really easy. Furthermore, just enjoy living in London. The city has so much to offer and you need to make the most out of it!

Although I had the best three months of my life, I would definitely recommend to go to Queen Mary for the whole year if you have the possibility. One semester at QMUL is only three months, and in my opinion this was just too short to really experience everything.



## PREPARATION

exchange application process

At first, I was quite stressed because of all the forms that I needed to fill in. But the support from the UU was great, so everything worked out very well.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

As already mentioned, the support from the UU was great. I could email all my questions or go to the International Office in person.

academic preparation

I did not academically prepare myself.

language preparation

Apart from the preparations for the IELTS-test, I did not prepare myself.

NB: I would recommend to book the test early. I was a bit late and therefore there was some extra pressure on me. If I did not pass the test, I had to go to Brussel in order to make the test before my departure (all the tests in the Netherlands were fully booked by the time I received my result).

finances

I received a grant from the Erasmus+ programme and I saved some money over the years.

## STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I did one semester at Queen Mary where I took three (half academic year) modules: Law in Asia, Democracy and Justice, and Competition Law. Initially I took four modules, but I could drop one and still get 22,5 ECTS which I did because the work load was quite much. I had no exams at the end of the semester. However, I had to write two essays for each module which was quite some work.

I enjoyed Democracy and Justice the most. The lectures were very interesting and also interactive.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of the education is high. The professors are inspiring people and my fellow students were very motivated.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Almost everything went flawless. Whenever I had a question, I went to the International Office where they would help me right away.

transfer of credits

Not applicable yet, I have not received my transcript of records.

## STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The Queen Mary Student Union organised a 'freshers-week'. During this week, you have the opportunity to get to know all the different societies and also join them. There are literally hundreds of societies. I joined the Queen Mary Football Club which I can really recommend. Everybody was very welcoming, also to the few exchange students. It is also a nice opportunity to meet Londoners.

accommodation

I had accommodation on campus. I really enjoyed the campus experience.



leisure & culture

London is characterized by the great variety of cultures. The campus is situated in East London where a lot of Indian people live. The best currys in town can be bought at Brick Lane which is a 20 minute walk from campus.

suggestions/tips

Join a (sport)society.

## CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend this university. The level of education is high and the student life is very well organised.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Enjoy!

## PREPARATION

exchange application process

I visited the UU website to orientate. The process is quite clear. Once you have chosen for QMUL, the university will send you all important information to enrol at QMUL.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The meetings of the International Office were helpful. Besides, the website provides a lot of information.

academic preparation

I only did the IELTS test. I heard that there are also some Legal English courses at UU.

language preparation

I took the IELTS. You can also choose to do the TOEFL, but the IELTS focusses on British English. You need to get an average of a 7.0 and a 6.5 for writing. You can find some exams to practise the test online. I did not really prepare for the test. I only took a few online exams. The IELTS was not extremely difficult, I managed to pass without a lot of preparation. Don't wait too long to book the test.

finances

London is very expensive. I received the Erasmus+ grant and the reimbursement of my student travel product. I also did some savings and I received my student loan from DUO.

## STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I took three courses: United Kingdom Human Rights Law, Law in Asia, Democracy and Justice. I initially chose to do 4, but because of the heavy work load I decided to drop one (Conflict of Laws). A lot of exchange students decided to drop one class. You are allowed to drop one class within the first two weeks. When you choose to go to QMUL for one semester, there is a limited choice for modules.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of QMUL is high. The professors are very helpful and kind. The Law department of QMUL was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the UK and 1<sup>st</sup> in London by the Guardian University Guide of 2016. The level of the courses is comparable to Utrecht. There are lectures, seminars and tutorials. This is different for every module. The tutorials are in small groups (8-10 students), so you need to be prepared.



counselling & support at receiving university abroad

They are very helpful and have different possibilities for support. This will all become clear in the welcome week.

transfer of credits

Our system uses 7.5 ECTS per course, while the UK system uses 15 credits per course.

## STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome and orientation programme was good. There were many events organised for new students. For example, I went to a boat party on the Thames, which was great. Everyone was very helpful and kind. Everything will be explained during the welcome week.

accommodation

Finding a room in London is quite difficult. Fortunately, I got a room on campus. Initially, we've been told that there would be no availability for one semester students. However, I applied for campus housing and got a place. Just try it. Spareroom is also a good option. Be aware of shady agencies.

leisure & culture

London is amazing. The culture in London is great. All museums are free and the night life is nice. I also visited Cambridge, Dublin and Scotland during my stay in London.

suggestions/tips

Join a society! QMUL has many great societies and you will get to know people in a nice and easy way. Enjoy your time because the time flies once you are there.

## CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend QMUL! The Law department has high quality and all the professors are very kind. Furthermore, living in London is an amazing experience.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

London is a great place to study!

## PREPARATION

exchange application process

I was not sure about where to go for my Erasmus+ Exchange. Therefore, I compared a couple of cities and universities and Queen Mary turned out to be the best choice for me. They have, after Oxford and Cambridge, the best Law faculty of the UK. The application process itself was quite easy since Queen Mary sent all the important stuff by e-mail with a clear explanation for every step I had to take.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I did most of the things by myself. I think that you can get all the important information from the internet or by e-mail.

academic preparation

I did nothing to prepare myself academically.



language preparation

I did nothing to prepare myself. I am not that good in English and passed the IELTS with good results.

finances

I saved a lot of money in advance, because I knew that an exchange, especially when you choose London, would be very expensive. I also received the Erasmus+ grant and I had a family-loan.

## STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I started with four modules. However, I dropped one of them at the beginning of the semester (you have two weeks to add and drop your modules), because I thought that it would be too hard to follow four modules in less than 3 months, especially when you want to enjoy your time abroad! I followed the courses Intellectual Property Law, Conflict of Laws and Law in Asia. I really recommend the course Intellectual Property Law since it is one of Queen Mary's specialties. Especially my professor Fernando Barrio was very good.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of Law at Queen Mary is very good. I really felt that I obtained a lot of extra skills from the subjects I followed which can give me an advantage in the future.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

You will receive a lot of e-mails from Queen Mary during your stay. They are always able to help and are very friendly. I never had a problem at Queen Mary so I do not know them in person.

transfer of credits

I have not received any grades or information yet.

## STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Queen Mary organizes a welcoming and orientation week for all Freshers. Do not expect that much from it, since you are not a real Fresher anymore. However, I really recommend you to go to some of the parties they organize. Especially the Fresher's Boat Ball. It was one of the nicest parties I visited during my stay in London.

accommodation

I was a bit stressed on fore hand, because I heard that it would be quite hard to find a room in London. Therefore, I contacted an agency (londoncityrooms) and booked a room in advance. It was a super easy way to find a room in a nice neighbourhood close to campus. However, if you have the chance to live on campus, do that since it will save you a lot of money.

leisure & culture

There are a lot of things that you can do during your time in London. Visit all the different museums, go to the food markets and clubs and I personally really liked my trips to Cambridge, Scotland and Dublin.

suggestions/tips

Apply for a sports society. This gives you the chance to meet new people. I really enjoyed it and it was also a nice way to stay (a little bit) in 'shape'.

## CONCLUSIONS

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



Yes! Everything at Queen Mary is well organized and the level of education is very high. Besides that, London is such a nice city where there is always something to do.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

It was not quite clear when the semester ended. The website stated that the semester ended during the middle of December. However, you have time to write your dissertations until the middle of January. Just keep that in mind.

## 2017-2018

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
I visited different websites of different universities to orientate, in the beginning it was a bit hard to understand everything because every university uses a different system regarding modules, grades, accommodation etc. It just takes some time and patience to understand how it works and make a decision about your choice of destination but in the end it all works out!
counselling & support at Utrecht University
I had a few questions concerning how to choose modules and language requirements, therefore I visited the International Office at Utrecht University a couple of times and rang them multiple times and they helped me really well and answered all of my questions.
academic preparation
I prepared myself academically by looking through the module directories of different universities, the reason why I chose QMUL was because of the modules they offered which were really much in my field of interests. My advice is to look at first at the module directory of the university you prefer to go, because a lot of universities offer modules in a quite specific field of topics which not always suit your academic interest
language preparation
I did not really prepare myself linguistically because the spoken language was English so it was not necessary since I already spoke English fluently
finances
I received a grant from Utrecht University, and I had a family-loan. Ofcourse it was also possible to receive a student loan from DUO.



## STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

### study programme (content and organisational issues)

I did a full year exchange, I took four modules that lasted the whole academic year: International Human Rights Law, Law and Globalisation, Criminology and Law, Modernity and the Holocaust. Organisationally it is quite different from the Dutch university system, because there are no exams during the year, so you have all of your exams and essays at the end of the year. This means that you have to revise topics from the beginning of the year, however it is not as though as it sounds because you are quite free in choosing the topics you want to study for your exams, you don't have to revise every single topic. Also the way of examining is different because the only way of examining there is writing essays, which is really different from the exams at Utrecht University

### academic quality of education activities

I am really satisfied with the academic quality and the content of the modules, it gives you definitely a broader academic view and generally a broader view on society and the world. There are loads of extra education activities available at Queen Mary Law faculty, for example a students legal counselling service

### counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Almost everything went flawless during my period of studying abroad, and when I had questions about my modules there was an international office at campus, available to help me and answer my questions.

### transfer of credits

Not applicable yet, I have not received any grades and have no information about the transfer of credits yet

## STUDENT LIFE

### welcome & orientation programme

There is an introduction week at QMUL, however this is more focussed on freshers than on exchange students. In the introduction week, all of the different societies (there are loads) present themselves. I joined the womens football society and the boxing society, which was really nice and where I met a lot of people.

### accommodation

There is no accommodation for European exchange students at QMUL, but there are different Facebook groups you can join to find a room. I got my room through a girl I met in London, I think in the end you can always find something close to University.



leisure & culture
London is full of cultural highlights, there is so much nice stuff to do and see, you certainly never get bored. My experience with people from London is really good, everyone is really nice, friendly and welcoming, there are a lot of different cultures, I felt really at home there.
suggestions/tips
A tip from me would be to look for a room not too far from University, since London is a really big and busy city, I would avoid long commuting times. You can always email me for tips and information about nice neighbourhoods around QMUL. Also I would recommend to join a society which makes it easy to meet other people.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
QMUL is a really nice, multicultural, society-oriented university (for example every month they focus on another problem/topic: Islamophobia awareness month, black history month etc...) and especially the Law faculty at QMUL is really good. They offer a lot of interesting modules, taught by passionate professors.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Have fun!

## 2016-2017

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
The application process is quite some work but both the sending and the receiving university provided me with enough information.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The meetings with the International Office were helpful, but after that I had to do many things on my own.
academic preparation
I finished all the courses from the first two years of my bachelor Law in Utrecht.
language preparation
In order to prepare myself I took an English course at the Babel institution in Utrecht. I think it helped me to get over my insecurities, but when looking back I do not think I really needed it. You do not need an outstanding command of the English language, you will pick it up soon enough once you are there.
finances
I used the Erasmus grant and my savings.



<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
I took four courses: Performing the Law, Criminology, Family Law and Democracy & Justice.	
academic quality of education activities	
Good. Especially the course Democracy & Justice was taught really well and was combined with a visit to the British museum. If you are interested in a philosophical approach of law, I really recommend this course.	
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
Good. They were very understanding when I had a problem.	
transfer of credits	
The credits will be transferred into ECTS, but that did not happen yet.	

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>	
welcome & orientation programme	
Really good. There were many events organised for us like a boat party on the Thames and ice skating in Hyde Park.	
accommodation	
I found a room by searching the internet and calling many organisations. In the end, Britannia student services found accommodation for me, but it is not easy to find an affordable room in London.	
leisure & culture	
Great. London offers many opportunities to enjoy yourself. I explored the city with friends and went to many districts, musicals and pubs.	

suggestions/tips	
Camden Town/King's Cross is a great area to live in. You can be anywhere you want to be within half an hour by tube. It is quite far from the university, but that is totally worth it considering everything Camden offers.	

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
Yes. London offers a great diversity of enjoyable spots and Queen Mary University is a nice university. The student union of QMUL organises many events and the overall teaching is good.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	



<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	The exchange application process is quite clear. Queen Mary has Wiebke who is in charge of all the Erasmus and study abroad students and who does her job wonderfully. She sends you emails with everything that has to be done in order to be properly enrolled at Queen Mary. However, the preparations that must be done at home are less clear. Things as applying for the Erasmus grant, financial support, etc. are more confusing and you will have to figure that out on your own. It's easy enough as soon as you have all the documents, but there will be no emails telling you what to do.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Utrecht University is not as active as Queen Mary in telling you what to do. They are very quick to respond and very willing to help so that makes it easier. You will receive a mail about a pre-departure meeting and about applying for the Erasmus grant, but that's about it. However, if you contact them with any problems they are very capable and helpful.
academic preparation	I took the LEAP (legal English for academic purposes) course. I found this very helpful. Mainly, because we don't write many English essays and it is very helpful to be reminded of all the rules and proper use of English for these kind of assignments.
language preparation	I was obligated to do the IELTS or TOEFL test in order to study at Queen Mary (I did the IELTS test).
finances	I saved money and borrowed money from the government in order to pay for everything in London.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	I followed three courses at Queen Mary University. It is normal to do four, however, this is a lot in three months. A lot of students dropped one class in order to have more free time. I took Family Law, Intellectual Property Law and Media Law. When you arrive at Queen Mary for the enrolment it is a bit chaotic but the people are very friendly and will help you with everything. The main problem is that you have to determine which courses you will be taking within the first two weeks of the semester. Once you have chosen these courses it is not possible to change them, or to drop any of them. This makes things a bit unorganised in the beginning, especially with the schedules and online information.
academic quality of education activities	The level of the courses is comparable to Utrecht. Here you also have seminars and lectures. However, the seminars are fortnightly. I only had about 4 seminars per course during my semester. The seminars are in smaller groups than you're used to. Sometimes you'll be there with 4 other students. This means that you have to be prepared and know your answers. It is different with every teacher, but if you have nothing to add, or say, they will comment on that.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	There is a student information centre at Queen Mary University which can help you with basically any question.



<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
The welcome and orientation programme wasn't that special. There will be a general gathering with a welcome and where they give you the basic information. After that there are some courses you can take, about how to study in the UK and that sort of thing (these are not obligatory..). The best things are the parties that week (go to the erasmus boat party! It's a great way to meet a lot of people, and an amazing new way to see London).
accommodation
Finding accomodation is difficult in London. Queen Mary does not offer accomdation for one semester students and it is difficult to find short term accommodation. Also, it is much more expensive than you already think it is. I stayed at the Hive in Bethnal Green which is run by a company named Hosts. It was a great place! You have your own nice studio with bathroom and kitchen and you live with other students. There are communcal areas and a rooftop (which is pretty awesome, due to it's view on the London skyline). It was only a 20 minute walk from uni, so I really recommend it. However, it is, as I said, really expensive. There is also Beaumont Court from Unite Students, which is in Camden Town. Also nice rooms (not as fancy as the hive) and it's a bit cheaper. Another good option is to just go to London for a weekend and use a realtor. They are usually really good and finding decent apartments for a fair price.
leisure & culture
London is absolutely amazing!! There is so much you can do! Make sure you follow things like Secret London and the Timeout on Facebook and you won't miss a thing. Especially, during the Christmas period London goes completely nuts with lights, christmas markets and ice rings. There are so many fun restaurants and bars to discover and of course there are a lot of beautiful museums and theatres. Also, it is really easy and cheap to visit nearby towns, such as Oxford and Cambridge, which I would also really recommend. It can be nice to escape the crowded city sometimes.
suggestions/tips
Something you must do when you're in London is visit one of the skyscrapers. Go to the Skygarden (which is free, you just have to get a ticket online), where you'll have an awesome view of the city. Other options are the Shard or the Heron Tower. The Blueskitchen is also something you don't want to miss. You can go there for dinner (it's delicious and relatively cheap) and they have live music (my favourite venue is the one in Shoreditch). Finally, one of my favourite places (only when you have nice weather though!) is Little Venice. It's a little neighbourhood with a lot of beautiful houses, water and boats. You can even take a touring boat and go from there to Camden Lock, which is really cool to do. Mainly, because Camden Lock is the amazing food market which is nice place to end your little tour :D

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would recommend Queen Mary University to others. It is a good university with professors who love their fields of expertise. It will be an adjustment because the English legal system is very different from ours, and the
courses are also different at QMUL. However, it will be a great experience and you won't regret it.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Just go! It's London!



preparation
exchange/placement application process
It took some steps to apply for the exchange and the Erasmus+ program. I first had to write a motivation letter, study plan, and financial plan to the international office through Osiris. After some time, I received an email from the international office that I am selected for the Queen Mary University of London. Then I also got an email from Queen Mary how to apply and what the requirements where to get in. I had to do an English language test. I choice for the IELTS test.
counselling/support at home university
You get a lot of support from Utrecht University. When you have questions you can always email the international office or ask them in person at their desk hours.
academic preparation
The only academic preparation is the IELTS test. I did not do anything further.
language preparation
Like I said before I choice for the IELTS test. It is not a difficult test; you just have to practice for the time management. You have to get a 7 and above.
finances
London is an expensive city to live. The Erasmus+ grant and the duo student grant are not sufficient. You have to have some extra money to spend.
study/placement abroad period
study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)
This depends on how long you will stay in England. I have chosen for one semester. When you are here for one semester you only have a choice for some modules not al. When you will stay for a whole year you have more chose.
academic quality of education/placement activities
The quality of Queen Mary is high. The university is equally as University Utrecht. The only difference is that the exams are at the end of every trimester. It is difficult for a Dutch student, because we are used to the semester system. You have to stay on track with everything otherwise you will have a lot of stress at December when you will stay for one semester or in June if you stay the whole year.
counselling/support at host institution/organisation
They help you a lot. At the University they have office hours. That are hours that you can go to the teacher to ask questions if you do not understand some aspects of the module.
transfer of credits



The credit system they use is two times the credits of ECTS. So 15 credits in their system is 7.5 ECTS.
student life
welcome/orientation programme
Everything will be explained in the welcome week of Queen Mary.
accommodation
Find a room is very easy, you just have to google and you will find some rooms.
leisure/culture
You can do a lot in London. All the museums are free, they have nice clubs and good restaurants.
suggestions/tips
Enjoy your time when you are only for one semester, because the time goes very fast. Before you know you have to go back. Furthermore, beside the enjoyment you have to stay on track with the module readings otherwise you will be stressed at the end of term.
conclusions
would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain
Yes, I will recommend it, because they have nice activities. The quality of the University is good. And London is a great city very different from the Netherlands. You will meet students from around the whole world.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
If you are going just enjoy the experience. It is great!



<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
Firstly, I had to apply through the website of UU for an exchange abroad. For this I wrote a motivation letter and submitted my marks. After a period of time the UU told me that I was granted a place to go to Queen Mary University in London. After that I received a e-mail from Queen Mary University that I was accepted and that I needed to sign forms in order to confirm my exchange. Furthermore, they required a IELTS certificate with an average of 7.0. After this I had to choose which courses I would follow at Queen Mary.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The UU organised a meeting to tell us more information about the exchange. This was a good opportunity to prepare for your exchange since they gave you useful information about the application process and the requirements. It was also a good opportunity to meet other students who were going to the same university.
academic preparation
I had taken courses at UU who were taught in English. This helped me to get used to the English language. I also took online English courses to improve my English in order to pass the IELTS test.
language preparation

To be accepted at Queen Mary, they require a IELTS certificate. You need to score on average a 7.0. It would be helpful to buy books specially made to prepare you for the IELTS test. There are also website (most of them are paid) which help you to prepare for the test.
finances
Living in London is very expensive. Not only the rent of you room is expensive, but also other living costs such as transport, leisure activities etc. It would be helpful to lend from DUO or from your parents. Bear in mind that many agents of rooms want you to pay the money for the room in once. The accomodation cost me 6000 euros for three months and the other costs were 1000 euro per month.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
During my stay at the University I followed three modules in law: Intellectual property law, performing the law and competition law. They were interesting modules and I learnt a lot since I did not take any of these modules during my study at my home university. It would be smart to take modules which are 'international' since modules which only focus on the law of the UK are not very usefull if you do not plan to work in the UK.
academic quality of education activities
The teachers were very skilfull and they could explain very well. Also during the seminars you were given the opportunity to get involved in interesting discussion. The feedback they gave were also very usefull and you learn much from it. Every teacher gave a detailed feedback and a very extensive one.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The support of the University was very good. You could always walk in and they would help you with any question.
transfer of credits



I took 3 modules which were each worth 7,5 ECTS. Bear in mind that each module at the university is worth 15 credits. However, each 15 credits are transferred to 7,5 ECTS.

## STUDENT LIFE

### welcome & orientation programme

The welcome and orientation programme was very useful. I would strongly recommend to go to this event. During this event useful information is given about the modules and the University in General. Also, useful information is given about London. Furthermore you meet other students which is good for your social skills.

### accommodation

Queen Mary did not provide any accommodation. Consequently, I needed to find a room by myself. This was very difficult because the owners of rooms want you to rent the room for a full year. My exchange had a duration of 3 months and this was not an option for me. After doing a long research I found a student accommodation called "The Hive". They provided rooms for 4 months (17 weeks). The rooms were studios with your own kitchen and bathroom. The common room was very nice and I met many nice people overthere and the staff was also very nice. It was also very secure, since there was 24/7 security in the accomodation. However, it was very expensive (6000 euro's for 17 weeks).

### leisure & culture

Many museums in the UK are free. All of them are very impressive, especially the national Gallery and the natural history museum, and the Victoria and Albert museum. There are also lots of nice restaurants and pubs.

### suggestions/tips

Ponti's is a very nice Italian restaurant.  
Wheterspoons is a very nice pub next to the univeristy.  
National Gallery Museum, Imperial War Museum, Natural History Musuem, Victoria and Albert Museum are very beautiful museums.  
Go watch nice musicals, there are lots of them.

## CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definetly recommend this university to others. Firstly, the teachers are very nice and they are always willing to help you. Also, everything is very well organised. It is clear what you need to do and how to do it. Furthermore , the university is in London which is an amazing city. There is always something nice to do and you can easily make friends with other students.

### do you have any additional advice or comments?

Because I was just staying for three months, I did not have to do any exams. Instead, I needed to hand in essays. The essay questions were given very late and in the end of the semester it was very hard to finish the essays. My advise for you would be to ask the teachers to give the essay questions earlier in order for you to have more time to write them. Start as soon as possible, because it is a lot of research. Also, try to book a room very early since it is very hard to find a accomodation in London near to the Univerity.  
Make sure that you calculate well your finances because London is very expensive.



<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
I had to write a motivation letter and sent it together with my study plan, CV and financial plan to the international office via Osiris. After a while I received an email of the International Office with the message that I was nominated for a place at Queen Mary. Some time later Queen Mary send me the link to the application form. I applied for a place and got conditionally admitted to the programme under the condition that I had to take (and succeed) in a language test before I would arrive.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The information provided by the Utrecht University was clear, I didn't need any futher support or counselling.
academic preparation
I didn't do any special academic preparation for my exchange to Queen Mary.
language preparation
To get admitted you have to succeed in a language test, TOEFL of IELTS. I did the TOEFL exam and had to receive a score of 100 out of 120 point. In my opinion this was not easy (I got a score of 102), but because the English education on secondary schools is already quite good, it should be possible for everyone with a little bit of practice.
finances
London is really expensive city, definitely compared to Utrecht. Everything, housing, food, and drinks is much more expensive than in the Netherlands. I had to borrow some money of my parents because my DUO study grant (inclusive maximum loan) and Erasmus+ grant were not sufficient to cover my expenses. Be prepared to pay at least around 600 pounds per week for a room. I paid 650 pounds, but some friends were paying a lot more. You probably do not want to worry about money too much during your stay in London, so make sure you have enough available in the case you need it.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
As part of my application at Queen Mary, I had to choose the modules I am interested in. Together with the email with the intructions for applying, I received the module outline. This is the overview of modules I could choose from. Since I was only studying there for one semester, the choise was limited and I was allowed to choose from less modules than you can find on the online module directory. If you are studying for the whole academic year, there is much more choise.
academic quality of education activities
Queen Mary is one of the best Law universities in the United Kingdom. The quality of education is high, but personally I think there is not much difference in the level of academic quality between Queen Mary and Utrecht University. The biggest difference for me was the fact that most of the module only have a tutarorial (werkgroep) every other week instead of every week.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The people working at the university are friendly and helpful. If you have any problem or question, you can always contact them, and they reply quite fast. However, due to some technical issues at the univeristy they sometimes send important mails (about admission or my transcript of records) with a delay without notice. You then have to contact them to find out why the mail is delayed.
transfer of credits



The credit system they use is two times the credits of ECTS. So 15 credits in their system is 7.5 ECTS.

## STUDENT LIFE

### welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme for Erasmus+ students took place during the welcome week for all freshers. Although, the Erasmus+ orientation programme took only a couple of hours a day, but this gave us the opportunity to spend the rest of the day with the other Erasmus+ students and get to know each other. There are both informational activities as well as social activities organised. The Law faculty organized welcome drinks for international students, what was really fun. But the International Boat Party on the Thames was absolute the best thing of this week.

### accommodation

Finding a accommodation was relatively easy for me. A friend of me studied at Queen Mary the year before me, and via her housing agency I could arrange to rent a room in the same house as she lived in, even before I arrived in London. But most of the people just arrive in London two or three weeks before University starts to look for a room. Almost everyone is able to find a room this way.

### leisure & culture

In London is always something to do. I can't even think about things you can't do in London.

### suggestions/tips

The Student Union of Queen Mary is quite big and organizes a lot of activities. Most of this activities are organized by the societies within the Student Union. I would really advice Erasmus+ students to join one of the many societies. It is not only a lot of fun, but it is also a good way to make some friends with the native English students.

## CONCLUSIONS

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

Living in London is one of the most exciting things I have ever done. Queen Mary University of London is a good university and I would definetly recommend this university to everyone.

### do you have any additional advice or comments?

I advise students who are intending to apply for Queen Mary, to visit Queen Mary for the whole academic year instead of one semester because the whole system is based on full year modules.