

**United Kingdom – University of Warwick (Coventry)****2018-2019****Report 1**

Please use Tab to go to the next (text) box.

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> p.m.tanis@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Taal- en Cultuurstudies/Language and culture studies

destination city & country	Coventry, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University of Warwick
start date	24 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	08 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

You are requested to write on the following topics. Text boxes will expand automatically while typing!

<b>PREPARATION</b>	
exchange application process	The application process was much easier than I expected (though this may be different next year because of brexit). I was given my first choice: Warwick.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	For me, it was very helpful to speak with some of my teachers about the different universities I was considering, that really helped me in making my choice. The international office usually responded quickly to my emails, so all in all the process here at home went quite smoothly.
academic preparation	As I was planning to follow history courses, I read some books on English history over the summer. Apart from that, the English universities are quite similar to the Dutch, so no special academic preparation was needed for me.
language preparation	As I took some English modules in my first year, my English was already good enough before I came to the UK. I never had difficulties with the language while living there.
finances	Life in the UK is generally more expensive than in the Netherlands, so you should take that into account when thinking about your budget. As an exchange student I got a room on campus, which saved me a lot of money on public transport because everything is within walking distance. Room prices vary from about 350 to 600 euro per month. If you want to travel through the UK, you will have to be prepared to pay a lot of money, as trains are generally very expensive (it's worth the money though).

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<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	I chose for Warwick because this university offered me a great variety of interesting modules, while at most universities choice is very limited for exchange students. I followed modules in the history department. All modules were very well organized, and all information I needed during the modules was easy to find and very detailed. All seminar tutors were very approachable and willing to help. I did 30ECTS in one term, which is quite a lot considering one term is only 10 weeks. However, as a third year student taking second year module this was doable for me.
academic quality of education activities	I was quite disappointed at the very few amount of contact hours per week, only 2 per module (I did 4 modules). As both seminars and lectures are only 1 hour, you never really dive deep into the material. Apart from that, lectures and seminars are quite the same as in Utrecht. I felt that generally students at Warwick are very motivated, and everyone actively participates in the seminars. This makes the seminars very interesting and challenging. As assessment I mostly had to write essays. The way I was expected to write my essays differed somewhat to what I am used to in Utrecht, but that differed per module and per teacher. Feedback on the assignments was usually very extensive and helpful.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	Support at Warwick was very good: everyone is very willing to help with basically everything, and the staff is very approachable. I did have some administrative problems, but I never felt anxious about that, because I knew everyone was doing their best to help me solve them.
transfer of credits	

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>	
welcome & orientation programme	We started with a welcome week. I really appreciated being given some time to settle down, make friends and explore the local area. I would really advise to go to the societies fairs, as for many students societies are an important part of their student life, and this is the best way to explore the many things the university offers.
accommodation	As an erasmus student I could apply for on-campus accommodation. This process is very easy and I was given a room in the building of my first choice. (If you are going to Warwick, Claycroft is one of the best accommodations!)
leisure & culture	It is very convenient to live on campus: everything is on walking distance, which saves a lot of time and money. Campus is generally very safe, also at night, so no worries about getting home late. There are loads of societies to get involved in and countless events going on every day. Coventry is not a very interesting city, but smaller towns in the area, especially Leamington Spa and Warwick are very nice. If you play music, there are free practice rooms on campus, which as a violinist and pianist I really appreciated.
suggestions/tips	If you want to travel by train, buy your tickets in advance, as this saves you quite some money. Oxford is not too far from Coventry, a city really worth visiting!

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Get involved into societies, as this is the best way to meet new people and just do some stuff you normally wouldn't do.

I connected most easily with other international students, as they are in quite the same situation as me.

Moreover, having friends from Hong Kong, Dubai or Mauritius is very interesting. Don't miss out on the international students socials!

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

I would absolutely recommend this university! The campus is a great place to live, education is very good (Warwick is one of the best universities in the UK) everything is very well-organised and there are loads of extra-curricular activities to get involved in. I had a wonderful time here, and I am thinking of coming back for a masters.

do you have any additional advice or comments?