



Queens University of Belfast

2019 – 2020

PREPARATION
exchange application process
I think the application process was pretty straightforward. I attended the presentations from Utrecht University first and then made the choice that I wanted to study abroad for a semester.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The counselling and support was very helpful, they really help you if you have difficulties with anything in preparation of your exchange.
academic preparation
The only academic preparation I had were the courses I already followed in Utrecht.
language preparation
I did not think I had to prepare for this.
Finances
Erasmus and a loan.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
3 courses which each were worth 10 ETCS. Every course had either a weekly seminar or an interactive lecture. You didn't need to buy books for the courses because you could either find it through e-resources or in the library.
academic quality of education activities
The lectures were of good quality and pinpointed the important parts of the literature each week.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The lecturers were very helpful when it came down to the materials. You could always mail them and they would respond within a few hours. Also, you could make an appointment with them to discuss your ideas about the materials. This was very useful for the final essay you had to write.
transfer of credits
30 ETCS

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There was a special welcome programme for Erasmus students which lasted a week. In this week you got all the information you needed and you could get your remaining questions answered easily.
Accommodation
You could apply for accommodation as an erasmus student through the online application procedure. You had to choose in which area you wanted to live and which kind of room you preferred. Unfortunately I did not get a



room I initially applied for but that was to be expected since my stay only was a semester long.
leisure & culture
You could go to the gym for free and sign up to play sports for the University. Culture-wise you should visit the city centre of Belfast and go on tours organized by the University itself.
suggestions/tips
Try to join a sports team so you can get to know local people instead of only Erasmus students.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
If you don't mind bad weather and an easy lifestyle then this is a good place to go for exchange.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Getting around the city isn't easy. Going on bike is impossible. I recommend downloading Uber.

2018 – 2019

PREPARATION
exchange application process
I went to the presentations by the Utrecht International Office . They gave me a good impressession of the preparations for the application. Every time a new form had to be submitted, I always made sure I submitted it on time, therefore I did not experience a lot of stress. However, I must say the paperwork for the application is tedious, with all the forms having a slightly different lay-out but all requesting the same information.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
International Office was always ready to give information and advice. This made the preparation very easy. Furthermore, they always responded rather quickly so I did not have to wait long.
academic preparation
I looked at the course catalogue online to see what kind of modules they offered. I wanted to follow courses that are not offered at Utrecht University to make the most out of studying abroad. Therefore I mainly focussed on international law as this is not offered in the Bachelor of Law except from Public International Law that only gave the basics.
language preparation
As I already knew I was proficient in English, I did not do a lot of preparation for it. At most I read a few extra English literature and international law books in order to get 'into the English mindset'.
finances
As we already had to make a plan before applying for studying abroad, I already had a finance plan. I perfected this plan once I knew I was going to study abroad at Queen's

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
When I first arrived, getting enrolled was a bit of an issue. We had to meet someone in person, they had to enroll all the Erasmus students studying law. You can imagine this being stressfull as we all had to sit in the



<p>waiting room, waiting for our turn. This was not really well organized. After this we had enroll again on a computer. This enrolment proces on the computer was tedious as well, where we had to fill out unnecessary forms about our religion and sexual preferences that should not be relevant for enrolling in courses. Furthermore, I wonder what they did with this information as it did not serve any purpose in asking. After being enrolled, the study programme, content and organisation was perfect. I did not experience any problems after the enrolment.</p>
<p>academic quality of education activities</p>
<p>I thought doing three courses at the same time was going to be stressfull, since I always do two courses at the same time in Utrecht. However, I managed just fine. I noticed they have the same system as in Utrecht where you need to do a lot of self study and the lecture only explains the outlines. However, I did find that the courses did not go into much detail. The history and the application of articles of different conventions were explained but there was a lack of academic depth.</p>
<p>counselling & support at receiving university abroad</p>
<p>The international office and faculty of law help desk were really helpful. During my time there I didn't really need a lot of help but everytime I did, for example because a form needed to be signed, they were fast to help me. They did give a few presentations for all the Erasmus and international students about what to expect, how to prepare for classes and an explanation of the marking system.</p>
<p>transfer of credits</p>
<p>In the introduction presentation they said that if everything is going as planned, the transfer will take place on the 5th of February. Therefore currently I have no idea if the transfer of credits is succesful.</p>

<p>STUDENT LIFE</p>	
<p>welcome & orientation programme</p>	<p>The first week was internationals week and the second week the general freshers week took place. Firstly the internationals week. There were a lot of activities planned, from typical irish dancing to free dinners. These activities gave me a great opportunity to meet other international students. My best friend from Australia, I met during one of the free dinners. After these activities you are definitely ending up with a friend group as everyone is looking for people to hang out with. During the internationals week there were a lot of introduction presentations about life in Belfast, general health and safety talks and history of Queens University. Secondly, the freshers week. Again, a lot of activites were organised and gave me a lot of opportunities to meet the locals and British people.</p>
<p>accommodation</p>	<p>I stayed in one of the QUB accomodations. There were three locations: Elms Village, BT1 and BT2. In every location the international and local students are mixed together. Elms Village was literally a village with a shop, rows of houses and a building (the treehouse) were people could hang out. I noticed there was a sense of a community and social cohesion in this village. Then there was BT1 and BT2. These buildings were brand new and opened for the first time in September. I stayed in BT2 and shared an apartement with 5 other people. Compared to Elms Village the rooms were cleaner (as they were just built) and the kitchen had better equipment. Within the whole BT2 building there was no community nor a feeling of social cohesion. Besides from your roommates, you didn't really see other residents. However, I was lucky to have 5 really cool roommates, so the place did feel like a home. My roommates were all locals, Irish and English so I was the only international student. I think that is how you get the full study abroad experience, since I wanted to absorb as much of the British culture and their ways, as possible. BT2 was close to the city centre as well as to the university. Everywhere was a 15 minute walk, give or take. If I stayed at ELms Village everything would have been further away, university is a 25 minute walk and city centre</p>



a 50 minute walk. So the pro of being in Elms Village is being part of a community, a big con is that this community is remote from the rest of the city.

leisure & culture

When some asks me if Belfast is worth going to for a city trip, I would have to say no. It is however, an amazing city to live in. Student life is perfect.

First of all, there are a LOT of societies and clubs, someone told me there were over 200! During freshers week you can sign up for them at a society and clubs fair. To possibilities were endless and overwhelming. I signed up for the law society, Amnesty International Belfast, Judo society, boxing society, climbing society and the music society. During the freshers week you got a discount on your membership fee.

Because a day only has 24 hours and I had to balance studying, societies and friends from internationals week as well as from my courses, I ended up only being an active member at the climbing society and the music society. Part of the reason for this was because all the sport societies had training at the same time, all on Tuesday and Thursday from 17:00-22:00. I had never climbed before and wanted to try something new. Climbing was the best way to challenge myself physically and mentally and it was nice to meet like minded people in the society. They organised weekend climbing trips to Ireland, Scotland, Spain etc. which were nice getaways.

The music society was nice as well, although I didn't really have time to get to know everyone and be an active member. I did use their practice rooms a lot which they offered you for free where you could use their instruments for free. The piano for example was always tuned and in good condition.

Secondly, I loved the university gym. Because I was a QUB Accomodations resident, I had an off-peak membership. Therefore I could go to the gym from 8:00 until 15:00 and from 20:00 until 22:00. The quality of the gym equipment was really good and the variety of exercises was big. It was a nice place to blow off some steam with friends after a day of studying or to start the day. The gym was a 20 minute walk from BT2.

Furthermore, Belfast is a perfect place to go out. There are a lot of clubs and pubs. I loved the atmosphere in their pubs, where there was always live Irish music and Irish dancing. In short, the perfect place to hang out with friends after a day of studying. The city is very safe, so after a night out I never felt at risk when I walked home alone.

Additionally, Belfast is the perfect place if you like hiking and nature. Twenty minutes from BT2 there is a mountain where you can do a lot of different hikes with beautiful views over the city. Furthermore, from Belfast you can take a cheap two-hour busride into every direction and you end up in the most beautiful scenery. The trails are all safe and well maintained. Every weekend a group of friends and me organised trips to nature. Even the people that normally don't like hiking or exercising were in awe with the views.

Lastly, Belfast has a lot history. There are a lot of opportunities to learn and experience this history, which I think is very valuable for personal and academic growth. For example, we went to Derry-Londonderry to learn more about Bloody Sunday and we did a lot of history tours in Belfast to learn about the troubles.

suggestions/tips

Join societies and clubs, explore nature with your new friends and get to know the history.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes. Queens University in Belfast has a great variety of interesting courses, a strong welcome and orientation programme, clean accomodation, a lot of societies and clubs so there is something for everyone, a great gym,



cozy pubs with Irish music and traditional dancing, close proximity to nature and offers valuable lessons to be learned from its history.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Give yourself some time to settle as you will always feel a bit ungrounded in the beginning, always be open to meet new people and put yourself out there.

2017 – 2018

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process took more time than I had expected. Therefore, I got a little bit short on time for some deadline. I recommend students to start early by orientating where to go and to find out what is necessary to study abroad.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support I got from Utrecht University was really good. My questions got answered real quickly and very extensive.

academic preparation

No academic preparation was needed.

language preparation

No language preparation was needed besides the language test necessary for the Erasmus grant.

finances

Even though I was financially prepared, studying abroad will cost more than I thought. You want to make the most of your time and a lot of activities cost money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The study programme was good, but very different from the Netherlands. This might have to do with the fact that the United Kingdom has a common law system instead of the civil law system. The fact that we only had to write essays and had no homework each week did motivate the student to actively participate in class after you know what you are going to write your essay about.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was very high. My lecturers were really passionate about what they taught and made the lectures very interesting.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The student facilities are really good at Queen's University Belfast. However, the erasmus coordinator for the School of Law was a bit blunt when answering e-mails. Overall, I am really content with the guidance QUB gives for International Students.

transfer of credits

No information about this yet.



STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Very good welcome and orientation programme. There was a week-long welcome week for the international students. This made it easy to meet new people and get to know the university. The people are really friendly in Belfast which made it easy to ask for help.

accommodation

The accomodation (Elms Village) was amazing. Having so many students together and the organisation of many events made it easy to make new friends and get to know other cultures.

leisure & culture

The Student Union, Elms Village and Queen's University organized many fun events and trips.

suggestions/tips

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CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, Queen's University Belfast has been an amazing place to study. They give high quality education and are very helpful. As an International Student I never felt a stranger because the guidance was so good.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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PREPARATION

exchange application process

I had to write a motivation letter and to fill in some forms before hand. I did not need to do a language test to get in. Eventhought the deadlines for application of all these forms where reasonable, this caused me some stress. This because you are depending on the responses of the assigned persons at Queen's University. I would recommend to start on time with your application, and keep an eye on your mailbox. If people are not responding to you within a reasonable time, try to mail them again.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The University of Utrecht was very supportive, since they responded to all my questions very quickly (via e-mail or at the studiepunt).

academic preparation

I did not need to do any academic preparation before I went to study abroad.

language preparation

I had passed the Cambridge English exam during my high-school period. But besides that, it is not necessary to do any further English preparation, since your high-school level after graduation at VWO is sufficient. The required level of language competence at Queens University Belfast is B2.

finances

I recieved my Erasmus+ Grant, a refund for not using my OV (public transport), and I received some financial



support from the Dutch government. Living in the United Kingdom is quite expensive, so you should keep this in mind. You can buy your books at the Students Union shop, for a similar price as in Utrecht. If you find this too expensive, you can always borrow them in the library. Moreover, if you are staying on campus (which I should recommend) you should know that you have to pay a high amount of money before hand.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

In the first lesson-week we looked at our study programme with the module's erasmus-coordinator, to check if there were any organisational issues. You had that whole week to change modules, schedules etc. I followed 3 modules during my stay at Queen's, which was enough. I had about 2 contact hours for each module. Queen's University has 3 types of teaching methods; lectures, seminars and tutorials. The tutorials were the most interactive ones.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of education is good. The ways of teaching were different than in the Netherlands. The professors always explained everything very detailed. They did their best to destress students all the time. They made handouts before hand (before the lectures), so you could not miss the most important outlines. I had to write essays for all my modules instead of making exams. Even though this was not completely new to me, it was not that easy. For some modules I had to write essays of the extent of 4000 words, which I had never done before.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The Queen's University of Belfast is a very good University when it comes to support for exchange students. They have a Students Guidance Centre across the street where you can always go to for advice or help. If you want a bit less professional help, or just someone to talk to, you can always go to the Students Union. Besides that, the Students Union is a good place to socialize. The professors were very helpful as well. You could always email them if there were some problems and they usually replied within 1-2 days.

transfer of credits

In order to get your full Erasmus Grant, you will have to send your Transcript of Records to Utrecht University. The transcript of records was automatically sent to the Utrecht University by the end of February/March. If you do not pass for one of your modules, you will have to take a re-examination in August. I'll guess that the transfer of your full Erasmus Grant will be delayed then.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme of Queen's University Belfast is a good one. They had arranged one full week of introduction for all international students. On the other hand, the information given was very extensive and especially focused on full-year exchange students. Because of this, not all the information was applicable to me. After this orientation programme, there was an orientation week for all students of Queen's. I did not attend this programme, because the information given was exactly the same.

accommodation

Queen's University has a couple of residential options. There are different residences on campus, all focused on your personal preferences. I lived in Elms Village during my stay at Queen's. I would recommend this to everyone, because most exchange-students will stay here. You will live in apartments with 10/11 people, and you will share a kitchen (you can share a bathroom as well). You will live with both exchange students and domestic students. I chose to have a premium standard room, so that I would have my own bathroom. But I must say, I did not see my roommates so often because of this choice, which was a shame. Elms Village has a common space for



all students as well, called the treehouse. You could always go there for some free coffee or thee, for playing boardgames or just to have a chat with your friends.
leisure & culture
<p>To me, the Irish culture is exactly what I expected it to be. People are very kind, and always trying to help you out with any (possible) problems. There are a lot of nice Irish pubs, which you should definitely go to, to experience their culture. The people from Northern-Ireland do have a difficult accent, which can make it hard to understand them at first but you will get used to this very easily. Moreover, there is no need to worry since most people, especially the people at Queen's University will not have this accent.</p> <p>You will notice that religion is still a very important aspect for most people. Asking them about this is probably not the best idea, because people are still reserved because of their history. Churches are trying to connect with the students, for example by organizing free meals, which is also a good opportunity to get to know more about the culture of Northern-Ireland.</p>
suggestions/tips
<p>Queen's Accomodation is organizing a lot of trips in the beginning of the semester. You will have the opportunity to go to different cities like Derry (London-Derry), Dublin, Glawgow etc. These trips are very cheap, and definitely something I would recommend if you would like to see more of Northern-Ireland. They will organize trips to Giants Causeway (a must-see in Northern Ireland) and Game of Thrones tours as well if you are interested.</p>

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
<p>I would definitely recommend Queen's University to others. I can understand that you have no idea what to expect of Belfast. It might seem to be a dull city but this is not how I experienced Belfast at all. As I said, people are extremely kind to others, which makes Belfast a very warm city. You will feel at home very easily overthere. Professors and all other staff at Queens will treat you as equals, which I loved a lot as well. Their law system is different which makes it interesting to get a different view on things.</p>
do you have any additional advice or comments?
<p>Be patient, you have to settle at first, where ever you go. But after a few weeks you will feel blessed to get the opportunity to study at a beautiful University as Queen's University Belfast. Tell people that you are an international/erasmus student, and they will help you where ever they can. And do not be bothered by people's complaints about the weather, because it is almost the same as in the Netherlands.</p>

2014 – 2015

PREPARATION
exchange application process
<p>For the exchange application process I had to write a motivation letter and fill in some forms before a certain deadline nearly a year before I started my semester to study abroad. It was not a lot of effort to do those things but it was just a little bit stressful since around the deadline date I also had a lot of exams and deadlines for essays so I would most definitely recommend to start the whole application process as early as possible and do not wait until the last moment to finish it.</p>
counselling & support at Utrecht University



The counselling and support at Utrecht University was very good. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays the international office has office hours and during certain times you can walk in to ask questions or you can always send them an email with a question and you will get a response very quickly.
academic preparation
I did not really do any academic preparation before I went to study abroad at Queens University.
language preparation
After high school I have received a Fulbright scholarship and studied in America for one year at Millersville University which was a very good language preparation for this semester at Queen's University. In order to receive this scholarship I had to take the SAT and the TOEFL test and the results of these tests showed that my English was at an adequate level so I knew that I did not need to take extra lessons or something like that in order to improve my English.
finances
I got the Erasmus+ grant, monthly study finance from the Dutch government, a refund for not using my public transportation card and my parents gave me some money every month. It is important to keep in the back of your mind that if you want to live in student accommodation you have to pay the full amount rent already before you leave so that is about 1700 pounds which is a large sum of money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	The study programme at Queen was very good and professional in my opinion. I did not have any organisational issues. I attended 4 modules for which you had 1 class every week. I'm in my last year of my bachelor so that's why I didn't have a lot of contact hours and I had classes in small groups with many group discussions. But when you are a first or second year you normally will have more than just one contact hour every week.
academic quality of education activities	The academic quality was very good at Queens. I was very pleased with the professors I had. But I have to say that the modules I attended were very hard so for the first few weeks I really had to adjust and it was a little bit overwhelming in the beginning. But the professors and my classmates were very helpful and they made me feel comfortable eventually. There were a lot of discussions in class which helped me to improve my English a lot. I attended 2 bachelor modules and two masters modules. It was a lot and I have spend a lot of time in the library. For all the modules I had to write an essay so I did not have any exams. All together I had to write about 15000 words. I have learned and improved a lot during my stay in Belfast.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	I didn't really have a lot to do with the counselling and support at the receiving university during my stay there. I do have dyslexia and the support I got for that was amazing. I was allowed to hand in essays later than the usual deadline which helped me out a lot. But besides that I only saw my international coordinator once in the first week. She did not respond to my first emails very fast which was a little bit difficult when I had to apply and almost missed my deadline for that but after that when I send her a reminder she replied right away.
transfer of credits	I have not received my official transcript of records yet but apparently they are going to send it to Utrecht University somewhere around this time. Since I needed to pass all the 4 modules in order to graduate for my bachelors this year the credits need to be transferred.

STUDENT LIFE



welcome & orientation programme
The orientation programme was very good. It were 4 days with all the other internationals. During the day you got information about the university and your modules etc. And they had arranged many things to do during the nights to get to know the other international students.
accommodation
I lived in Elms village during my semester studying at Queen's univarsity. In Elms village you live with 11 people on a floor and share a kitchen, toilet and shower. This was a lovely way to get in touch with the other students and because of this way of living I made a lot of friends. The only thing that is important to keep in mind is that the students who live in elm village are mainly first year students and since I am a 4 th year student sometimes I did feel a little bit old. But other than that I can totally recommend living there. It is pretty expansive and the room you get is pretty small + the kitchen is most of the time very dirty but for me personally the social aspect of living together like that and meeting new people every day definitely made it worth living like that.
leisure & culture
The Irish culture is amazing and the people are extremely welcoming and nice to foreign people. Since there has been a war in Northern Ireland only like 30 years ago that is very visable in the culture and the way both sides interact with eachother (but especially for older people not really for students). There was never a time that I did not feel safe or anything like that. I think the history of the country makes it very interesting and a unique place. Religion is very important in Northern Ireland so that was a little bit different than in my own country. I actually liked it a lot since I felt like people had very good morals over there. I did the module reshaping the Northern Constitution which is about the history and law which I can most definitely recommend.
suggestions/tips
I attended the module counter-terrorism and human rights which is actually a master module but I was still allowed to attend it and this module + the professor who taught it was extremely interesting. And if your in Northern Ireland you should definitely go see the giants causeway it is very beautiful.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would most definitely recommend this university/ destination because first of all because of the troubles in the past in Northern Ireland there is a lot to learn about the culture. The differences between the Dutch and Irish cultures are very interesting to observe. I also thought it was very interesting to learn more about a different legal system.

PREPARATION
exchange application process
I started a year before the actual application with my preparations. My current study programm didn't allow me to study abroad, therefore I started very early to make a study schedule for the next years. Because of this, I could do the Erasmus exchange. Even though I didn't pick Queen's University Belfast as my first choice, I really liked the possibility to study in the United Kingdom. After the actual application process, I really hoped that I didn't get my first picked, the University of Kopenhagen, but my second choice, Queen's University Belfast.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The study advisors of the Utrecht University were very helpful with my study schedule and the International Office could answer all of my questions and help me with my problems.



academic preparation
I didn't have academic preparations.
language preparation
Since all the lectures and literature in the United Kingdom is in English, I didn't had to prepare my language, because students from the EU don't need language preparation. Besides that, I didn't had problems with the English language, only with the strong Irish accents.
finances
Life in the United Kingdkom is very expensive, especially if you travel a lot. But food in general is more expensive than in the Netherlands. Although the rent in the Queens Accomodation was excesively expensive. Therefore, it was very necessary to have a financial plan. With the Erasmus grant and support from my parents, I didn't have any financial problems, even with a monthly expense of 900 pounds including rent.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	I was one of the few lucky international law students who could study all of the courses I'd applied for. The others had problems with non-existing courses or courses that wasn't aviable for intenationals for some vague reasons. My study programm was well arranged and I didn't had to change anything, I just could pick-up my schedule and attend the courses I wanted.
academic quality of education activities	Queen's University Belfast has a good academic quality and is comparable with the quality of Utrecht University. I only have one complaint, because one of my professor was of Polish descent and had a strong accent. Even the native speakers couldn't get a clou of what he was saying, therefore I wouldn't recommend the course Contract Law.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	During my study abroad period, I didn't had any questions or problems, so i didn't need counseling or support, but the university has a variety of counceling and support facilities. If you have a question, you can always pop in and make an appointment, or they can help you right away. You have a Student Guidance Centre for all the study related questions and there is an International Students desk for all your questions about staying in Belfast and other stuff.
transfer of credits	I already received my grades and I passed all of my courses. However, I still have to wait for my transcript of records, but I will wait. Since I will finish my bachelor at the end of the second semester, there is no rush.

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	This programme was excellent. The university starts with this programm two weeks before the actual lectures starts. The first week the university has a special programm for international students, so you can meet a lot of fellow internationals and it is a good way to make friends. This week was the best of the entire period. The University arranged some bus trips, pub crawls, some traditional Irish dance and food parties and trips to hockey games. It is a good way to know the city and its culture. The second week is more focussed on all the freshers, the first year students of the UK, and the University has an other programm for them. You get to know the university and all of its sport and culture clubs. I tried several sports, i've never had tried before, like fencing.



accommodation
The accomodation sucks. Queens University has its own accomodation campus, but for me this was like a prison. I had a small chamber and i had to share a kitchen and 2 bathrooms and showers with 12 other people, which I didn't liked. My room was inbetween the stairs and a weed smoking kid. I had so much noise from both sides. The room is not sound proof at all, I could hear his music all the time. Actually, I could litterally hear everything he said in his room. The walls are paper thin. And at night time, the students scream and shoud on the streets, even with my ear plugs I could hear so much from outside. So my advice, don't stay at Elms Village at 76 Malone Road, but look for some other Queen's Accomodations or something in the private sector.
leisure & culture
There is a lot of culture in Belfast. For example, you have a variety of historical and modern buildings next to each other. Especially the City Hall is very beautiful. Belfast is known for the events between the catholics and protestants in Belfast, the Troubles, there is a lot to discover about it. The Titanic was built in Belfast and there is a very beautiful musuem about it. Belfast is surrounded with mountains and hills and if you go on top of it, you have a very beautiful view over Belfast and on clear days you can even see Scotland in the distance. Northern-Ireland has a very beautiful coastline and there are bustours which take you to the Giant's Casueway. The other big city's of the UK and Ireland are very near and you can take a coach, which takes you to Dublin within two hours.
suggestions/tips
Bring an umbrella, because it's raining most of the time.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would definitely recommend Queens University Belfast to others. I had an amazing experience here and there is a lot of history in the city. I have met lots and lots of people and made some good friends. This Erasmus programm is an excelent way to improve your English and your behaviour around strangers. I've learned a lot about myself these months. The travel time is limited to 2 hours, so your friends and family could visit you very easy. If I had the chance to do it again, I would definitely do it, I would only find other accomodation.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Enjoy this experience and make clear that you're an international student. Local people and teachers will always try their best to make you as comfortable as possible and will help you with everything.