

2019-2020

Report 1

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|----------------------|---|
| faculty/college | Humanities |
| level | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD |
| name study programme | Celtic Languages and Culture |

| | |
|---|---|
| destination city & country | Aberystwyth, Wales |
| how did you travel to your destination? | To Wales: by airplane. To go back home: by train. |
| name university abroad | Prifysgol Aberystwyth |
| start date | 22 / 09 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy) |
| end date | 22 / 01 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy) |

| PREPARATION | |
|---|--|
| exchange application process | Went well: brexit caused stress but no one (at the university) can be held responsible for that. |
| counselling & support at Utrecht University | Very well. |
| academic preparation | None specifically for the exchange. |
| language preparation | 2-week Welsh-language course in Wales, Aberystwyth. |
| finances | 1/3 Erasmus grant, 1/3 own savings, 1/3 parents' support. |

| STUDY ABROAD PERIOD | |
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| study programme (content and organisational issues) | Four monts in Wales. I took four modules, which is one more than required/usual. I passed all four and enjoyed them. |
| academic quality of education activities | The level appeared to be a bit lower than I was used to in Utrecht, which was very nice because now I had more freedom to do fun things. |
| counselling & support at receiving university abroad | Hardly needed any, but when I did everybody was ready to help. |

transfer of credits

Still in progress, I do not expect any problems.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Did not attend.

accommodation

Found my own in a very nice coastal village nearby Aberystwyth, I shared a flat with someone I met on the Welsh Summer Course.

leisure & culture

Welsh nature is amazing, Snowdonia around the corner and the sea at my front door. In Aberystwyth there's always things planned and the department organised many evenings, talks and activities. I obtained a 'music card' which granted me unlimited access to practise rooms with pianos.

suggestions/tips

Take on a new hobby, now's your chance: I took fiddle lessons and started writing a book. Also I ate mostly vegetarian and noticed I didn't even miss meat that much.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Absolutely lovely people and atmosphere, good library with a massive celtic collection, a lot of knowledge on the subjects. For everyone who likes the sea, but even if you don't (like me) you'll learn to love it. Be prepared for the cold and four months of rain, though.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

2017-2018

Report 1

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| faculty/college | Humanities |
| level | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD |
| name study programme | Celtic Languages and Culture |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| destination city & country | Aberystwyth, United Kingdom |
| name university abroad | Aberystwyth University |
| start date | 23 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy) |
| end date | 23 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy) |

| PREPARATION | |
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| exchange application process | The exchange application process went very well. Initially, it was a bit of a mess to find all the right documents etc., but after the presentations about the possibilities for studying abroad and information about the application process, it all became clear. The application process went smoothly. |
| counselling & support at Utrecht University | The presentations done by and information provided by faculties and Student Services were really helpful. The contact with the International Office went very well. I could always e-mail and every time I received a useful and friendly answer. |
| academic preparation | The courses (which were part of my bachelor's programme) that I followed at Utrecht University prepared me sufficiently to be able to follow the courses in Aberystwyth. |
| language preparation | Most of the courses of my bachelor's programme were already given in English, so the language was not an obstacle for me. The OLS test before and after your stay abroad is a good way to know how proficient you are and if your language skills have improved during your stay abroad. |
| finances | Aberystwyth is not a really expensive town to live in. The University was able to provide a room in University Residences this year for a reasonable fee and the living costs were reasonable as well. |

| STUDY ABROAD PERIOD | |
|---|---|
| study programme (content and organisational issues) | The courses I followed in Aberystwyth were not difficult and connected well with the courses I had already done in Utrecht. The course registration was well and clearly arranged, so I did not have any difficulties registering for the courses I wanted to follow. However, the department of Welsh and Celtic Studies in Aberystwyth offers a lot of courses taught through the medium of Welsh, which limited the options available, |

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| since I did not have that level of Welsh, but it was also possible to follow courses in Welsh and the options left were interesting as well. |
| academic quality of education activities |
| The teachers were very adequate and knew what they were talking about, so I found the academic quality of the education good. The amount of work to be completed was very doable and the ways of examination fitted the content of the courses. |
| counselling & support at receiving university abroad |
| From the beginning onward, it was clear who you could contact if you had any questions and which services were available. The teachers were very approachable as well and if I would have had any need for advice or support, I would have known who to ask. |
| transfer of credits |
| Aberystwyth University has an own crediting system: 20 of their credits correspond to 10 ECTS. At the moment of writing this, I have not yet received all my results, but I assume the transfer will go all right. |

| STUDENT LIFE |
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| welcome & orientation programme |
| A week before classes started, there was an orientation week with presentations and information about the University and the services etc., and a welcome ceremony for the international students. |
| accommodation |
| I stayed in University Residences, which I found very comfortable. The accommodation was well taken care of and close to the town centre. |
| leisure & culture |
| Throughout my stay there were weekly events for international (and Erasmus) students and you were able to join other societies/unions as well. Aberystwyth is a small (and isolated) town, so there is not a great range of leisure possibilities, but there is a small cinema, an Arts Centre (which hosts all kinds of entertainment), a sports centre and, of course, the National Library of Wales. There were enough possibilities for me and especially the students unions organised different activities. |
| suggestions/tips |
| The sunsets at Aberystwyth are beautiful, so make sure you get to watch those! |

| CONCLUSIONS |
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| would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain |
| Yes, I would definitely recommend others to go to Aberystwyth. It is a small, but very friendly town and after your stay abroad you know your way around (and not just to the university and back). There are a lot of students, which is very nice, and despite the fact that it is a bit isolated, it has everything you need. |
| do you have any additional advice or comments? |
| No. |

Report 2

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|----------------------|---|
| faculty/college | Geesteswetenschappen |
| level | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD |
| name study programme | Keltische Talen en Cultuur |

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| destination city & country | Aberystwyth, United Kingdom |
| name university abroad | Aberystwyth University |
| start date | 20 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy) |
| end date | 23 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy) |

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| PREPARATION | |
|---|---|
| exchange application process | |
| | The process was actually simpler than I thought it would be. It all looked very difficult, but it really wasn't. |
| counselling & support at Utrecht University | |
| | Whenever I had questions, the people of the International Office were very quick to reply. |
| academic preparation | |
| | The academic level of Aberystwyth is comparable with that in Utrecht, so don't worry about things being too difficult over there. |
| language preparation | |
| | It will come in handy if you speak English, and they will love it if you can speak a couple of words in Welsh, but they won't assume you can. |
| finances | |
| | Life in Aberystwyth is slightly more expensive than in The Netherlands, but again, don't worry about it too much, it's not that expensive. |

| STUDY ABROAD PERIOD | |
|--|---|
| study programme (content and organisational issues) | |
| | The content of the study programme was good and much like I'm used to in Utrecht, there were hardly any unusual things. The organisation was very good as well. |
| academic quality of education activities | |
| | The teaching in Aberystwyth is very good. The teachers are very nice and they and other academic staff are more than willing to help you if you have any problems or questions. |
| counselling & support at receiving university abroad | |
| | The people are all very friendly and helpful. They are more than willing to help you out if you have any problems or questions. |
| transfer of credits | |

Half of the points or credits are ECTS, so 20 points would be 10 ECTS.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

A very warm welcome is given to the international students, and there is a very fun orientation programme.

accommodation

The accomodation is very well organised and at amazing locations!

leisure & culture

Aberystwyth is a relatively small city, but there is enough to do. And if you do ever get bored, you can take a walk in the beautiful surrounding nature.

suggestions/tips

The cinema in town, it really is a fantastic experience.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes. Aberystwyth is an amazing city, with an amazing university. I loved it there and cannot recommend it enough.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Not really.