

**2016-2017**  
**Report 1**

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Duitse taal en cultuur

destination city & country	Leipzig, Germany
name university abroad	Universität Leipzig
start date	30 / 03 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	25 / 08 / 2017 (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	
	Lots of paperwork but all the necessary guidelines and information is provided and there is always room and time for questions and preparations.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Easy to reach and quick to answer, though sometimes it was not clear which institution to contact with which questions, making for some unnecessary Emails
academic preparation	
	Learned the German language in the first year of the study, no specific preparations made.
language preparation	
	Above
finances	
	Partially saved up some money, partially the grant. Did not need all the money since the housing was way cheaper than here and the university costs are minimal.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	Free of choice, chose Norwegian and Intercultural communication, English for business and Sociology. All at different faculties so the procedure for participating was different for all of them, a lot of work in total.
academic quality of education activities	
	Very good
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	Always possible
transfer of credits	

Still in progress because getting the grades took a long time

### STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

None of which i knew, would have been very happy to participate in a welcoming week or something alike.

accommodation

Excellent, though i did find a room myself, not via the university or anything, which i would recommend to everyone. Not only do the rooms look much nicer, you will also, most likely, be living with a native speaker and make more new friends in that time.

leisure & culture

It is advised to read about culture differences, but in the end the people at the university also know that there are certain culture differences and are able to discuss and handle these very well.

suggestions/tips

Do look for a room yourself, i found it to be much easier than in the Netherlands ( had a few skype conversations and i had a room )

### CONCLUSIONS

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

Aly, the university is very professional and the help you get is amazing. The city is wonderfull and the people are very friendly and open.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Try to do as many new things as possible when studying abroad, the sport program was amazing and i met loads of people and made lots of new friends. Go to small things such as music festivals or fairs, it never once dissapointed me!

### **2015-2016** **Report 1**

faculty/college	Faculty of humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Duitse taal en cultuur - German Studies

### PREPARATION

exchange application process

Make sure that you fill in the forms on time.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

When you have important questions: Send an E-mail to Internation Office and don't wait too long.

academic preparation

Don't forget to bring important books with you, if you think that you will need them in Germany.
language preparation
Universität Leipzig offers a lot of diverse Language German courses. You can also get ECTS points for it. If you study German Studies in Utrecht, it might be different. The level of the German language at German courses is not higher than the German courses in Utrecht.
finances
The rent in Leipzig, compared to Utrecht, is low. But make sure that you save money to discover the city, the country, etc.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
You have to sign up for every single course with the right form and a signature. Make sure that you have the right forms, and get all the signatures on time. It will cost a lot time. As a erasmus student, you can't do this online.
academic quality of education activities
There will be less deadlines and tests. But the assignemnts or tests at the end of the semester, will be longer and more intensive. But this will be different for every study.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
In Utrecht, it's very normal to do everything online. At Universität Leipzig, it will be faster sometimes to visit a teacher for your questions.
transfer of credits
Universität Leipzig can give you ECTS points for "presence" at lectures. Universiteit Utrecht doesn't except these points! Make sure that you will get a grade for an assignment etc., because Universiteit Utrecht will only except ECTS points when you get a grade for something.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
The university has a diverse program for incoming erasmus students. It's called: "Tutoren Leipzig". You will meet a lot of people and you will discover the city. For every faculty there is also a small welcome event at the beginnen of the semester. There is also an organisation for Erasmus students, called "Wilma". They have some really nice trips to cities etc.
accommodation
You can sign up at <a href="https://www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/">https://www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/</a> . You can apply for a room here. In these rooms, you don't have wireless internet, but you will propably live with students from all over the world. For private rooms, you can sign up at <a href="http://www.wg-gesucht.de/">http://www.wg-gesucht.de/</a> .
leisure & culture
Leipzig is the city of music. They have a famour opera-house, a Bach-Museum, and a place called "Baumwollspinnerei" where you can see a lot of different art. The clubs here are also really nice. For example: Soundso, IFZ, Distillery and Elipamanoke are the most famous clubs.

suggestions/tips
- Search for a room near the city centre. Some "studentenwerk" -rooms are far away. - Buy a bike in Leipzig! That will be faster than traveling with the public transport.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, they have a lot of different courses, the quality is fine and you will not be alone as a erasmus student.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Make sure that Universiteit Utrecht will accept your ECTS points. The system at Universität Leipzig is different.

**Report 2**

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Duitse Taal en Cultuur (German Language and Culture)

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
For me the exchange application process was quite clear, of course you have to meet deadlines and fill in some forms, but it's not that much work. Besides that, the international offices (University and Faculty) were happy to help. Please don't hesitate to ask your fellow students or the international office if you have any problems.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The support I had both from my department and the international office of the faculty and the university was good. As the Erasmus-Coordinator from my department is from Leipzig she was even happy to give me some advice on which places were best for living.
academic preparation
I did not specifically prepare for the courses I took in Leipzig, my education (see also bellow) was sufficient. An advantage for my exchange period was the course intercultural communication (TL3V14001). For the choice of the courses I considered a mix of courses: History; German and Political Science. The courses I took were sometimes challenging on paper. I also tried to finish my bachelor thesis but due to circumstances I did not succeed, which I strongly regret. I strongly advise to finish your thesis before you go abroad.
language preparation
As I had allready studied German language for 5 Semester I had no difficulty understanding German, for those who do not have sufficient profficiency, please do take a language course before you start your courses. A lot of bachelor courses in Leipzig are in German
finances
I completed the financial plan, I already knew rent was much cheaper in Leipzig. Together with some savings and the support of my parents I covered all the expenses I could foresee in advance, the financial plan was of great help here. Please to make sure what the costs for living (rent and groceries) when preparing your finances, if it happens to be much more expensive than you expected, you could get into trouble.

<b>STUDY ABROAD PERIOD</b>
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The study programme I chose was very differentiated, I was able to have courses in other faculties as well. All together I had 2 seminar and one lecture in political science, 3 seminars in German and 1 Seminar at History. The organisation was quite good, as you may expect from the Germans.
academic quality of education activities
The students were not allways well prepared in the seminars, in Leipzig attendance is not required. This is a minus, at least if you really want to have interesting discussions in the seminars and enjoy the academic debate. On average the teachers were great, all of them made effort and were also happy the assist Erasmusstudents. Some of them were new and not very experienced at teaching, as the german students were not allways that motivated this was a problem at sometimes
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Arival and communication whith both the internal offices (Univ ersy and German-Department) was excellent, you are more than welcome and they are really happy to help. I allways had fast replies on my e-mails and the German Department also had an office hour.
transfer of credits
The Internatinal Office of the German Department is quite ative whith this, they pro-actively send you e-mails to remind you to complete the forms and so on.The teachers hand you a certificate whit your grade and a stamp+signature. This is translated and confirmed on the trancript of records which you can hand in as you return to Utrecht.

<b>STUDENT LIFE</b>
welcome & orientation programme
At arrival you receive information about everything that's important when living in Germany/Leipzig, to me this was sometimes a bit redundant but at least it is sufficient. There's also a pub-tour and a bus-tour in the first week. Furthermore there is a organisation for Trips and acitvities (WILMA) they do also have a pubnight every monday.
accommodation
I stayed at a Private studentflat (WG) together with 2 other german students, it was very nice and compared to Utrecht also affordable (€308 a month for 20 m2). Leipzig is a medium-sized city, you can eassily go everywhere by bike. As far as I know there is not really a no go area, if possible you should avoid the "Eisenbahnstraße" here crimerate is high. The student-union also offers you a place in one of their flats: <a href="http://www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de">www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de</a>
leisure & culture
Leipzig is the town where Goethe, Nietsche and Leibnitz studied (Goethe did not finish his lawschool though. Besides this it's the town of J.S. Bach so if you are in to high-culture the city offers a lot. If you more in to going out at night, there are plenty of places to go, from karaoke to techno and from hip-hop to punk: Leipzig has it all. You can also enrol for courses at the student sport union ( <a href="http://www.hochschulsport-leipzig.de">www.hochschulsport-leipzig.de</a> ). I took the running course there, and it was great, here you also get the chance to meet locals.
WILMA ( <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Wilma-Leipzig-475138545971795/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/Wilma-Leipzig-475138545971795/?fref=ts</a> ) also offers trips to Dresden, Prague, Berlin, Potsdam, Weimar and other places. Please subscribe to their newsletter

suggestions/tips
I would really recommend to take a bike with you or buy a bike, Leipzig is a real cycle town and even though you get an Oyster card for the public transport system, by bike you are often faster and you do not have to wait for bus, tram or train.

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I do recommend Leipzig University, they have a lot of interesting courses you can take and they always make place for Erasmus-students. What I particularly like about Leipzig is that you study within the regular program, so you are not in an Erasmus-class. Everything is well organized and for leisure the city offers you more than enough opportunities. Go and discover what Leipzig has to offer, you will see, you're more than willkommen.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
no.

## **2013-2014**

### **Report 1**

<b>preparation</b>
exchange/placement application process
An exchange to a German speaking country is a compulsory part of my Bachelor's program. Because of my interest in linguistics, I had some universities in mind, but I found it very difficult to make a decision on my own.
counselling/support at home university
Before I made the decision to go to Leipzig University I talked to one of my teachers at Utrecht University. We talked about my wishes and the possibilities to fulfill these wishes at the different universities. My teacher did not make the decision for me, which I really appreciate. Nevertheless it helped me to make up my mind and make the choice to go to Leipzig.
academic preparation
At Utrecht University I had already followed some courses in linguistics. To be even better prepared for my exchange, and of course also for the Master I wanted to do after my Bachelor, I followed some more courses in linguistics. I did not only take courses within German, but also within general linguistics.
language preparation
I actually did not prepare myself for the language in Germany. The goal of my exchange is namely to improve my language proficiency in German. I already spoke German before I left, it is after all the language I study at Utrecht University.
finances
On beforehand I worked extra hours and I already had some savings. I also receive financing from the government. Together with the Erasmus grant these made it possible to finance my stay abroad. The costs of living are not really high in Germany and also the rent in Leipzig is actually lower as it is in Utrecht.

**Germany – Universität Leipzig**

<b>study/placement abroad period</b>	
study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)	Before I left I roughly chose the courses I wanted to take. In Leipzig it turned out, that it was not possible to take all the courses I wanted and some courses would overlap with some courses in Utrecht. Therefore I chose to change my study plan a little bit. That was possible. In the end I chose to do some courses in linguistics and some courses in medieval literature. The descriptions of the courses are not always as clear as I would have wished them to be.
academic quality of education/placement activities	The quality of education overall is really high here. We are motivated to think about the literature we read, we discuss it and we ask questions and make suggestions to improve the research. We also discussed how to write research articles.
counselling/support at host institution/organisation	I received some help in planning my study programme and in the beginning it was made clear what things I had to do. During the semester it turned out I had to arrange even more things, which I found out on my own, more or less by accident. It was not said to me though, that I had to do those things too. My teachers in Leipzig are very supportive and want to help me when I have troubles. Fortunately I have not needed much help.
transfer of credits	
<b>student life</b>	
welcome/orientation programme	I did not take part in a really big orientation programme. It took place at the time I still had to be in the Netherlands to complete my courses in Utrecht. It was not compulsory and it turned out to be not really necessary, for I found out the most things on my own. I do have a buddy here, which is arranged by Leipzig University. She helped me with some arrangements and showed me the city. Probably things I otherwise would have learned also in the orientation programme.
accommodation	The accommodation is very good. I had to apply for a room. The rooms are not very expensive, actually cheaper than the rooms you can get in the Netherlands. I only have to go 2,5 kilometers by bike to university. And it is also possible to take the tram.
leisure/culture	There are many things to do here. You can go to the opera, cabaret, movies, museums etc. There is at least one long street with cafes and clubs, which are pretty nice. There are also a lot of churches here and they are very diverse. So if you want to go to church, there is enough choice.
suggestions/tips	Make sure you make some friends, wherever you like. It is very important you have personal contacts to avoid feeling lonely. Make a list of things you have to arrange. It gets longer during your stay, but it gives you a clear view of what you have to do. Make sure you do not have to do things for your home university anymore if possible. It is stressful and the first few weeks you will either not have or not have the possibilities to complete them.
<b>conclusions</b>	

**Germany – Universität Leipzig**

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

I would absolutely recommend Leipzig and Leipzig University. The communication is overall pretty good and it is such a nice city with a rich culture and many possibilities to do nice and cultural things.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

I wrote everthing in the paragraphs above.