

2018-2019

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

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|----------------------|---|
| e-mail address | <i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> s.jacobs2@students.uu.nl (only if someone is going to Switzerland) |
| faculty/college | Linguistik |
| level | <input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD |
| name study programme | Translation Studies (UU)/ German Language and Literature (UZH) |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| destination city & country | Zürich, Switzerland |
| name university abroad | University of Zurich |
| start date | 01 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy) |
| end date | 31 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy) |

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

| PREPARATION | |
|---|---|
| exchange application process | The application to go to Switzerland was quite okay. You always need some time to make everything in order, but as long as you don't miss any deadline everything will be fine. Not only Monique Hanrath helped my very well, but also Romy Beer from the UZH was really helpful. |
| counselling & support at Utrecht University | Perfect! |
| academic preparation | I had to have an C1 certificate of German if I wanted to follow courses at the German faculty. That was the only thing that gave me a lot of stress. But I already gave it a shot in January 2018, so I would have had enough time to do it again if necessary (luckily it wasn't). |
| language preparation | Same as above. |
| finances | Finance is an important thing if you want to go the Switzerland. Everything is extremely expensive and, I must say, you really can't do everything you like, even if you saved a bit of money. UZH has SEMP, it is their own version of the Erasmusgrant. They gave me 2000 CHF (Which they just give you in cash ...luckily Zurich is the most save city I've ever bin to). From this amount of money you can pay your groceries for 6 months, but you have to go to the cheaper supermarkets, like LIDL and ALDI. |

| STUDY ABROAD PERIOD | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| study programme (content and organisational issues) | German language and literature |
| academic quality of education activities | |

Switzerland - Universität Zürich

I found it quite good. It is a bit more conservative. Lots of Seminars where you just have to sit and listen. I think this is quite boring and not helping the student a lot. I've noticed that the students over here know a lot more "facts" than the students back home (including me). But a big plus is that the teachers are really motivated and enthusiastic to tell and explain a lot. They also have to really great courses: Die Poetikvorlesung and Schweizer Buchjahr! There much more interactive, I loved it.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Great. Just as well organized as the UU.

transfer of credits

I still have to receive my credits. But I am not in a hurry, so I did not ask for them yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

If you want to meet people easily, you really have to join Erasmus. I did not want to Erasmusthings anymore, so It is a lot harder. Swiss people are really nice and polite, but not so open that you can easily make friends. In Berlin it only took my one week to know so many people, this semester it took my over two weeks to have two people to have lunch with, and another 4 months to have a friendgroup of 4 people. (But it is worth it, because I'm staying here). But, at German everyone knows eachother, so although your not friends with them, you can easily find someone to have your coffeebreaks with. If you're a smoker (it's so oldfashioned here), you're in! Everyones smokes here, they even sell them in the cafetaria of the university (so stupid).

accommodation

I found a room half a year before the semester started. It's hard here but not so hard as in Utrecht. If you want to life in the centre you pay around 800 - 1000 CHF. But if you just look for studentdorms from the university or studentdorms more on the outside, it easy to find a room for 500 CHF. I have one for 438 CHF in Affoltern (Zürich).

leisure & culture

Nice but expensive. Still getting used to the prices.

suggestions/tips

Every week the ETH has a free cinema. The BQM Bar is also really nice and quite cheap. Than there is Ässbar, i's food restaurants would throw away, so Ässbar sells it for a small price! :)

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, if you want to be in a save but cool city. Yes, if you want to hear to most beautifull language there is. No, if your not so good in making friends easily (or join Erasmus!).

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Be the Dutch person and just ask people everything, talk German. They like Dutch people who are trying to talk German, or even Swissgerman. They rather speak English with you, than German with people from Germany. But trying is a big plus.