

2016-2017

Report 1

faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen/Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Vrije ruimte

destination city & country	Wroclaw, Poland
name university abroad	University of Wroclaw
start date	11 / SEP / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	16 / FEB / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	The preparation was adequate. It turned out that in communicating with my tutor that I had prepared too much! Still this is good, as I'd rather not have it the other way around.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Adequate, there was some trouble with uploading things in Osiris, but the staff was helpful and we fixed it.
academic preparation	
	The university here is of such a high level that it easily helped me with my subjects in Poland. I am very glad to study at this university. Near the end of my period I was anxious to get back, because I was looking for intellectual stimulation.
language preparation	
	Could've been better. It turns out that not as many Polish people speak good English as I had assumed. I think our perception is warped as we live in a country where a lot of people speak 'okay' English or can make themselves understandable, however this is not European-wide.
finances	
	Okay, I had received only 75% of the funds, or something similar, instead of the full amount, as the university had made a mistake. Otherwise it was doable.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	The courses varied. Some were interesting, others were okay. The courses I enjoyed most were at the Ditch faculty. The organisation was fine.
academic quality of education activities	
	This varied per course. Some were okay, others were fine. I had the feeling that in general the university in Utrecht is better organised and prepared than the university there.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	

The staff was very helpful!
transfer of credits
In process.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
The staff was helpful!
accommodation
The accomodation was okay. It was cheap and we had luck with the neighbors. We made good friends with them. I would recommend staying in a dorm as it makes it easier to become friends
leisure & culture
There was enough free time to do things.
suggestions/tips
Student life as we know it in the Netherlands is entirely absent.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, definitely! The period in Poland was amazing. I would certainly recommend it as you get a new insight in the world around us. Sometimes I get the feeling that we as Dutch people are raised in a sheltered way. This experience broadened my horizon.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Sometimes your expectations can be percieved as arrogance, even when it is not intended. Talking to a busdriver in English will not be appreciated for instance. Still, this is a minor drawback, as the experience as a whole is amazing!