



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	BETA
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Biology

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	25/07/2022
end date	30/11/2022

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process was a bit of a hassle for me. I had some trouble finding who I had to contact and what documents were actually expected from me. It all seemed a bit stressful, however eventually it turned out that it did not take that much time at all.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The University of Utrecht helped me by scheduling zoom calls with me and discussing with me which countries I could go to and how I had to prepare for this. I really wanted to go to Australia but was not sure if this was possible with the strict covid rules they had there the prior year. So these zoom calls were very helpful for informing me on the current situation in Australia and the options I had.

academic preparation

I did not have to do a lot of academic preparation, I had to send my grades to the Australian National University. This was because they had a GPA requirement (6.3 in the Netherlands). My grade was sufficient for this so I did not have to do any additional work.

language preparation

For language preparation I did not have to do a lot, I already spoke sufficient English which was really nice. This was also one of the reasons I wanted to study in Australia, I did not feel comfortable learning a whole new language like French or Spanish. To get in to ANU you had to either take some sort of test or have a grade 8 or higher for English in your final year of VWO. For me the later was the case. I did have some trouble with getting this information across to my exchange university, so they first did want me to take a test. However eventually everything worked out and they did get my grades.

finances

Financially I did kind of underestimate how expensive Australia would be. I did have enough means to get around, I increased my loan, I saved some money and got some financial support from my parents. I did not have a job in Australia because I wanted to enjoy some free time as well. However I do think that if I had this experience again I would get a job there. The payload in Australia is pretty high and I think that this would have helped me save some money for my road trip I did after my study.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I really enjoyed the study program at the Australian National University. I followed 4 different courses and they were all really nice. With one of these courses I went on a field trip for 5 days to the coast where we got to see



beautiful beaches. Organisational wise I also think that ANU is great. They help exchange students a lot with enrolling in courses, with which courses you can and can't take and a lot more. The communication within the courses was also really good, course generators keep you updated a lot and are also really quick to respond to messages.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was also very good, I feel like I have learned a lot of things during my time away. I also really liked that I had a lot of contact hours, including a lot of lectures and practicals. Apart from that I also had 2 field trips. These were very intense and exhausting but I do feel like I really learned to use the things we learned about in lectures in real life.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I was also very grateful for the counselling. The university was very keen on keeping an eye on their exchange students. They had a lot of wellbeing checks to see if we were adjusting to life abroad a bit. This made me feel very safe and is also one of the reasons I think why I experienced very little to no homesickness.

transfer of credits

I have not finished transferring my credits yet so I do not have any information on this part of the exchange experience.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation week at ANU was really nice, there were a lot of activities for all students, but also for exchange students in particular. There were BBQs, parties, wildlife lectures, movie night and a lot more. They also had very useful orientation activities, like getting to know the library there, helping you write an essay and stuff like that.

accommodation

I found my accommodation not through ANU, but through the internet. In my opinion the accommodations on campus were pretty expensive, which is why I searched for something else. I lived about 15 minutes away from campus, which was easily accessible with the bus. I really enjoyed my location because I lived next to a nature reserve and got to see kangaroos every night when I walked back from the supermarket. Something that does not happen when you live on the campus of ANU. The only downside of this accommodation was that the buses did not ride all night, so if I went out with friends I had to crash on somebody's couch.

leisure & culture

I really enjoyed Canberra, the city itself I did not find particularly pretty, but it is surrounded by a lot of nature. As I mentioned I saw kangaroos almost every day and this was the same for a lot of other cool animals. There are a lot of hiking trails you can take if you are into that. When you want to go clubbing Canberra does have some options but in my experience they die out pretty early in the night, but there are some places that stay busy most of the night. I also really enjoyed the type of music in the clubs here. Furthermore Canberra is a mere 3 hours ride from Sydney, which you can do with a bus that leaves every hour, they are not too expensive and really nice if you want to see Sydney for a weekend. Culture wise I think Australia is a lot like the Netherlands in the way that it is really westerly oriented.

suggestions/tips

After my study in Canberra I went on a road trip along the east coast of Australia and I would recommend this to anybody going to Australia. It was one of the best, if not the best experience of my life. The nature is beautiful, the people are super friendly and you get to experience so many cool things.



CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes I would definitely recommend this location, ANU has a beautiful campus and their education is really good. If you want to go to a big city maybe you should consider some other cities in Australia like Sydney and Melbourne, but me personally I did not mind the city being a little bit smaller.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No I think I have mentioned most things

Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)

Contact info available at the IO.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Law, Economics and Governance
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Economics and Business Economics

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	18 / 07 / 2022
end date	15 / 11 / 2022

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I have prepared the English language proficiency certificate, birth certificate, passport, and my study transcript from UU. Additionally, the Australian National University provides accommodation, making it incredibly convenient.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The Student Desk provided me with an English language proficiency certificate and my two-year transcript to fulfill the admission requirements. The Global Study Board also provided information regarding the IELTS requirement, although it is not necessary for students from USE.

academic preparation

I faced some difficulties while selecting my courses as we were unable to take any courses starting with the number '4' since these are honour programs for Australian students, so the left courses are limited, especially in their winter semester. Moreover, in order to enroll in EMET3007, I provided ANU with a detailed description of my econometrics coursework at UU

language preparation

the students from USE don't need extra English scores, student desk provided an English taught statement.

finances

I rent my apartment and suspend my mobile number to cut down my expenditures.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

At ANU, I took courses on Asian capital market(FINM), Forecasting(EMET), Health economics(ECON) and Graphical Data Analysis(STAT). in addition to STAT course, the courses I enrolled in are quite different from these at UU. For example, the FINM course in Australia is especially about global environment, not too much calculation stuffs, however, at UU, we focus more on European market and learn more about quantitative knowledge.

academic quality of education activities

At first, I felt somewhat uncomfortable with the economics and finance courses as they seemed more focused on popularizing knowledge. However, after receiving handouts and completing assignments, I was able to grasp the main ideas of each course and began to feel more at ease.



counselling & support at receiving university abroad
ANU always offers various activities and international programs, including free pizza events and concerts hosted by their music department.
transfer of credits
I initially forgot to inform the examiner board when I sent the transcript to UU. Please remember to transfer the credits on Osiris.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I arrived in Australia two weeks late, so I missed the orientation program. However, when I met the global program board staff, they provided additional welcome program to visit a museum!
accommodation
The accommodation is quite satisfactory, as it is conveniently located near the school, bus stops, and shops in the vicinity.
leisure & culture
We have “spring holiday” in Australia, and the transportation is convenience as well. The food is more delicious in Australia since plenty of Asian people living there.
suggestions/tips
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Make friends with people also living in your student accommodation.2. Apply for supermarket bonus card and don't forget to redeem the points.3. Before purchasing things, find recharge cards in the supermarkets

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would highly recommend ANU for several reasons. Firstly, Australia is a unique continent with distinct flora and fauna that are unlike any other place. Additionally, the opposite seasons in the southern hemisphere provide a chance to experience summer in Australia, rather than winter in the Netherlands. As an Asian student, I appreciate that ANU offers numerous courses focused on Asia, making it an ideal choice for me. Overall, I highly recommend ANU as an excellent educational institution
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Apply visa as early as you can. Due to its delay, I missed the first two weeks at ANU
Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)
Contact info available at the IO.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Sociology

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University (ANU)
start date	25 / 07 / 2022
end date	11 / 11 / 2022

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The application process is quite lengthy. From the orientation process till the moment that I was officially nominated at ANU took about 4 months; from October till February. After being nominated by UU you need to get officially accepted by ANU. For this step you need to provide a few documents, like a transcript of grades and proof of English language proficiency. After this there is a lot of waiting to be officially accepted and to be able to choose your courses. Overall, the orientation process and retrieval of all the needed information took the longest. It is not that difficult but does take quite some time.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Any questions I had were very quickly answered. Besides that, I do not have much experience with the counselling and support from UU
academic preparation
Academically I had to make sure that my average was higher than a 6.3, which was luckily quite easy. I did not do any academic preparation beyond that.
language preparation
As I was already quite proficient in English before going, I did not undertake any language preparation. As my grade for English in high school was higher than an 8, I also did not have to take an English test to proof my proficiency.
finances
I had saved up quite a lot of money before going and also used the loan from the government (DUO). Another thing I did was put my public transport card on hold, because of which I got €104,42 per month from the government. Keep in mind that your expenses in Australia will be quite high anyways in terms of rent, groceries and all other expenses. I also travelled after my semester ended which increased my expenses quite severely.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The university offered a lot of very interesting courses. I was especially interested in courses that I could not take at UU. That is why I ended up choosing two Indigenous courses, a forensic psychology course and conflict studies course. I also really liked the fact that you could make your own study program as there were a lot of time slots per course to choose from. This way you can choose yourself to for example take certain days off.
academic quality of education activities



The lectures were of good quality, the lecturers knew very well what they were talking about, and the topics were very interesting. However, I feel like the academic quality was a little bit lower in terms of how challenging it was. I did have to hand in a lot more assignments during the semester, so I did have to put in more time into the courses than in The Netherlands.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I was not in need of specific counselling or support, so I have no experience with that. But, whenever I had a question about anything via e-mail, they were very quick with responding and were very helpful.

transfer of credits

My credits have not yet been processed. I did immediately after I received my last grade, get my transcript from ANU, which is needed to get the credits at UU, so that in itself is luckily quite an easy process.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Even though it was not the beginning of the new university year as I arrived in semester 2, there was still a big orientation programme organised. The first week, Orientation Week, was organised by the university especially for exchange students to get familiar with the university. The week after that, Bush Week, the Hall I lived at organised a lot of activities to get to know people.

accommodation

For accommodation I lived on campus, at the Burton and Garran Hall (B&G). This was arranged through ANU, which in my opinion was the best thing I did. It was more expensive than living off campus, but the experience of living on campus was definitely worth it for me. This way I met a lot of Australian students and not just other international/exchange students.

leisure & culture

There were quite some options to participate in clubs and activities. Through my hall there were a lot of sport and cultural activities you could join (for free), but also through the university self. What I did was play volleyball for the university, but also participated in activities through B&G.

suggestions/tips

During Orientation and Bush Week there is a market-day on which all the different clubs have a stand. This is an easy way to see what the options are for activities etc. Also, the main way of communicating used by ANU, the Halls and clubs is Facebook, so make sure you have that and maybe already look at activities coming up.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I would recommend this university. Something to keep in mind is that this university is not in one of Australia's big cities. Even though Canberra is the capital, it feels more like a town. What made the experience amazing for me was the fact that I lived on campus and met a lot of amazing people through that, but the location is something to keep in mind.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you have the opportunity to go on an exchange, do it! No matter what destination you end up choosing, you'll meet so many amazing people and have a lot of unique experiences, so just go. And do not forget to just have fun and meet a lot of new and amazing people along the way.

Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)



Universiteit Utrecht

Contact info available at the IO.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	University College Roosevelt
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Liberal Arts & Sciences

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	25/07/2022
end date	19/11/2022

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The ANU exchange application went smoothly, and they have tons of online facilities and info sessions to guide you along, although you probably won't need them, as it is mostly self-explanatory. The UCR exchange application, on the other hand, was quite a hassle and needed some preparation. I truly recommend filling out your general idea of your curriculum instead of wasting time trying to make your study plan watertight, as there is nothing wrong with changing things later, and the board of examiners and your tutor just want to make sure you would still meet all your requirements.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Definitely adequate! Although the UCR exchange coordinator was changed during my process (and some administrative issues arose during my application), both the UU and UCR coordinators are very approachable and helpful.
academic preparation	Not really needed, as it was the same level of courses and department as my home university.
language preparation	Not really needed either, as everything is in English.
finances	Australia is an expensive country to live and travel in. I ended up working and saving up both back home and in Australia, and I just scraped by. I would recommend having more than enough to sustain yourself, as it can get very pricey if you want to do activities and travel. You can always find ways to make little money go a long way, but even rent is twice that of the Netherlands in most places. And if you travel all the way to Australia anyway, I suggest using your breaks to explore the country.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	Good, the courses are interesting and very engaging. Some departments have more trips and give more personalized guidance than others, so I would recommend choosing your courses wisely. Choosing courses was a little difficult as there are so many, and some are not on offer or will not let you in. And in my case, I was only informed of not getting into one of my courses the first week, which caused some stress in selecting another course. Thankfully, all ANU staff are quick to resolve any issues and give plenty of advice (at least, in my experience). If you have any questions about courses, feel free to contact me, but I can't promise to know



anything outside my department.
academic quality of education activities
Good! I was very satisfied with the courses, as they were fun and included tons of laboratory and field work that I lacked at UCR. The practical work is of a high level (depending on your department), but most professors still make it easy to follow. Overall, easy to learn difficult concepts and fun to follow, in my experience.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Global programs (exchange coordination of ANU) was helpful, but sometimes took a long time to respond.
transfer of credits
This has not been processed yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
The orientation week was a bit dull as it was halfway through the year on the Australian school calendar. There were mostly essay writing and intro to uni life workshops, which feel a bit redundant as a 2 nd or 3 rd year student. Bush week, however, was organized the week after the orientation week by the student association and included lots of exciting events. Joining societies and clubs also creates more events to join in these weeks.
accommodation
Accommodation on campus is quite hard to get, as the dorms are filled within a matter of days and exchange students don't get a guarantee of housing. However, there are plenty of other living options if you want to save money or live in a more social arrangement. UniLodge has dorms, too, in and outside of Canberra. Rooms in sharehouses can easily be found in Facebook groups. I ended up living in a UniLodge dorm in a suburb outside the city. Despite the commute being short and the buses being cheap and frequent, it is quite inconvenient to travel every day. If you have the money and manage to get a dorm, living on campus is a good option to reduce commuting times and be closer to other students. In my opinion, a sharehouse close to the city centre seems like the perfect solution, but that's just what I picked up from talking to others.
leisure & culture
I can not resist being honest: Canberra is boring and not as culturally diverse as bigger Melbourne and Sydney. But ANU itself is lively if you find the right clubs and groups to join. There are heaps of different societies you can join and student-made concerts, plays and the like you can see, that cost little money. And besides that, there are some events around Canberra that are not too bad, although infrequent. The botanical gardens, the museums (especially questacon!), the hikes around town, the sunset cinema, and the verity lane market are definitely recommended! If you want to experience more culture and do active sports: allocate some time to travel.
suggestions/tips
In short, I would recommend saving up lots of money, travelling loads in your breaks, choosing the right courses, joining heaps of clubs, and finding accommodation close to campus.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Absolutely! ANU provides a high standard and engaging education, besides giving options for a lively student life.
do you have any additional advice or comments?



Yes, don't forget to travel loads, and book your flights early! But don't worry to set everything in stone, lots of opportunities will present themselves, both academic and experience-wise.

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Contact info available at the IO.



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

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
how did you travel to and from your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	11 / 02 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	26 / 06 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application deadline was in December 2018, so my application process in Utrecht started very early. This also gave me a lot of time to prepare and think carefully about how to use my time abroad. The application process at the ANU started about half a year before. This went very smooth, as their response time was always less than a week in my case.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

As there were many fires in Australia right before I went, it was quite uncertain for a long time whether I would be allowed to go. During this uncertain time, I was in direct contact with the international office and even had an in person meeting with my contact person, which was very reassuring.

academic preparation

I did not have to do any academic preparation, since I took first year courses in Australia.

language preparation

I did not do any language preparation.

finances

Australia is quite expensive, especially if you decide to live in campus accommodation, as I did. I think I spent about 1.5 times the money I usually spent back home (including fun trips to Sydney etc.)

(interrupted) STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

welcome & orientation programme

The semester at the ANU starts with O-week (which stands for orientation week). During this week there are many free activities (often with free food :)) through which you can get to know the campus, university and societies. It is also a great week to meet friends. The Friday before O-week is already a special orientation day for international students. Furthermore many on-campus accommodations have their own orientation events before O-week, so I would recommend you make sure you arrive quite a bit before the start of the semester. (My lease started the 5th of February, which was also the official move-in day and the start of the orientation at my accommodation).

study programme (content and organisational issues)



I took quite a few different courses, history, economics and programming. These were all introductory, so there were many students in each course. However, tutorials were often in rather small groups (10-15 people), which was really nice. I did not occur any organisational issues.

academic quality of education activities

I think the workload was not that high, however since I have not taken any similar courses in Utrecht, it is hard to really compare them.

transfer of credits

This hasn't happened yet.

CORONAVIRUS CONSEQUENCES

support guidance of host university

ANU Global Programs is the organisation at the ANU that arranges everything for exchange students. From the moment the coronavirus became an issue they kept us posted of everything via e-mail and offered assistance if necessary (I did not use this). Furthermore, anyone in on-campus accommodation was offered to terminate their lease if they left. This luckily saved me thousands of dollars.

support guidance of home university

Aside from generic information I did not receive much support from the UU, although it was offered. In my case it was just not really necessary.

online offer and quality of digital courses

The quality of the online courses was pretty good. All lectures were either recorded or broadcast live (and then also recorded). I did not have to watch any lectures of previous years or such. Furthermore, all tutorials were held via zoom and there weren't really any issues with that. Especially in my history courses there was still much student participation. I did not feel like the quality of the online education was significantly less than the on-campus education.

suggestions/tips on digital exchange

Make sure you stay/get in touch with people from you courses or other people from the guest university.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, ANU has a great community which is very welcoming. Especially when you stay in on-campus accommodation (and arrive early) it is very easy to make friends. Furthermore the location is very beautiful. For example you can just take an afternoon off to hike up black mountain, which leads to spectacular views. However if you are looking for a big city or an extravagant night life than Canberra might not be the best choice.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	University College Roosevelt
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Liberal Arts & Sciences (history and literature major)

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	23 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	17 / 11 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

Looking back on the application process, the first thing that stands out is that it took very long. Having to complete forms for UCR, UU and ANU, my application process began in the Fall semester of 2017. This meant I had to have an idea of what university I wanted to go to, the courses I wanted to do etc. an entire year prior to my exchange semester. It takes a bit of planning to prepare for this in advance! The process itself wasn't necessarily difficult, but it does require quite some time and effort.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

As I had to communicate to both UCR and UU, the communication was sometimes a bit more difficult but everyone in the international office at UU was extremely helpful. They also responded to my emails quite quickly and managed to make the application process go smoothly.

academic preparation

I did not have to do much academic preparation for my semester abroad. The only planning I had to do was related to UCR's requirements; you to do a certain number of courses in the ACC and your major department. You simply have to plan your courses to meet these requirements.

language preparation

As the language of instruction at UCR is English, no language preparation was required for me.

finances

The UU application process requires you to make a budget, which was very helpful. It really gave me a good idea of how much this semester would cost and what expenses I should be prepared for. Australia, in general, is a bit more expensive than the Netherlands, which means I was going to spend a bit more on my monthly expenses e.g. groceries and rent. Also the visa for Australia is quite expensive, which is something I had to keep in mind. With the flight, visa and deposit for my accommodation at ANU the few months prior to my departure were especially expensive. I did save up some money before leaving, which definitely helped out.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

ANU allowed me to choose my own courses from all of their colleges. There's only a very small number of courses that is not open to exchange students. This allowed me to not only do courses in their College of Arts and Social Sciences, but also one in the College of Asia and the Pacific. I chose to do the following courses: History of Modern China, Revolution and Romanticism in British Literature 1789-1832, Democracy and Dissent: Europe Since 1945, Introduction to International Relations. All of these courses were extremely interesting,



were a definite addition to my current bachelor programme and taught me a lot of new things. The course on modern China definitely gave me much more insight into a part of history that is only briefly talked about in courses at UCR, and the Introduction to IR course was something that I was personally very interested in but did not fit into my programme at UCR.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of the academics at ANU is great. I definitely thought the lectures were very thought provoking, the tutorials taught me plenty and were very successful at creating discussions and interesting debates. Every single one of my instructors was extremely knowledgeable in their field, were able to answer questions, and were very helpful in assisting me with questions about any assignments. In terms of academics, I definitely think ANU is at least comparable to UU and that some courses I took were definitely more difficult than some courses I took at UCR.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The ANU has a Global Programs team that communicated with us before, throughout and after the semester. They were extremely helpful and were able to nudge you into the right direction if you had any other questions or difficulties. I cannot say much more about counselling at ANU, as I haven't used these services.

transfer of credits

My credits have not yet been transferred.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme at ANU is really great. There's two days especially for international students, organized by the Global Programs team. The first introduces you to the university with campus tours, gives you a small tour of the city centre of Canberra and helps you register for your courses, get your student card etc. This means that they help you take care of everything you should before you start the semester, which was super useful! The second day of introduction for international students was introduced me to a bunch of other exchange students from all around the world through a type of sports day. They even taught us some Aussie rules football which was very fun! You can also participate in the regular ANU orientation, which has a ton of activities such as library tours, writing seminars and more. Every college/accommodation also has its own orientation programme with a bunch of activities and events, such as parties and more to help you get adjusted and meet new people.

accommodation

ANU can offer guaranteed accommodation on campus when applying before a certain date, which to me was really great. I applied to live at Burton & Garran Hall and got offered a room there, too. This accommodation was great, had a very lively student body, very helpful staff and a bunch of fun events throughout the semester. I think B&G was a great mix of privacy and a lively student community, as you do have your own room in a separate block, but the central block holds the shared kitchen and other common rooms. I also thought that B&G was a very affordable college.

leisure & culture

Canberra is a smaller city, compared to for example Sydney or Melbourne, but still offers plenty to see. There's quite a few museums to visit, an art gallery, the National Library, Parliament House and there's a few great hikes you can do in the area. The city centre is also very fun, with a bunch of cool restaurants, some pubs and other activities such as the cinema or escape rooms. I think Canberra is a great place to explore. The ANU Global Programs also offers multiple trips during the semester that also allow you to see more of Australia. There's a weekend trip to the Blue Mountains (which I did, and was extremely fun!), a surf camp and also a week long trip to Uluru during the break.



suggestions/tips

When going to the ANU, I would definitely recommend going on some of the trips that Global Programs offers. The Blue Mountains trip was extremely fun and I have heard a lot of good things about the two others as well. It's an opportunity to get to know other international students better, while also visiting other parts of Australia. Another tip is using the Greyhound buses to get around. I did a trip of approximately three and a half weeks traveling the east coast. Greyhound offers bus tickets Melbourne-Brisbane and Melbourne-Cairns (or the other way around) for a very affordable price. There's a bus stop in Canberra too!

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend the ANU and Canberra to others. The ANU is a great university, offers a bunch of different courses and is super helpful to all of their international students. You can choose from a very large number of courses and the accommodation guarantee is also a big plus! I very much enjoyed my time at the ANU, met a bunch of new friends, did some courses I wouldn't do back at UCR and learned to look at things from an entirely different perspective. I also think Canberra is very fun! Compared to other cities in Australia it's very small, it was still quite a big change for me. It offers everything a bigger city would, just feels a little bit less overwhelming!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

My advice for anyone who wants to go on exchange is to definitely just do it. It will definitely cost a lot of time, money and effort but it's more than worth it! The experience is amazing, you'll meet tons of new people and get to experience an entirely different place and culture. Make sure to plan ahead, know how much you'll have to spend and make sure you're well prepared pre-departure to take away a lot of stress once you arrive.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's (I am in my bachelor)
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	National University of Australia
start date	18 / 02 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	22 / 6 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

For me the application process was long and exhausting, but worth it. First I needed to apply in Utrecht and the ANU was my second choice. When I got in I needed to apply again for the ANU. I needed to provide every document in English! This is important to know beforehand because you need an official translator, you are not allowed to translate documents yourself. When I got an conformation from the ANU everything went really fast and the ANU is helpful and they respond fast (even in the holidays).

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I did not have counselling or support from Utrecht University. There were problems with my application, the help I got was too late so I communicated and solved the problems myself with the help of the ANU. If there are any problems with your application after you got accepted by Utrecht University I would recommend to search contact on your own with the ANU.

academic preparation

I did not prepare academic, I went on exchange in my second year (semester two) and I would recommend to go at the same time, or in your third year. So you already studied long enough to be experienced enough to study in a different environment.

language preparation

I followed only courses in English in my second year to get used to it. But I did not do anything extra besides that. If you can easily follow courses in English at the Utrecht University you should be fine.

finances

Australia is expensive but Canberra is less expensive than other places in Australia. I worked before so I could safe money. Stopped my OV-Chipkaart so I would receive 90 euros extra each month. I travelled around two months in total and lived in Canberra for four months and spend around 7000 euros. You can always spend more or less if you want to, my friends spend around 10.000 euros during their exchange. I would recommend not to work in Australia, it is hard to get a job as an exchange student (non-native English speaker), it consumes a lot of time and stress.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The ANU is a really good university but in the beginning some things were not really clear, after a while when you understand the system it is easy to work with. And if you don't understand it, there are always people who are willing to help. (think about grades, schedule, courses , handing in assignments etc.)



academic quality of education activities
The academic level is high, it is around the same level as in Utrecht, especially if you follow level two/three (2000-3000) courses. I would not recommend to only follow hard courses because there is a big workload and they expect a lot from you. I followed three level two/three courses and one level one. This was enough to be academically challenging but not too much so I still had enough free time.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The counselling & support at the ANU is really good. They provide a lot of information about mental health and being abroad for a long time. There is free support if you need it and you can always contact the inbound office if something is wrong. They also check upon you once in a while. Also every dorm provides help and (professional) people who you can trust.
transfer of credits
I did not transfer my credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
Make sure you are there during or half time during the orientation week. This is the week before classes begin and there are a lot of fun, free activities to meet new people. They have an orientation week for the university, the exchange program and the dorms.
accommodation
I lived at B&G and I would highly recommend, most of the friends I made were from B&G. It is a close, warm and welcoming community (also to exchange/international students). They organise a lot of fun activities especially because the city is not that exciting. But the people there are amazing and I had a really good time. The second accommodation I would recommend it Fenner, friends of mine were there and they also really enjoyed it. I would not recommend uniLodge because it is harder to meet people and make friends, they are more individualized because a lot of people already lived in Canberra for a longer time so there social live is outside the house.
leisure & culture
I loved the culture in Canberra, it is a real university city. Because the city is a little bit boring people try to make the best out of it, that is why there are a lot of free activities and people really try there best to have a good time. I always felt really safe (even if I walked home alone in the evening/night). There are also a lot of (sports) clubs you can join that is a lot of fun.
suggestions/tips
Try to live on campus because that is where the social life is. Also plan trips with your friends to other cities because it is easy to take the bus to Sydney or Melbourne. There is a mid-term break of two week, I would recommend traveling then, it was really fun and the teachers are understanding if you are an exchange student and you are traveling (so sometime you are allowed to hand in assignments later if you ask).

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would recommend it if you are looking for a nice environment with a rich social life, but still some academic challenge. I had a great mix of domestic and international friends what definitely made my exchange better. So if you want to meet more Australians go live at BnG or Fenner because they mix really well with the international and exchange students.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	University College Utrecht
level	bachelor's master's
name study programme	Liberal Arts and Sciences

destination city & country	Canberra, Australia
name university abroad	Australian National University
start date	25/02/2019
end date	30/06/2019

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	<p>The preparation procedure takes the most time. You don't only have preparation to do for UCU/UU but also for the host university. If you make sure to do everything over a period of time, so a few things per week, in advance, then it shouldn't be too much work. I, also, really recommend double checking things with another person, especially your motivation letter. I found it really useful to do the application together with other friends who were also going on exchange.</p> <p>The ANU provides an in-depth instruction booklet for exchange applications providing different steps for different things. Again, if you spread this out over time, then you shouldn't be stressed about your application. Additionally, I made A LOT of checklists which really helped me to finalize my preparation. I found this the most effective way to get everything done and to be prepared for my semester abroad.</p>
counselling & support at Utrecht University	<p>Utrecht University organized a pre-departure meeting for all students going on exchange to Australia. Unfortunately, there weren't any students that had been to Canberra but it was still good to find out more about life as an international student in Australia. Fortunately, I met someone at UCU who went to ANU and I was able to ask her a lot of questions.</p>
academic preparation	<p>For UCU, you have to get a GPA of a 3.0 in order to go on exchange. I think this is the hardest part and I struggled a bit to get a high enough GPA but by working hard and completing all your courses it should be doable. Additionally, if your GPA is a bit lower than a 3.0, you can always negotiate with the Exam Board with the help from your tutor.</p> <p>For picking courses at the host university, I really recommend to just take anything that interests you even if it doesn't relate to your course. I really recommend taking a course that relates to Australia, such as a course about Indigenous culture and history.</p>
language preparation	<p>No preparation needed.</p>
finances	<p>I saved up a lot and got the student loan from the Dutch government while I was abroad. Luckily, your Australian student visa allows you to work. I wasn't able to work as job opportunities are quite limited, especially for international students, but there definitely is something out there if you ask around and check carefully. I would recommend looking into jobs before you leave, and in Canberra talk to other international/exchange students to find out their experiences with trying to find a job.</p>



STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Overall the courses were well organized. I only had one course which had a new lecturer so the course was quite disorganized at the start but that was fixed quite fast. The content of my courses was very rich and I have learned a lot on exchange.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of the education is very good. A few of my courses did excursions to help students to really understand the content of the courses. Many courses also had guest lectures which really helped students to understand concepts.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The Global Programs, the office that deals with exchange students, was very helpful before I arrived and during my stay at ANU. They are very responsive to emails, in the beginning especially they helped a lot with getting into courses and other inquiries.

transfer of credits

The transfer of credits fulfils the amount that I need for my home university! At ANU they use units and 6 units is equal to 7.5 ECTS. Additionally, one of my courses counts as a 200 course which means that I am able to complete the track back at UCU.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The Global Programs together with Barefoot Downunder organized a few days of orientation in Sydney. I really recommend doing this trip as you get to meet other exchange students and I made a lot of friends. Before the orientation week, Global Programs organized some events in Canberra for exchange students as well. There was a week of general orientation organized by the ANU. There were a lot of events organized, mostly free, which keeps you constantly busy. It was an amazing introweek where I got a lot information about extracurricular activities, about my courses, about Canberra and other things to do on campus.

accommodation

I stayed in a residence on campus, Fenner Hall, and I absolutely loved it! The community is amazing and I met so many people here as well, other exchange students but also many Australians. The hall organizes many activities for residents to participate in. The hall is, also, located in the middle of campus. The accommodation on campus is more expensive but I think it allows you to really get the college experience and makes it very easy to meet new people.

leisure & culture

The residential halls offer many activities such as sports activities, a commencement ball, movie nights, barbeques etc. These activities give you the perfect opportunity to meet people and participate. ANUSA, the student association, and Global Programs, also, organize many fun activities that you can take part in. Additionally, there are two gyms on campus that you can subscribe to, they also offer martial arts, swimming, dance etc.

suggestions/tips

I would recommend living on campus and doing some extracurricular activities.

CONCLUSIONS



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

Yes! Canberra is nothing compared to the rousing cities of Melbourne and Sydney but I actually really enjoyed this. It is very quiet in Canberra but if you have the right group of friends then it is a very fun place. You have the lake which you can bike around (I really recommend getting a bike) or having barbeques there. The university felt more laidback compared to UCU and I really enjoyed the courses. Being in Australia is amazing and being able to live in an Australian city for half a year is even cooler. During the semester, you really get the chance to visit places, with a two-week holiday and many long weekends. You can easily travel and people are so laidback that you can easily feel at home.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Just make the most of your exchange because 6 months are going to fly by!

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