

# **ERASMUS+ STUDIES - UU Report**

Every student receiving an Erasmus+ STUDIES grant has to submit a UU report as well. Writing the UU report is one of the university's conditions to receive and keep the grant. Only after submitting this report your Erasmus+ grant will be awarded definitively.

Your report will be **published** (anonymously!) on the <u>UU study abroad destinations webpage</u> to inform UU students preparing an exchange or research period abroad. Not all of them are Dutch-speaking, therefore we prefer to receive reports written in English.

Please use Tab to go to the next (text) box. family name\* first name\* student number\* optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly) my e-mail address ☐ yes: my weblog ☐ yes: permission to publish my Facebook account ☐ yes: contact details\*\* other (social) media ☐ yes: my contact details cannot be published on the UU webpage, but I do give the International Office permission to forward my e-mail address to individual See end note for \* and \*\* students interested in my host university abroad: faculty/college Geosciences level □ bachelor's ☐ master's □ PhD name study programme Global Sustainability Science destination city & country Prague, Czech Republic how did you travel to your Plane destination? name university abroad **Charles University** start date 26 / 09 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy) end date 30 / 01 / 2023 (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 process was quite easy. The Utrecht University site makes a clear overview of each step that you need to take. It also has a nice overview of all the deadlines that are important to keep in mind. The predeparture meeting was very helpful and I highly recommend attending if you are selected. counselling & support at Utrecht University The counsellign and support at Utrecht University is great. The International Office always responded quickly via email and I always received the help that I needed for my application.



# academic preparation

There was no need for me to prepare academically.

## language preparation

I personally did not do any language preparation since this was not necessary, but Charles University does offer a Czech language course which gives you ECTs.

# finances

Czech Republic is pretty cheap compared to the Netherlands and with the Erasmus grant and the public transport refund, I didn't experience financial problems. I would recommend saving up some money to travel around the neighbouring countries of Czechia, since there is a lot to see.

# STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

# study programme (content and organisational issues)

When you arrive in Prague you receive a login for the system of Charles University and that's where you have to sign up of the courses that you have already chosen during the application process. However, if you choose to take courses outside your faculty, there is a big chance that there is no spot for you. In my case, this was not the end of the world, since I was able to find other courses that interested me, but it is important to keep certain deadlines in mind (specifically the learning agreement)

# academic quality of education activities

In my experience, the courses were not difficult at all. I had two courses that had a pretty high workload, but all the other courses were easy to pass. However, the selection for environmental-related courses was not great, which forced me to take courses that I was not used to. In hindsight, this was nice because I learned new things I normally would not have.

# counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counseling and support at Charles University were all right. The Erasmus Office helped me if I had a problem and they did not too long to respond. As I said earlier, I had a problem with my course selection and found it easier to fix this over the phone.

# transfer of credits

I have not fully completed this yet. I have received my transcript of records and my certificate of attendance. This was all done over email, but I do not know how the credits will be transferred exactly.

# STUDENT LIFE

# welcome & orientation programme

at the beginning of the semester, there was a welcome orientation day in which we were given information on the application of the courses and how to get the student card. Besides that we were given a tour of the campus. I highly recommend attending this day because you get to meet a lot of people. On this day you are also introduced to the Erasmus club that I also recommend joining, because they have a lot of fun activities and trips that you can take with discounts.

# accommodation

I chose to stay at a dormitory at Charles university. If I'm honest it wasn't the best accommodation to stay in but I kind of got used to it and I did meet a lot of people there that I am now friends with. on top of that the accommodation by Charles university is very cheap. However, if you choose to stay for a year I would not recommend staying at a dormitory because it's uncomfortable and their services aren't the best. The dorm that



I stayed at was situated 30 minutes from my campus by tram which wasn't too bad but I know some people had to travel almost an hour because of how far their campus was.

## leisure & culture

Prague is a really beautiful city and there is a lot to do and see but I also recommend visiting other cities and Czech Republic like Pilsen and Brno. I also recommend visiting some neighbouring countries like Germany Poland and Austria. there is an organization called OhMyPrague that organizes parties but also organizes trips to Budapest, Krakow and other cities. They have an Instagram that you can follow and can of sign up to all their events.

# suggestions/tips

if you know that you do not want to stay in a dormitory make sure that you find a place to stay as soon as possible because it is not very easy to find a place after you have already arrived in Prague.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

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

I would definitely recommend Prague as a destination. it's a beautiful city and there is so much to see. There are a lot of internationals in the city and you get to meet so many people from so many different places.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Even though most Czech people have a basic grasp of the English language it is nice to know a few check words like hello, goodbye and thank you.

Save this UU report for your own records and upload the report in your Erasmus+ file/application in Osiris within 30 days after finishing your study abroad period and in ANY case before the final deadline!

NOTE: Please **upload in Word (.docx)** so we can delete your \*personal details between processing for grant purposes and publication on the website for future UU exchange students. \*\*Contact details will only be included if and where permission has been given.