

2022-2023

Report 1

permission to publish contact details** <i>See end note for * and **</i>	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input type="checkbox"/> yes: j.m.b.vonk@students.uu.nl other (social) media <input type="checkbox"/> yes: Instagram: @baukelienvonk
faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Art History

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
name university abroad	Universität Wien
start date	1 / 03 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	<p>The application process went pretty smoothly for me. Utrecht provided me with good information and it was clear what to submit. It was rather challenging though with the University of Vienna, because in comparison to Utrecht they handle things quite last minute. Until two weeks before the semester started (March 1st), it was unclear which subjects would be taught. This made filling in the learning agreement feel a little random, as I was putting in courses from previous years.</p>
counselling & support at Utrecht University	<p>At first it was a little unclear who would be my exchange coordinator at UU, but once that became clear all went very smoothly. The international office replies very fast and really helped me with a lot of my stress.</p>
academic preparation	<p>I knew that I would be following art history courses at Uni Wien, just like I do in Utrecht, which is why I didn't feel like I prepared a lot academically for my exchange. I would like to say that I wrote my bachelors thesis (15EC) in the first semester. Although this is unconventional and collided a bit with the original bachelors programme, it did work out well for me. So for anyone who is struggling with this dilemma. It works fine to first write your thesis and then go on an exchange in the second semester.</p>
language preparation	<p>I wanted to study at a German-speaking University. As an art historian I chose to go to Vienna. My German was already on a good level because I have lived in Germany for five years. However, I decided to follow some</p>

courses at the Germanistik faculty at the UU to prepare for my exchange. There I discussed with the teacher whether I should take an additional language course in Vienna and she advised against it in my case.

finances

In Vienna I tried to pay for my rent with the Erasmus fee and a little of my savings. I would advise to request a public transportation compensation at DUO (which requires you to stop your Studentenreisproduct) for it will give you an extra of €125,- a month. In Vienna a Semester ticket is a one-time deposit of €75. With the compensation you can save a lot of money and I benefited a lot from it.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

A fun thing about the University of Vienna is that they offer new courses every semester. This gives students the opportunity to learn about a lot of exciting and specific topics. This also means, however, that it can feel a bit unstructured. I struggled a lot with the 'everything-will-eventually-get-clear-mindset'. I prefer to have a clear schedule at the beginning of the course where everything that is expected of the students is written down in advance.

academic quality of education activities

I felt like there was less pressure at the Uni Wien. Because it is less structured than in Utrecht, the professors are also more relaxed. What I found to be the most different from the UU was the examination. For three courses I had to write multiple choice exams, of which two were online. The questions oftentimes felt more like a test of attendance, than really a way to see if you've understood the material. This for me was a bit disappointing.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Other than a few emails I didn't receive a lot of support. The international office and my exchange coordinator did answer my emails rather quickly, but I didn't have much to do with them.

transfer of credits

The deadlines and semesterdates do not line up with those at the UU. Where a UU student would have finished the year before July, the semester in Vienna runs up to September, making the transfer of credits and deadlines a bit more stressful.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme was one meeting of 1.5 hrs. Other than that there wasn't anything planned for new students. I understood from a student who had been there since September that art history did organise a library tour and a little welcoming for Erasmus students at the beginning of the year.

accommodation

The university doesn't offer accommodation. I looked on the sites of OeAD and Home4Students. Via them I found a room for a reasonable price.

leisure & culture

Vienna is a good place to experience culture. Definitely towards the summer, the city is bubbling with activities and events. I would recommend going to an ESN event. I went to a photo challenge in my first week and I made a lot of valuable contacts that lasted until the end of my exchange (and will probably last for a long time).

suggestions/tips

I lived quite far outside of the city center. For some this is a nice opportunity to get away from the busy city, but for me it was frustrating having to travel 50 minutes to get somewhere in the city centre. I advise the 5th 7th and 3rd district.

Also, a good escape from the warm city centre is the Donauinsel. You can swim in the beautiful Donau and have some mean picnicks there.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend it to students who are curious to learn about unconventional topics. However, if you are a student who likes to stick to a strict schedule then this might not be the best option.

Regardless of the university, the city is absolutely magnificent and definitely worthy of your time.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

no

Report 2

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

destination city & country	Prague, Czech Republic
how did you travel to your destination?	to: car, back: flibus
name university abroad	Charles University (Univerzita Karlova)
start date	21 / 09 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	28 / 01 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I participated in all the meetings that were offered as preparation for the exchange in order to inform myself, and I researched the Utrecht University website as well as the Charles University website carefully for the application process.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

If I had questions I emailed the international office, whom would always respond quickly and clearly, so that was very helpful.

academic preparation

There wasn't any preparation required for the courses that I would be taking at the host faculty.

language preparation

Even though the classes would be in English, I took a minor in Czech Language the year prior to familiarize myself with the language and culture so that it would be more accessible to my during my stay. I also partook in the pre-semester intensive language course that was offered by the university.

finances

I had a part-time job before I left which I am able to return to as soon as I get back to the Netherlands.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Quite a lot of courses I had originally planned to take were no longer being taught, which was only made known relatively recent to my departure, but the eventual registration went pretty smoothly.

academic quality of education activities

The content of the courses was extensive and interesting, but the actual testing was simplistic and too easy in comparison to the amount of theory discussed. I suspect it has to do with the mixed level of the attending students (ranging from first-years to master students), and that this type of testing was intended to be a safe bet, but I personally would have appreciated the challenge. I personally tried to compensate by doing some more individual resource and reading for some of the classes.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The Erasmus office regularly kept us up to date if anything needed to happen (like documents, deadlines, or registrations). The e-mail response wasn't always fast, but the in-person visits to the office were always helpful and welcoming.

transfer of credits

The host university has a system where the student can download their own transcript, but with a simple visit to the Erasmus office they send it to the appropriate emails for me, as I was instructed to.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Unfortunately, I got COVID and was consequently isolated during the week of the welcome & orientation programme, so I can't comment on that.

accommodation

The dorms were in good state, clean and functional, and within short distance of public transport.

leisure & culture

The city was very enjoyable to explore on my own, accessible as a non(-fluent) czech speaker and culturally diverse in cuisine. Often I would go out into the town with my roommate and some friends, and there would be plenty of bars and activities to choose from. The museums were great, and oftentimes even free of charge. Especially as an art history student I made use of that many times as the National Galleries have a very large collection.

suggestions/tips

There is not really just one thing I would suggest, as it's the general atmosphere of the city that's so welcoming and comforting, and everyone will enjoy a different facet of what it has to offer. Personally I'd say visit the national galleries, look for the little local shops and just roam the streets (I especially like Prague 7), the parks are great, the zoo is one of the best in Europe, and even though I'm not big on clubbing myself, I've been told the nightlife is great.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I definitely would, the university was welcoming and organized, the dorms are definitely good and doable (especially considering the low costs) and the public transport is incredibly accessible and manageable making it easy to travel throughout the city and different university buildings in efficient time. The university itself has a very wide selection of courses, some of which I've never seen offered in the Netherlands before.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Report 3

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Language and culture studies

destination city & country	Prague, Czech Republic
how did you travel to your destination?	Train
name university abroad	Charles University
start date	21 / 09 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	10 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

It took me a lot of time to decide which cities would be suitable for me. There are a lot of countries and cities to choose from, so start early if you're indecisive like me. From the moment I knew I wanted to go to Prague, the application process was very clear. It takes some time to arrange the paperwork, but it was not difficult.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The counseling and support from Utrecht University is very good. The international office explains everything well and they respond relatively quick.

academic preparation

I didn't need any.

language preparation

I didn't need any. All my courses were in English.

finances

Prague is compared to the Netherlands quite cheap. I didn't stay in the dorms, which made my fixed costs more expensive (because they charge internationals a lot). Nevertheless, things like public transport, museums, and alcohol are really cheap! :) It helps to save at least some money before you go.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I studied at the faculty of Arts, and chose a lot of courses that I would label as humanities courses. The way they divide the courses over the faculties is very random in my opinion. Furthermore, five of the six courses I chose beforehand were not available anymore by the time I had to choose them. Nevertheless, I chose five other very interesting courses, so it didn't matter at the end.

academic quality of education activities

The courses are a lot easier than those at UU. Teachers give you easily the best grade. I also noticed that the quality of the courses were strongly dependent of the teachers. Some of them were surprisingly good, and others surprisingly bad.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The International Office is as good as at UU. They are very helpful, friendly and fast!

transfer of credits

I had to do at least 22,5 ECTS, and I did 26 ECTS because I didn't do one course.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I had one welcome day, which basically meant collecting your student card. The faculty of Arts didn't organize any form of introduction for incoming students, so I crashed the introduction gathering of the faculty of Social Sciences, which was very nice. Luckily, Charles University did organize a welcome party for Erasmus students.

accommodation

I am very happy I didn't stay in the dorms. You can meet a lot of Erasmus students there and the atmosphere is very nice, but I really needed my own space at the beginning. I lived in a shared flat, in a building with also only Erasmus students, with four girls from different nationalities which was amazing. I paid a little more there than for my room in Utrecht, but I lived almost in the city centre which was totally worth it.

leisure & culture

There are so many activities for Erasmus students in Prague, because there are so many Erasmus students! Especially the first few months, you can go out literally every night or do welcome activities. It makes it really easy to make friends in the beginning. ESN, Erasmus in Prague and Warehouse Entertainment also organize a lot of (day) trips which I can recommend.

suggestions/tips

Find a balance in doing as many things as possible and taking care of yourself. Yes, now is the time to explore the city, the country and meet a lot of people, but it is okay to take it easy now and then. Go out of your comfort zone and try new things.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Definitely!! Prague is a beautiful city with a lot of history, and a lot of things to do and visit. From Prague you can travel to a lot of countries like Germany, Poland or Austria which is amazing! Maybe the best part is meeting people from different nationalities and having all these experiences with them!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you have any doubts studying abroad, you should just do it! I will change your life only in a positive way :)

2021-2022

Report 1

permission to publish contact details**	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>	
	my e-mail address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: r.a.wassenaar@students.uu.nl
	my weblog	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	my Facebook account	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	other (social) media	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
faculty/college	Humanities <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD	
name study programme	German Language and Culture	

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
how did you travel to your destination?	Train
name university abroad	Universität Wien
start date	01 / 03 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	I don't remember everything, but I know that there were many documents that had to be handed in and I was confused all the time. It was really stressful, because this was the first time I had to live on my own and arrange so many things. I just never knew if I did things correctly and more than once I lost the overview. Tip: write down the deadlines for yourself and don't be afraid to ask for clarification.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The people from the UU Erasmus help desk are very kind and helpful.
academic preparation	I did not need any extra academic preparation.
language preparation	Because I study the German language, it wasn't that difficult to get around in Austria. I only prepared myself by taking the online language courses.
finances	Vienna is not that expansive compared to the Netherlands. Some things are cheaper and some things are more expensive, but it really depends on your lifestyle. Because this was my first time living alone and I didn't have too much income, I bought many groceries with promotion. ESN also offered great activities for little money, so I did many fun things without having to spend all my money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Most of my courses had to do with the German language, for example the history of the German language and the morphology and sociolinguistics. I also followed some subjects about language learning/teaching, because I am thinking about becoming a German teacher and I followed a subject about the Hungarian grammatics out of interest. Beside the normal subjects at the university, I also took part in an excursion about linguistic fieldwork and the history of the Slovenian minorities in Austria.
academic quality of education activities
The quality of education activities in Vienna is very good. There is a great variety of very interesting subjects to choose from and you can form your own schedule. The setting in the university is very beautiful. You already know exactly when the exams are before you signed up for the courses, so there were no problems in overlap or anything at all.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
There were no problems at the university abroad and the informations given by them were sufficient.
transfer of credits
Because my deadlines are not finished yet, I don't have a transfer of credits yet. I already have some of the grades and until now, everything is good. In Austria you get grades from 1 till 6. 1 is the best and 6 the worst. If you get a 4 or lower, it means you passed the course.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
The university of Vienna offers many orientation programmes for Erasmus students, such as ESN and EBN Vienna.
accommodation
I got my accomodation from OEAD student housing. I shared my kitchen with two other girls, but had my own bed- and bathroom. It was a nice place next to a subway and railway station, so it was easy to travel to the university.
leisure & culture
I often went for walks through the streets outside of the city centre. Every week I took the subway to another region in Vienna to explore there. Every first Sunday of the month, many museums had free entry, so I sometimes went there with my roommate. There were also many cool parks and cafes. The Austrian culture differs not too much from the Dutch one. The only thing that surprised me were the many holidays. There were so many christian holidays that I didn't know about and on these days and all the Sundays, almost nothing was opened.
suggestions/tips
Use your time wisely. There is enough to see. For Vienna, my favourite place was the Kurpark Oberlaa. Not too well known, but it was a big and beautiful park where you could walk around for hours. When you are in Vienna, it's also really easy to visit other countries by bus or train. I only visited Bratislava, but it was a cool experience.

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

The university is great and well organized. The city is also really livable. This was the first time living by myself, but it was pretty easy to get around and I felt home instantly. Vienna is big, beautiful, safe and very clean. There are so many things to do and the location is amazing.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

You'll be fine living abroad and everything will be amazing. The documents are the hardest parts.

Report 2

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

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
how did you travel to your destination?	Train
name university abroad	Universität Wien
start date	01 / 03 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process was smooth overall. There is of course a lot of paperwork involved, but most of it is easy to fill out and issues get resolved very quickly. The communication with the exchange university was clear and very timely.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Questions were answered veru quickly and clearly, no issues went unresolved.
academic preparation	There is of course some getting used to of studying at a foreign university, but it helps if you've followed courses that relate to the courses one does abroad.
language preparation	Being a student in the official language of the exchange country is very helpful and avoids problems with communication overall.
finances	Travelling by train is an affordable and sustainable way to reach your destination and is highly recommended. The costs of living abroad are sadly quite high, although finding an affordable room was not too difficult in Vienna.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	

The courses I followed were all organised very clearly and had online resources to aid with the structure of the courses.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality was very high and I've learned a lot from these courses.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The university had very friendly and helpful staff ready to aid you with any questions.
transfer of credits
The ECTS of some courses are different than one might expect, sometimes low-ECTS courses still cost a lot of effort to pass. I foresee no problems with the acceptance of the credits from the University of Vienna and hope that remains the case.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There was a very helpful online session that helped students prepare for everything ahead of them, including important administrative duties regarding one's stay.
accommodation
My accomodation was through a student housing service common in Vienna and the service and accomodation were very reasonable for the price.
leisure & culture
Vienna is a beautiful city and I had a lot of fun visiting the grand museums of Vienna and the oldest zoo of Europe. The city itself offers a lot of good restaurants and there's a lot of areas one can comfortably sit and enjoy sunny weather even when studying.
suggestions/tips
Definitely check out the Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Art History, they were absolutely stunning and very impressive.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I recommend the University of Vienna to anyone that is reasonably fluent in German and loves historical cities. The university has a broad and interesting array of courses to follow and the quality is extremely high. The teachers are professional but still approachable for questions. Fellow students are also nice and helpful. All in all the exchange was very valuable to me and I've learned a lot and I'm very glad I picked the University of Vienna.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Make sure that students are aware of all administrative duties like registering their new home and registering for courses and examinations. Also make sure that the period of your stay abroad can comfortably overlap with your regular study plan.

2019-2020

Report 1

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

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
how did you travel to your destination?	By train
name university abroad	Universität Wien
start date	25 / 09 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	27 / 01 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The exchange application process is very bureaucratic, but the information on the site of the uu is very helpful and conveniently arranged. Make sure you note all the important deadlines and have all the required documents that makes the process much easier.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The counseling support ist good. And in general you will get quick responses to your emails. The International office in Utrecht is willing to help you and answer your questions.
academic preparation	
language preparation	Language preparation is offered, but not needed in my case as a study german language and culture. If your level of language isn't that high I would recommend to do a language course. It makes everything much easier when you speak the language and can make yourself clear to your professors.
finances	It is easy to gain a clear view of the possibilities for grants. Make sure again that you note all the important deadlines and collect the documents needed for the grant application. Be aware of the amount of ECTS you need to gain in order to fulfill all requirements.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	The study programm is organised well, although one has to know how to choose courses. You will get clear informations about this from the international office. You can choose between seminars and lectures. You will round the lectures of with an exam and the seminars mostly with a presentation and an essay. You will need approximately 8 courses to fulfill the 30 ECTS agreement for you grant.
academic quality of education activities	The academic quality of education activities is high. The professors teaching the courses are professional and willing to help erasmus students. There is a wide range of courses on different topics.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The International office in Vienna is very organised. You will get updates and informations about deadlines in time and they are very helpful. You will be assigned to a counselor who will help you during your stay.

transfer of credits

Credits are in ECTS the same system the UU uses. Lectures and seminars are worth 4 ECTS.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The international office and Erasmus Network will organize a lot of events for students. It is a nice and easy way to get to know more people. Some Events are free and for some events you need to pay a small amount of money. You will have to attend a meeting in the beginning of your stay. It is important to attend this meeting as you will hear about all the important details of the university and living in Vienna.

accommodation

I was housed in a dorm for a lot of students (STUWO). It is clean, safe and you will have your own place. The people in this dorm were not very communicative. I would advise to have a look at WG-Gesucht before you apply for a stay in a STUWO dorm.

leisure & culture

The culture is not that different from the Dutch culture, so I did not have the typical culture shock.

suggestions/tips

Go to the Erasmus events. They are fun and an easy way to meet new friends.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend this university and destination to others. The academic level is high and you will be in a different environment.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

2018-2019

Report 1

permission to publish contact details** <i>See end note for * and **</i>	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
my e-mail address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: romy.do@hotmail.com
faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Kunstgeschiedenis

destination city & country	Wenen, Oostenrijk
name university abroad	Universtität Wien
start date	01 / 10 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	31 / 01 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	Op de website van de Universiteit Utrecht vond ik een lijst met universiteiten in het buitenland. Ik heb deze lijst goed doorgekeken en ik besloot dat ik graag naar de Universität Wien wilde. Dan schrijf je een motivatiebrief, kijk je welke vakken je wilt gaan doen (dit was wel even lastig te vinden, maar de International Office van de Universiteit Utrecht en de Universität Wien hebben al mijn vragen zorgvuldig en duidelijk beantwoord) en vul je een document in over je verwachte uitgaven. Je moet in het begin een hoop uitzoeken en vragen, maar uiteindelijk is het allemaal niet zo moeilijk als het soms lijkt.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	De voorlichtingen voordat je aan je stay abroad begint zijn heel behulpzaam en er wordt op een overzichtelijke manier gepresenteerd welke stappen je moet zetten in het toelatingsproces, maar ook tijdens en na je verblijf in het buitenland. Er werd altijd heel snel gereageerd op de mails naar de International Office en vragen werden altijd duidelijk beantwoord.
academic preparation	Ik heb me niet echt ingelezen over mijn vakken voordat ik naar Wenen ging, omdat het weleens voorkomt dat vakken achteraf nog veranderen. Dit is bij mij ook gebeurd, maar vormde verder geen probleem voor mijn voorkennis over de onderwerpen die behandeld werden.
language preparation	Ik was het jaar voordat ik naar Wenen ging begonnen met een minor Deutsche Sprache und Kultur, waardoor mijn taal op een goed niveau was voordat ik aan mijn studie begon. Ik wist namelijk dat bijna al mijn vakken in het Duits gegeven zouden worden. Verder heb ik in Wenen veel Duits gepraat met vrienden, wat je taalniveau echt verbeterd.
finances	Ik legde elke maand geld apart van het salaris dat ik met mijn bijbaantje verdiende en ik ben in de periode dat ik in Wenen gewas meer gaan lenen. Uiteindelijk heb ik het spaargeld ook echt wel nodig gehad, want ik ben ook

meegeweest op kleine reisjes via de studentenvereniging ESN in Wenen en het is natuurlijk ook heel leuk om na college ergens Kaffee en Kuchen te halen met vrienden :)

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

In het begin was er wel wat gedoe over de vakken die ik in Wenen wilde volgen. Het werd me niet helemaal duidelijk welke vakken ik wel of niet kon volgen binnen de studie kunstgeschiedenis en welk niveau deze vakken dan hadden. In Wenen is het dus zo dat er verschil is tussen 'Vorlesungen', 'Übungen' en '(Pro)Seminars'. De Vorlesungen zijn vakken waarbij je alleen hoorcolleges hebt en aan het einde een toets moet maken of een paper moet inleveren. Deze Vorlesungen zijn ook vaak minder studiepunten waard (2-5 studiepunten over het algemeen). Dan heb je de Übungen, waarvoor je meestal een presentatie geeft en/of een toets of paper moet maken, deze zijn meestal 5 studiepunten waard. De (Pro)Seminars zijn veel werk: je moet er trouw je huiswerkopdrachten voor maken, je moet actief deelnemen in de discussies tijdens de colleges en je moet een presentatie geven en een paper schrijven. Deze zijn dan ook meer studiepunten waard (ik had een Seminar van 10 studiepunten). Ook waren er bij mij roostertechnische problemen: er was overlap in mijn rooster, waardoor ik uiteindelijk nog vakken moest laten vallen en er andere vakken voor in de plaats moest kiezen. Dit was natuurlijk even een hoop uitzoeken, maar mijn contactpersoon in Wenen heeft me daar goed bij geholpen en bij de International Office daar was iedereen ook heel behulpzaam. Je moet niet twifelen om te mailen of op iemand van de international office of een docent af te stappen, gewoon alles vragen!

academic quality of education activities

De kwaliteit van de vakken was over het algemeen erg goed. Ik vond de colleges erg interessant en ging er ook graag heen. De meeste docenten waren ook erg vriendelijk. Bij de Vorlesungen was je band met de docent of docente vaak niet of amper aanwezig, omdat er eigenlijk geen interactie is tussen docent en student. Alle vakken die ik heb gevolgd werden gegeven door erg enthousiaste en vriendelijke docenten die veel verstand hadden over wat er behandeld werd.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Was heel erg goed geregeld. Er was een soort welkomstweek van de Universiteit Wenen. Dit was niet verplicht, maar ik ben daar wel naartoe gegaan. Er werden allerlei workshops gegeven en er stonden in die week allerlei informatiestands rondom het gebouw van de universiteit. Door je op te geven voor de workshops kon je gemakkelijk in aanraking komen met andere studenten en ik heb die eerste week twee superlieve meiden ontmoet met wie ik nu nog steeds contact heb. Vanuit mijn opleiding werd er ook een welkom georganiseerd, wat heel leuk was, omdat je zo andere internationale studenten ontmoet die dezelfde studie doen en dezelfde interesses hebben. Alles werd goed gecommuniceerd via email en via de website. Ik kan alleen maar positief zijn over de ontvangst.

transfer of credits

Dit moet nog gebeuren. Ik weet niet precies hoe de cijfers die ik in Wenen heb gehaald overgezet worden, maar er was een tabel te vinden met hoe de cijfers omgerekend worden, dus ik neem aan dat het omzetten van mijn resultaten op deze omzettingstabel gebaseerd wordt.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Mijn advies is: schrijf je in voor workshops, ga naar de welkomsactiviteiten en praat met de mensen die je daar tegenkomt! De meeste vrienden heb ik allemaal aan het begin van mijn buitenlandperiode al leren kennen. Er

werd aan het begin genoeg informatie gegeven over alle activiteiten die georganiseerd werden, dus daarover hoef je je geen zorgen te maken.
accommodation
Ik heb heel makkelijk een kamer gevonden via de website housinganywhere.com. Ik heb een mail gestuurd dat ik geïnteresseerd was in de kamer en kreeg de volgende dag al een bericht terug dat ik de kamer had. De locatie van mijn kamer was ideaal. Ik zat op loopafstand van de universiteit en het centrum.
leisure & culture
De stad Wenen is echt geweldig. Er is ontzettend veel te zien en te doen en ik heb me geen moment onveilig gevoeld in de stad. Er zijn heel veel musea, schattige caféetjes, stadsparken, theaters en overal waar je loopt ben je omgeven door prachtige gebouwen. Het openbaar vervoer in Wenen is heel goed geregeld, je kunt eenmalig het semesterticket kopen, waarmee je het hele semester zorgeloos met de tram, metro of bus kunt reizen. Leukste cafés: Vollpension, Café Liebling. Lekker en goedkoop uit eten: Sägewerk.
suggestions/tips
Doe mee met de activiteiten die jou aanspreken en die worden georganiseerd door de Universiteit of door een internationale studentenvereniging bijvoorbeeld. Ik ben lid geworden van de internationale studentenvereniging ESN en ben mee geweest op een trip naar het natuurgebied Wachau en een reisje door Croatië. Door mee te doen aan deze activiteiten leer je veel nieuwe mensen kennen en dat maakt je periode in het buitenland zoveel leuker.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Zeker weten. De stad Wenen is ontzettend mooi, als je van kunst houdt een echt walhalla. Er zijn heel veel leuke cafeetjes, er zijn genoeg supermarkten, het openbaar vervoer is super geregeld. Ik heb me ook geen moment onveilig gevoeld in de stad. De mensen kunnen soms misschien afstandelijk overkomen, maar met een vriendelijke glimlach en een positieve houding overleef je dat wel. Ik heb zoveel leuke herinneringen overgehouden aan mijn tijd in deze stad.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Natuurlijk is niet altijd alles leuk en gaat niet alles vanzelf. Maar met een positieve houding kom je heel ver. En als je er een keer doorheen zit: bel even naar huis, ga iets leuks doen met de mensen die je daar hebt ontmoet, of ga er zelf op uit. Ik ging ook weleens alleen naar een museum of alleen naar de bios of een rondje lopen in de stad. Vooral in het begin is het gewoon wennen en ken je nog niet zoveel mensen, maar dat komt allemaal vanzelf.

2017-2018

Report 1

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 Studies).

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
name university abroad	Universität Wien (University of Vienna)

start date	27 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	02 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	According to the standard procedure of Utrecht University.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	International Office of the Faculty of Humanities of Utrecht University and my tutor at the Department of German Studies.
academic preparation	No specific preparations other than the mandatory number of ECTS-points.
language preparation	No specific preparations other than the language courses that are a mandatory part of my study programm at Utrecht University (i.e. the courses ‚Sprache und Kultur‘ I to IV).
finances	I spent about 1300-1400 Euros per month (including study materials and non-study-related activities). Most of it was spent on rent as I preferred to live in a private apartment within walking distance to the university. You could spare approx. 300-400 Euros per month when you choose to live in an (international) student residence.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	In the field of German Studies there are literally dozens of courses that you can choose from. The content of the courses is very diverse although linguistic courses are few (in the programme of German Studies). Most courses are in the field of Literature Studies or German as a Foreign Language (DaF). In respect to organisational issues, I would say that these are hardly worth mentioning, although, clearly, there are a few obligations to be met, like your registration at the Municipal District Office. The International Office of the University of Vienna offers very clear and helpful information on these issues. Just follow their directions.
academic quality of education activities	To be honest, I was a bit disappointed about the academic quality of the courses. Educational methods are, in my opinion, very traditional at the University of Vienna (I did courses in German Studies, History and General Linguistics). Lectures, but also seminars, usually go in one direction, from lecturer tot students, and there is hardly any interaction or discussion, let alone, critical appraisal of the presented theories and ideas.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	I did not need any counselling and support during my stay apart from, once or twice, the International Office and the Erasmus Coordinator at the Department of German studies for standard issues like the Learning Agreement and the Certificate of Attendance. I did not meet any problems in this respect.
transfer of credits	At the moment of writing, I do not have an opinion on this because my test results are not in yet. Therefore, the transfer of credits is, at this moment, not a relevant issue.

STUDENT LIFE	
	welcome & orientation programme
	The orientation programme of the International Office at the University of Vienna was short and efficient and provided all the necessary information. There was no welcome programme to speak of.
	accommodation
	I rented a private apartment via HousingAnywhere, one of the platforms recommended by the University of Vienna. It was relatively expensive but I had a wonderful time there and it was well worth the money.
	leisure & culture
	Lots and lots of things to do and to see. Vienna is an elegant, beautiful and relaxed city, at least in spring and summer, and when you are interested in Austrian and Central European history and culture, you could easily spend a few more semesters there. Furthermore, it is only a short distance to e.g. the ‚Wienerwald‘ and ‚the Weinviertel‘, places that offer excellent opportunities for hiking.
	suggestions/tips
	In respect to your studies: do not expect too much, many courses are o.k. but nothing special. In respect to Vienna: forget the U and the S, walk the city.

CONCLUSIONS	
	would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
	The University of Vienna does not merit a special recommendation in my opinion. It is o.k. but nothing exceptional. If you are interested in Austrian and Central European history and culture, I would certainly recommend the city (and take the University for granted).
	do you have any additional advice or comments?
	No

Report 2

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

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
name university abroad	University of Vienna
start date	1 / 3 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	29 / 6 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
	exchange application process
	The application process I think was not that much work as many of the students say. Of course you have to hand in documents so that the international office can decide whether your application is good enough to allow you to

go to the city of your first choice. The application in Vienna also went very smooth. The support from the international office in Vienna is very good and you will get quick answers to your questions.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Because my whole studyprogramm had to be changed due to my exchange, I got a great lot of support from the Studyadvisor. She was really very helpful in that, so if there are any changes you have to make in your studyprogramm due to your exchange ask for the help you need! The International Office also was a great help especially because of all the emails they send you to remind you of all the paperwork you have to upload.
academic preparation
I am studying German language and culture, therefore any academic preparation was not really needed. I also knew in advance that the courses I was going to follow in Vienna would be very different of the courses that I was doing in Utrecht. A preparation was therefore not that necessary and also not possible.
language preparation
Because I study German Language and Culture and my exchange was to a Germanspeaking country, I did not made extra effort to be prepared for the use of the german language.
finances
When you have to upload the financial plan with your application it maybe seems a bit strange to do. That was what I was thinking especially, because I know how much money I have, I know how much I am gonna get from my Erasmus+ grant, so I did not really understood why this was helpful. In the end I saw that it was indeed helpful to have a little insight in your finances before you leave. So my advice is to really invest time in making the financial plan. Later you will have the benefits of it. Vienna is not the most cheap city that you can go to. It is better to plan spending more and end up spending less that you had expected. That gives you room to do unexpected and fun things.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
First coming to Vienna there were a lot of organisational issues. The courses that you want to follow are pretty free to choose. The only thing is the online application for the courses. I did not really understood how it worked. It worked according to some sort of point-system. The more points you gave to one course, the more likely it was to be accepted for the course. In the end I was not accepted for most of my courses. I asked my coordinator here in Vienna what I had to do, and he adviced me to just go into the classes and say that I am Erasmus and really want to do the course. In most cases that helped! The variety of courses that you can choose is enormous. It depends on the requirements of the UU which courses you can follow, but most of the time it is possible to do most courses.
academic quality of education activities
Like most other international Universities (like I have heard) the academic quality is lower than in Utrecht. In most of the courses you do not have to be present. The online platform helps a lot with that. If you miss a seminar you can most of the time read the script they upload after giving a seminar. At first I thought the academic quality was not very high, until my testweek came. I had five exams in one week and they all differed in difficulty. This period of a few weeks of preparation and then the tests was very intense. That is the disadvantage you have because you are an exchange student. Most of the students here do the exams on other dates, it is mostly possible to do a test also at the beginning of the next semester. But of course as an exchange student that is no possibility.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad

You will get in contact with a coordinator here in Vienna. This is the person you can always go to for signing papers or any other questions that concern your studies in Vienna. Also the international office department in the main building of the university is always very helpful. I have no complaints about that.

transfer of credits

Most of the notes of my exams are already in the system. After all the notes are handed in in the online system I can download my transcript of records very easily. I have not received all my notes yet because I have one deadline left after summer for a paper.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

I have signed up for the ESN-Programme. That is a programme set up especially for erasmus students. They organised a welcome-week with all kinds of activities that you could do. It was nice to have met some people through these activities. These people also became my friends. It is fun to also get to know people outside of your own studyprogramme. There was not really a university orientation programme as far as I know. I just found it out myself and that was also a nice individual activity. You get to know the city and university really quick if you just go on your own adventure and discover the city and all of the university buildings.

accommodation

I had an accommodation through the "Österreichische Austausch Dienst" short: OeAD. It was really pleasant coming into a fully furnished room and being able to have a place to call your home for those months. You have to consider the prices of the accommodations. Life in Vienna is not cheap and that also counts for accommodation. I found it really important to live in the right neighbourhood and then you will ofcourse pay more for your accommodation.

leisure & culture

In Vienna there are always so many activities to do. Of course it is the best city to go to if you are interested in the cultural life. Visiting museums is an activity you can do endlessly during your semester in Vienna. A lovely afternoon-picknick at the Donau Insel or in one of the beautiful parcs in the citycenter is also a thing you have to do a lot during your stay here.

suggestions/tips

As said before, do picknicks, enjoy the parcs, enjoy the Donau Insel as well as the Alte Donau for a good swim. My favourite museum here is the Leopold Museum that is really worth a visit as well as the natural historical museum. A cup of coffee at Café Landtmann also has to be on your to do list. I could go on endlessly... Vienna is also a good place from where you can visit a lot of other european cities like Bratislava, Ljubljana, Brno, Prague and more!

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend this university and this destination. I really enjoyed my stay here and was really content with the support and counselling that I received at the university of Vienna. If your German speaking skills are not yet on the right level, there are a lot of courses that also help you in achieving a higher level in the language. You can even get the official documents after the courses with the achieved level!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Make sure you are on time with your paperwork. Take the emails with the deadlines serious, you only make it more difficult for yourself if you do not take the deadlines into account. If you need help during your stay from

your home university or from the university of Vienna, just do not be afraid to ask. They are always happy to help you and are very quick with answering and helping you out.

Report 3

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> n.vaessen@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Language and Culture Studies (Taal-en Cultuurstudies)

destination city & country	Vienna, Austria
name university abroad	University of Vienna/ Universität Wien
start date	01 / 10 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	31 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process for my exchange semester at the University of Vienna was quite easy. I had to hand in all the required documents at Utrecht University and soon I got the information that I got accepted. I could find a lot of information on the website of the university of Vienna about all the things I needed to do before, during and at the end of the semester (such as the learning agreement!). I had more difficulties with the paperwork for the stay in Austria in general, you have to register within 3 days after arrival etc., but this is also explained on the website of the university and they tell you all about it during the introduction.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	I got a lot of help and support from Utrecht University, they even helped me pick out to go to Vienna! I could always send an e-mail for help, also after my stay in Vienna.
academic preparation	I did not do any specific academic preparation, other than thinking about what courses I wanted to take during my semester abroad. I had to make sure that it fitted in my program at Utrecht University.
language preparation	I did a language course before the start of the semester. I did this at the 'Sprachenzentrum Universität Wien', the language centre that is linked to the university of Vienna. I took the 'september intensive course' to really prepare myself for the german language. Because of the fact that most of my courses were taught in german I thought this would be a good idea. I really enjoyed the classes, it was for a period of three weeks, and if you study at the university of Vienna after the course, you also get most of the money back if you pass the final exam. I thought it was really helpful and I also got to meet a lot of other exchange students!
finances	I saved a little bit of money before I went to Vienna, but with the help of the Erasmus grant, and the money you get when you 'pause' your 'studenten OV', it was really doable. People often say that Vienna is a really

expensive city but I think it is the same as in the Netherlands or even cheaper most of the time. I also had a job while staying abroad and this also helped me to save money to do fun things while being in Vienna.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I did all my courses within the faculty of art history. The organisation with applying for the courses was very difficult. At first I didn't understand how I had to apply and I had to e-mail a lot of different people to ask for help. You have to register via U-Space and sometimes you are places on a waiting list, don't let that scare you, you just have to go to the first course! In my case, the professor took some extra students. There is information available on the website of the university of Vienna, but you have to read very carefully, otherwise just ask for help!!

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the courses at the university of Vienna is quite good. There are different kinds of courses, like 'Vorlesung', 'Ubung' and 'Seminar'. A 'Vorlesung' is a bit like a 'hoorcollege' at Utrecht University, but there are a lot more students. The 'Ubung' and the 'Seminar' are more like the 'werkcollege' and here you are with a tiny group of people. Also, most of the courses only take place once a week. The quality of the courses I took were good, sometimes hard to follow (also because of the language), you are not expected to read as much as in Utrecht, but you mostly have to write an essay and of course take exams (for which you have to apply also!). Over all, I would say that it is very doable if you are used to Utrecht University.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support I got at the university of Vienna was over all good, I had to figure out sometimes who I had to send an e-mail but they were always very willing to help!

transfer of credits

At the end of your erasmus exchange, the transcript of records is available online, on your U-space account and you can just print it. I did not get all my results yet so I am not sure how they will be transferred.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Because the university of Vienna has a lot of students, you do not have a kind of 'welcome week' planned. At the beginning of your exchange there is a introduction day where they explain a lot of practical things, how to get your student card, how to use the library etc. This was very helpful, but I missed a kind of welcome for exchange students. At the beginning of the semester there are some events and my faculty organised a museum trip, maybe other faculties do this as well.

accommodation

I found my accommodation via Utrecht University, a student from Vienna that was coming to Utrecht simply e-mailed the international office UU and asked if there were maybe students coming to Vienna that wanted to swap rooms. I did this and this was very nice! So, maybe you could do the same with the international office of the university of Vienna. I know that a lot of people lived in a 'Studentenheim' for which you can sign up, or lived in a 'WG' like I with some roommates. There are also a lot of groups on social media with rooms that are subrented etc. The price of the accommodations is comparable like in Utrecht, and most of the time even bigger!

leisure & culture

Vienna is the right place for leisure and culture! There are a lot of museums, parks, good restaurants, clubs etc. depending on which semester you are going, in the summer you can swim in the 'Donaukanal' and in the winter there are christmas markets everywhere! I would say, Vienna has something for everyone.

suggestions/tips

Definetly go to an opera! This was really cool and of course eat 'Wiener Schnitzel'! I would also suggest to visit Budapest or Bratislava because it is close to Vienna.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would recommend the university and definetly the destination to others because Vienna is a city in which you can feel at home very easily. It is a big city but is not as chaotic as Amsterdam for example. Like I said Vienna has something to offer to everybody, it is vibrant and full of instesting things to do! The university was also really nice, I really enjoyed my classes and learned a lot from speaking another language but also from the different ways of teaching.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Just go and enjoy it like I did, it was a wonderful experience and I would recommend it to anyone. I learned a lot from being on my own in another country and culture and studying at another university, not only in an academic way but also as a person.