

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin****2021-2022****Report 1**

<b>permission to publish contact details**</b>	<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: roseozum@hotmail.com
	my weblog	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	my Facebook account	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	other (social) media	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: instagram: @R0seisMyName)
faculty/college	Humanities	
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD	
name study programme	English Language and Culture	

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
how did you travel to your destination?	By plane, I considered going by train as well but the journey is almost longer than a whole day and a lot more expensive that going by plane.
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	06 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	21 / 01 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

exchange application process
It had its ups and downs. Trinity was rather late with letting everyone know if the really got accepted or not (but that was also the case due to COVID), and in which department you got accepted. However, in the end it all came together, so looking back there was no reason to really stress about it. It is just a lot of administrative work but that is it. If I remember correctly, you're asked to fill in a couple of forms with which courses you would like to take, and they also ask for an additional motivation in that form.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
UU was very helpful in answering my questions (and there were lots), which was very nice and gave me a more prepared feeling in the end. Even if they themselves didn't know the answer they would always make sure that in the next couple of days someone from the right office was contacting me.
academic preparation
There wasn't much to do regarding academic preparation, there weren't really instructions for this at my guest university. However, this does not mean that there is nothing you can do. I always like to be prepared so I already started e-mailing the potential teachers that I was going to get (once I knew in which department I got accepted, and wich courses I wanted to take) and all of the teachers I e-mailed send me an early version of the syllables. Because of that I was able to already buy and read some of the material before classes started, which was really helpful.
language preparation
There also wasn't much to do regarding language preparation because I chose to go to an English speaking country and my study at UU is already in English.
finances

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

The erasmus grant and Duo were a big reason why I was able to go to Dublin, but I also saved up at least 3000 euros myself because I knew the rent was going to be very expensive in Dublin (which it was).

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

## study programme (content and organisational issues)

The study programme I chose was based on the fact that I was told that my courses couldn't overlap much with the ones I had already done here at UU. So I went into two very different directions that were still part of the humanities department: Ancient Greek literature and mythology, and Irish Language and Literature. Because they are both of different departments (and you technically only get accepted at one department) you have to make sure that the heads of the department are okay with you taking the course. Don't worry, they almost always are, it is just to make sure they have/reserve a spot for you in that course. Also, this is just a warning, but TCD works very differently when it comes to applying for the courses. You can only do this in the first two weeks when the semester has already started (this is for semester one, I don't know how it works for semester two). They give very clear instructions in those two weeks but if you want to be prepared than you can already check the website for some potential courses you could take, but that is about it. You can't register in advance of the semester, which was kind of worrisome in the beginning, but this also worked itself out just fine in the end. Feel free to contact me if you have any other questions regarding applying for the courses in the first semester!

## academic quality of education activities

The academic level was very close to the one I was already used to here at UU, only their grading system is rather different, so don't worry if you get 40% on your test, because that is still a pass!  
I do have to say because of COVID there weren't as many student activities arranged by Trinity, (only online, which I chose not to participate with most of the time) but there are many (and I mean MANY!) student associations that you can join who still managed to do a lot of activities face to face, not all of them as academic as the other, but they were lots of fun! (Some examples: pub quizzes, pub crawls, karaoke, murder mystery, favourite book exchange, and many more). You can also choose to join a sports club, of which TCD has 49 (I joined the climbing society, which was really fun and they are also known as one of the most social clubs to get to know a lot of other people)

## counselling &amp; support at receiving university abroad

The support was great! I didn't need counselling but I can only imagine that would be great too.

## transfer of credits

The credits per course are a little bit lower there, but that is mostly (I think) because they work with semesters and not with periods. All my courses were 5 ECTS each. (Right now I haven't received my credits yet)

**STUDENT LIFE**

## welcome &amp; orientation programme

Very welcoming! Trinity had a whole week dedicated to orientation which was really nice and helpful regarding making new friends, and other social contacts. (And it was on campus!). If you have any questions regarding the orientation programme you can ask any teacher and they will be delighted to help you!

## accommodation

EXPENSIVE!!! I really want everyone that is considering to go Dublin to know that living there is very expensive! I stayed at Blackhall Place Student Accommodation, which was a 10-minute bike ride to Trinity, and that was considered 'cheap' (It was around 900/month). And believe me when I say that I tried to get something

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

cheaper! There are many websites that arrange specifically for a semester only stay, but if you want a private room it definitely will be around 800/1000 euros per month. If you still want to go but cannot afford that much than you could consider sharing a room as that is only around 400/600 per month, but those rooms are gone very quickly! And you can try to apply for a room on campus (I did that too) but for that you need a student number and I only received that not even a month before the semester started, so that was basically hopeless.

leisure & culture

Amazing! There is always something to do or something new to try in Dublin. The people are lovely and friendly and will give you tons of recommendations if you ask them! If you are ever bored and don't know what to do than I highly recommend going to a different pub every night! There are so many different pubs in Dublin. And definitely take some time to going hiking in the Dublin Mountains, or in Bray, or in Wicklow Mountains! It is absolutely gorgeous.

suggestions/tips

Be sure to save some extra money to travel in Ireland once you're there! It will be 100% worth it, the Irish landscape is breathtaking (you can see some posts on my instagram account).

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

YES!!! Trinity is an amazing environment and Irish people are just lovely, if I could I would've stayed for more than just one semester!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Once you're there be sure to learn some Irish slang! It is really funny and great craic ;)

**Report 2**

<b>permission to publish contact details**</b>	<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: s.a.vaandrager@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		
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's	<input type="checkbox"/> master's	<input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	History		

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
how did you travel to your destination?	By plane
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	06 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	17 / 12 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

exchange application process
The application process can be quite a lot of work. Make sure you have a clear idea of what you have to do and what you have to turn in. The International Office is a great help - if you have questions concerning the process do not hesitate to ask them. In my experience TCD also replies quickly and cooperatively when you approach them with questions or requests. If you start preparing early and have a clear plan of action, the application process will be fine.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The International Office is always there when you need it; when you have a question or need support make sure to reach out. I would also recommend going to the studying abroad lectures and reading the International Office's newsletters.
academic preparation
There is no need for general academic preparation. Do check if you need any prerequisite knowledge/skills for the modules you would like to follow.
language preparation
Besides some Irish modules (and the foreign language modules of course) everything is in English. There are several possibilities to learn some Irish - through societies, extra-curricular classes or modules - that could be fun, but Irish is definitely not necessary. As for English level: if you can follow an English-taught course at UU you will be fine at Trinity.
finances
Dublin is expensive (especially the accommodation); do not underestimate the costs, make sure you save up and do all the preparations for the Erasmus+ grant.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)
For a single-semester exchange you will need 30ECTS. Since modules at Trinity are 5ECTS or 10ECTS you will follow 3 to 6 modules. I personally decided to follow modules that were not given in Utrecht (all in Irish history) - because of this, I did have a little bit of disadvantage in comparison to the Irish students and had to work a little harder/do some more reading before the start of the modules (it was worth it). Applying for modules can be a bit overwhelming but make sure to reach out to your coordinator or department if you have any issues, they will help you. There are different levels of modules, read up on them and figure out what suits you. I took two Sophister (year three/four) modules and one Senior Fresh (year two) module; it was hard work but doable.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality is very good. The professors/teachers of Irish history are super driven, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. The level of education is similar to that at Utrecht but depends on the level of modules you take - Sophister modules for instance are quite challenging. Examination is also similar to that at UU (although the grading is different).
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Every Erasmus student gets assigned a personal coordinator from your department. The coordinator I got assigned was really helpful and also very quick to reply; everytime I had a question about application/grading/etc. I received a satisfactory answer within a few hours. Besides that, you get a student mentor which can be very helpful if you want to talk to someone who is in your position. The tutors/teachers/professors are also very open to questions and will give you support if needed.
transfer of credits

I had no issues with the transfer of credits or the receiving of my transcript of records.

## STUDENT LIFE

### welcome & orientation programme

Despite the pandemic, Trinity tried its best to organise a good welcome and orientation programme for new students. There were practical lectures for Erasmus and visiting students and there was a 'freshers week' in which a lot of activities were planned like pub-crawls, society-fairs and campus-tours. I would highly recommend visiting as much activities as you can as it's a great way to meet new people and get acquainted with the city and university.

### accommodation

Finding accommodation in Dublin can be quite difficult and is very expensive (paying over 1000 euros a month is not out of the ordinary). On-campus housing is generally not available for semester-only students but Trinity does have an accommodation officer who can help you find off-campus housing. In the end everyone will find a room somewhere so don't worry too much, just make sure you start looking early on and be prepared to pay more than you would in the Netherlands. I ended up staying in one of the Uninest (now Yugo) student residences and was very pleased with my stay there, I met lots of great people and lived very close to the city centre. You can also try and look for private accommodation (which is generally less expensive), but make sure to watch out for scams.

### leisure & culture

Dublin has a lot to offer; there are great pubs, museums, concert-venues, parks, etc. - make sure to see them. When you have some days off I would highly recommend to get out of Dublin and see some more of Ireland, the country is absolutely beautiful so it would be a shame to stay in Dublin the whole time. With the 'Dart' you can travel within Dublin county very easily and with the train or a rented car you can get to Galway, Cork and even Belfast within 3 hours. There are also great day-trips you can do with a tour-bus company if you are short on time but still want to see more of Ireland.

### suggestions/tips

- Rent or buy a second-hand bike or arrange a leap card to get around the city.
- Join societies. It's about 2 euros to join one and it's a great way to meet people and do fun stuff. Trinity has over 200 societies to choose from so there is one (or, more likely, multiple) for everyone. During fresher's week there is a society fair where you can get information about all the societies and meet people who are in them.
- Take part in trinity-organised activities. Especially during the start of the semester most societies will organise events like parties, trips and scavenger hunts, these are - again - a great way to meet people, get to know the city and make the most of your exchange (in some cases you don't even need to be a member to take part).
- Try to not stick with fellow Dutch people too much. An exchange is a great way to meet different people and cultures - make use of the opportunity.
- Step out of your comfort zone a little and have fun: take every opportunity to meet people and do exciting things, you might feel a little overwhelmed but you will not regret it.

## CONCLUSIONS

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

I would most definitely recommend Trinity College Dublin. The university is of a very high standard; the people are super helpful and the teaching is top-notch. Trinity's societies will give you every opportunity to meet amazing people and have the time of your life. Dublin is an incredibly vibrant cultural and historical city that has

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

many things to offer - and, not unimportantly, has one of the best night lives in the world. Ireland in general is absolutely beautiful; the nature is otherworldly, the people are extremely kind and welcoming (the stereotypes are true) and the cities are great.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Stay on top of everything and be prepared: make sure to have accomodation and finances figured out ahead of time and have a clear idea of all the official application and grant-related documentation deadlines. Most importantly; have fun!

**2018-2019**

<b>permission to publish contact details**</b>	<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: lotte.inkenhaag@live.nl	
	my weblog	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:	
	my Facebook account	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:	
	other (social) media	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:	
faculty/college	Humanities		
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's	<input type="checkbox"/> master's	<input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	English Language and Literature		

destination city & country	Dublin , Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	03 / 08 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	14 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

## exchange application process

It is a lot of work to fill in all the paperwork and to write a complete resume and such so make sure to start in time. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask! The international office is always ready to help but you have to ask for it yourself.

## counselling &amp; support at Utrecht University

The international office is always ready to help, but you have to ask for it yourself. Making deadlines should not be a problem if you start in time.

## academic preparation

Make sure you know which language the course abroad is taught in so you can prepare for that. Also, check if the modules you want to follow abroad have any prerequisites you have to meet so you won't be dissappointed if you cannot follow the modules once you arrive at your receiving institution.

## language preparation

Make sure you know which language the course abroad is taught in so you can prepare for that.

## finances

Make sure you save enough money to pay for flights back to visit family, for travelling and to pay for rent and food.

### STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I picked courses that I would not be able to follow here in the Netherlands on purpose to make the most of my period abroad. This meant that sometimes I had to do more work than the Irish students because they had more background information than I did but that was not too hard to keep up with.

academic quality of education activities

Trinity College Dublin is one of the best colleges in the country, so naturally the level of education was very high.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

All of the teacher and coordinators are most helpful if you have any questions about the study material or about anything else really.

transfer of credits

I have not yet received any results but the modules are all measured in European credits so I imagine that should not be a problem.

### STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Trinity have a great freshers week where you get to know loads of people, can join societies and you get to know everything there is about all the buildings on campus so you'll know where your classrooms and the library is.

accommodation

It can be very hard to find accommodation in Dublin. Make sure you count on paying more rent than in The Netherlands.

leisure & culture

Dublin is a vibrant city full of cultural attractions. Also, Ireland is not too big so it is very easy to visit other places like Galway, Limerick, Cork and you'll even be in Belfast in 2 odd hours.

suggestions/tips

### CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes! Dublin is a great city with loads of things to do. You don't have to be bored ever. Also, Trinity College is a great university with a high level of education. I have learnt academic skills but also I got to know myself better. It was a great challenge!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

**2017-2018****Report 1**

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faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Celtic Languages and Culture

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	01 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	15 / 12 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

## exchange application process

The application process for the Erasmus exchange programma required the completion of a fair amount of paperwork, which was sometimes quite confusing. However, I managed to finish it step by step, creating a clear overview of the work that had to be done.

## counselling &amp; support at Utrecht University

The International Office of Utrecht University as well as my tutor did an outstanding job in supporting students who aspire to study abroad. Whenever I had questions there was always someone that could help me out and the university guided me very well during the period of preparation.

## academic preparation

Even though I did not have to prepare in this field as much as in the others, I did some work regarding the courses I wanted to take at TCD. Since I'm a language student, I repeated some of the grammar that I practiced in Utrecht in the first and second years of my studies, just to make sure I hadn't forgotten everything.

## language preparation

Before I was allowed to study abroad I was required to take a language test which determined my level of English. Whereas this can be very useful for academic purposes, I myself did not necessarily need it since I have been exposed to English from the age of 10 until now. My bachelor is also mostly taught in English.

## finances

Utrecht University seeks to send students abroad well prepared and one area of preparation is, of course, finances. While some students underestimate the costs of such a period, the financial plan presents a very clear picture of how much you might need to spend and how much money you receive. This way you can determine for yourself if it's smart to go abroad, but you also ensure your home university that you are able to maintain yourself during your stay.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

As a student of Celtic Languages and Culture I visited the Irish Department of Trinity College Dublin. Fortunately, you are not limited to courses only from that school, so I also had some courses in the English department and the History department.

## academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the education at Trinity College Dublin is outstanding. The professors and teachers educate their students with passion and support their students very well during the process.

## counselling &amp; support at receiving university abroad

During the first week of the academic year you get a lot of information as a student. This information is not only about the college map or your introduction rounds but also focuses on mental and physical support for their visiting students. As soon as the first week is over, you can still get help everywhere. There are plenty of services available to students.

## transfer of credits

Trinity College Dublin fortunately uses the same system of credits as we do: the ECTS. Therefore you do not have to struggle with converting, which is nice.

**STUDENT LIFE**

## welcome &amp; orientation programme

During the first week of term I was very nervous. I didn't know anyone there and was kind of scared I wouldn't make any friends because I'm a very shy person. The introduction meeting immediately put an end to that: after some general information about the services available to students I was put in a mentor group in which we were all required to tell something about ourselves to the other visiting students. I thought this was a very cool way of getting rid of the nerves because you immediately meet new people. Besides that, the first week concentrates on societies too. There are so many different societies, it's insane. You can sign up for sports as well as other stuff and every society has lots of activities during the first week where you can meet a lot of new people!

## accommodation

It's generally known that Dublin is one of the worst cities when it comes to accommodation. Even for the student accommodations arranged by TCD itself you pay so incredibly much money (like, €800-€1000 per month) and they're not even always in the city centre... A good thing is that that's not your only option: there are also websites with advertisements of private rooms. At one of those websites I found my room (for €100 per week). I lived with a woman and her daughter and their dog which was very nice. There was another student living there as well, with whom I've become great friends. The location wasn't that bad either, the busstop was at the end of the street and it took me around 20-30 minutes every day to get to TCD.

## leisure &amp; culture

If you're looking for culture then you're in the right place in Dublin. There is plenty of stuff to do in Dublin itself, but you can also get on one of the many bustours and visit other parts of the country, or just drink some beer in a pub! The people are super friendly.

## suggestions/tips

You should definitely sign up for societies/sports clubs. I think that's one of the biggest opportunities of getting to know people.

**CONCLUSIONS**

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would definitely recommend this university and destination to others. The people there are super nice and always willing to help you out, but you can also learn a lot at TCD and in Dublin itself. There are always plenty of activities to do, plenty of parties to go to and plenty of experiences to be had.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Make sure you have everything figured out before you leave. It takes away some of the stress so that you can fully enjoy your first week there without having to worry about other stuff, which I think is very important.

**Report 2**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> v.m.bloem@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Faculty of Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	History

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	08 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	25 / 05 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

exchange application process
The exchange application process went relatively smoothless. Both Utrecht University and Trinity College Dublin responded very promptly to questions or requests.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
I did not need much counselling or support prior to my departure or during my stay in Dublin. The view questions I asked them were of minor significance, and the answers that were given to me were satisfactory.
academic preparation
The only academic preparation that could be done before departure was the selection of courses to follow whilst on exchange. This did not create any problems.
language preparation
English is the main language of both Dublin and of Trinity College Dublin. The level of my English was already high enough, so it was not necessary for me to take any language courses or to prepare for the language switch in any other way.
finances
I was eligible for the Erasmus Grant. For this grant I had to fill in some forms prior to my departure. This did not create any problems for me.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

study programme (content and organisational issues)
The study programme met my expectations. There were however some issues with the subscription to courses. Around half of the courses that according to the website of Trinity College Dublin were available for exchange students did not exist anymore. Someone going on exchange to Trinity therefore has to be prepared to accept that the courses that he/she had chosen prior to his/her departure will not be the courses that will be taken in the end. Furthermore, it is not yet possible at Trinity to subscribe to courses via a digital platform. You still have to physically attend a session where you can subscribe for courses.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality of the education activities is comparable to that of Utrecht University. The courses are given through lectures and tutorials (the equivalent of the seminars at the UU). I have enjoyed this learning method. During the semester, the student usually has to hand in an essay or make a small exam. At the end of the semester, there are three exam weeks, in which you have to make exams that determine between 60 and 80 percent of your grade.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Just like my contact with Trinity College Dublin prior to my departure, the counselling & support during the term was satisfactory. Both lecturers and tutors are extremely open to questions both in person and via mail. They usually reply within a couple of hours. Their answers never left any doubt for me. I once accidentally had downloaded the deadline schedule for the wrong year, which meant that I handed in my essays too late. After I explained my situation to the responsible teacher they were very sympathetic with my cause and the issue was quickly solved.
transfer of credits
I cannot provide any information on this issue yet, as this process hasn't been started on the date of uploading this document.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme
The welcome programme provided me all the necessary information I needed. It would however in my opinion be even more interesting if they included a social program to the orientation program. This would make it easier to get to know students you would otherwise never meet. Second, I was very annoyed by the afternoon programme, during which two hours were spent discussing problems related to visa and immigration office appointments. These matters are not relevant for students living in the EU, and I would therefore suggest to create an opportunity prior to this part of the programme for EU students to leave.
accommodation
The accommodation situation in Dublin at this moment is not great. There clearly is a shortage of houses. In the end everyone will be able to find a place to stay, but one might have to lower his/her expectations. My accommodation costed me 560 euro's per month. It was a decent accommodation, but in the Netherlands I would never pay more than 300 euro's for that room. Trinity has housing available for exchange students, but these apartments cost 950 euro per month, whilst in the Netherlands a similar apartment would probably cost around 400 euro. Furthermore, if you look for an apartment on Facebook (which is the easiest method) you have to watch out for scams, because around of 10 percent of the advertisements there are fake. I would however never advise to stay away from Dublin just because of the housing situation. Like I said, in the end everyone will find something that will work for a semester. The host family I stayed with was extremely friendly and it is always a great experience to find housing abroad.
leisure & culture

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

Dublin is not the most beautiful city in the world. It has however one of the most vibrant student and city cultures. I have not been bored a single day during my stay in Dublin. There are many museums in Dublin, which are very often free, and never more expensive than 10 euro's. There are numeral festivals throughout the year, such as St. Patrick's Day, and the nightlife in Dublin is absolutely fantastic. There are a couple of beautiful hikes within a one hour radius of Dublin. Ireland is one of the most stunning countries I've ever seen. The nature is diverse and unmatched in beauty. The other cities of Ireland are again not beautiful, but they are raw and real, and the nightlife there is great.

suggestions/tips

All the tips have already been mentioned in the relevant sections above. Too sum up: watch out for scams and do not expect Dutch standards when it comes to accomodations, and be prepared for their alternative subscription procedure.

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

I would wholeheartedly recommend Trinty College Dublin, Dublin and Ireland to other exchange students. The few problems regarding accomodation are by far not severe enough when compared to the entire Ireland experience. The quality of the lessons at Trinity is high, and the students and staff of Trinity are very friendly. Dublin is truly a very diverse and cultural city. To conclude: Ireland is just to beautiful to never visit.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

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**Report 3**

e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> l.a.husstege@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Geesteswetenschappen
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	History

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	15 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	25 / 05 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

exchange application process

The exchange application process was quite good. Everyone i contacted replied swiftly and tried to be as helpful as they could. The steps needed for the process were clear and understandable. Some parts like getting the right signatures and reaching the correct person might take a little longer, so its important to start early enough.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

We had a couple of different ways of support. I liked the lecture about going abroad after which we actually met people who had gone to the country and/or city we were going to. They gave us advice about how to go about things like getting a place to live and how to get around.
academic preparation
There was not much specific in academic preparation. It was not really necessary either. The only issue I ran into was that the examination process at TCD was different than what I was used to. However, this is not something that can be prepared for at a different university.
language preparation
Was not really necessary for me. It did help that I'd written papers in English before.
finances
Dublin is quite expensive. I was lucky that I had a place to stay that belonged to friends of my parents, but from what I gathered from my friends is that the student housing was very expensive. Overall are the prices of groceries and the like also a bit higher than in the Netherlands.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)
The enrollment in modules was a bit of an hassle to be honest. We had to get a piece of paper signed by different parties and carry it all across campus. On the other hand, classes were interesting and once I got used to taking notes in English, easy to follow along.
academic quality of education activities
There are a lot of options and voluntary lectures and clubs to be part of if you so wish. They are interesting and of good quality.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
I did not need a lot of support or counseling, but they were definitely available for anyone who needed it.
transfer of credits
have not heard anything about it yet

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme
This was very good. Straight of the bat, I met a lot of other international students that were all new as well. This made it easy to make friends and not feel alone in a new city. they also gave good advise about where to do groceries, safety recommendations and public transport.
accommodation
I got a place through friends of my family. What I did hear, was that there is a huge shortage of housing in Dublin so it will be very expensive to rent or something.
leisure & culture
Dublin is a city with plenty to do and see. The whole centre is very walkable. Lots of history and other cultural things going on and a lot of great places to eat.
suggestions/tips

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

Stay out of Temple bar for the most part. only tourists go there and it is way more expensive than the rest of the city.

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

Definetly, although it is a bit expensive. I had a great time, the Irish are very friendly people and there is a lot to do in the city and at Trinity itself.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you want to meet Irish students, it would be a good idea to enlist in some of the clubs they have on campus. they organise a lot of activities and stuff to do as well.

**2016-2017****Report 1**

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

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	26 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	16 / 12 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

exchange application process

Due to the lack of a contract between the department of English Language & Culture and Trinity College, I went via the Celtic Department. The application process of Utrecht University went smoothly when it was confirmed I was able to follow enough Irish courses at Trinity. I went to the Exam Committee to make sure those courses would count and were legit regarding my Bachelor Degree. Even though it was only at the end of August when I could start the official application process for Trinity, it went rather quickly.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I was not in need for any counselling or support

academic preparation

I felt academically prepared for the study abroad experience and did not feel as if I was lacking any skills during classes.

language preparation

English was not a problem and before the exchange I made sure we did not need any prerequisites in order to follow the Irish courses I did.

finances

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

Depending on where you are planning on staying, the costs for accommodation in Dublin are rather high so take that into account.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I followed the courses Imagining Ireland IV; Irish Language and Literature, Old Irish and Irish Sagas.

academic quality of education activities

Imagining Ireland was a third year course as opposed to the other first year courses. Therefore it expected a higher level of participation and preparation. This was a challenge at times, but because it was very interesting also doable. Irish Language and Literature and Irish Sagas were clear first year literature courses making them not as demanding but they gave me a good overview and introduction of Irish history, politics and its relation to short stories and sagas. Moreover, Irish Language and Literature was divided into Old Irish, Modern Irish Literature and Folktales. Old Irish is in my opinion comparable with learning Latin or Greek. You learn the grammar system and the paradigms in order to be able to translate Old Irish sentences into English.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I enjoyed my stay very much and wanted to extend my period abroad from one semester to the whole year. In the end it did not work out for me as I wanted to follow courses in need for my masters back at home that I was not able to follow at Trinity College. However, they helped me with a lot of enthusiasm and attention so I could make sure there was no other option for me to stay. If I wanted to keep following Irish courses I am sure that would not have been a problem.

transfer of credits

I haven't received my grades or credits yet.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

There was a lot of possibility to ask questions. The society market is a lot of fun and it's there for the whole Freshers Week. Joining the society costs between 2 to 5 euros and you can join as many as you want as there is no obligation to go to every single event. You can simply pick and choose to which event or drink you want to go.

accommodation

The chances of staying at Trinity Hall are very slim, especially when you are only staying for one term. They do have other accommodations, for instance Marino Institute of Education (south of the city) or Binary Hub, where you can apply. We received knowledge of these spots relatively late so there was insecurity where to stay in Dublin. However these accommodations are always available for Trinity students. Trinity does have a accommodation service and there are a lot of facebook roommate groups if you are looking for apartments or shared rooms instead of a private room which is the case for Marino and the Binary Hub.

leisure & culture

Due to the many societies is there always something to do at Trinity. I would recommend joining the International Society as they have drinks, parties and they organise trips around Ireland. As a student you have free access to the gym and the swimming pool every day of the week. Dublin on itself has a lot of culture and leisure activities. The city feels safe and small because everything is within walking distance making it quickly feel like home.

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

## suggestions/tips

- A student leap card makes it easy for you to travel by bus or train without having to pay every single time at the driver's. Moreover, when you do it has to be in coins and precisely the good amount as you do not get any change, at least not right away. With the Leap Card app you can top up your card easily if you have wifi and your card at hand.
- At the introduction markets during Fresher's week a lot of societies have their own stand where you can sign up. This is for the whole period you are studying at Trinity. It costs between the two and five euros to join which provides you with the opportunity to take part in all the fun activities of the given society. I advise you to join as all of societies you are interested in as it is not obligatory to take part in all the activities, but it gives you the opportunity to meet new people and you always have something to do during the week. Plus a lot of the societycard give you a discount by a variety of restaurants and stores.
- Most coursebooks (at least for the Irish Language and Culture department) are available for you to buy at the Irish Language and Literature office. It is a lot cheaper and you are certain you have the right one for the course.
- Have fun! Travel, go see stuff, meet new people and enjoy the time you spend there!

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

I do. The university is beautiful and there is a broad variety of societies you can join to meet new people and to enjoy your time in Dublin. Dublin itself is an amazing city close to sea, the mountains and a centre of different cultural activity. As for the public transport and the organisation of certain departments at Trinity you have to keep in mind that some people (in my experience) do have the relaxed Southern European mindset of "mañana, mañana". This is flattering for the country on the one hand, yet it might be annoying if you are not used to this mindset. To conclude, I would certainly recommend Trinity College and wish you the best of luck and have fun!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Make sure you have checked what your options are regarding the courses at Trinity as there are not always as many as at your home university.

**Report 2**

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

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	16 / 08 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	16 / 12 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)

**PREPARATION**

exchange application process

**Ireland – Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin**

The application process can be very stressful, but in the end that's definitely worth it. Trinity College Dublin, especially the Irish and Celtic department, are very kind and willing to help. It is important that you yourself make sure you do everything though. You'll have to send a lot of e-mails.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Very good.
academic preparation
I took one fourth year course on Irish politics that was not for international students, I had a hard time understanding everything for that course but in the end I still did well. My advice would be to choose international student- courses though.
language preparation
English - so fine.
finances
Dublin is extremely expensive, especially to live there. It is quite normal to share a room. I didn't, but my room did cost thrice as much as my room in Utrecht.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)
I really enjoyed my courses, and the Irish and Celtic department are extremely kind and willing to help.
academic quality of education activities
Good
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Very good, as stated before the department was very willing to help.
transfer of credits
Still unclear

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme
Freshers week was a lot of fun, although keep in mind that "understanding Ireland" start-up program is not meant for European students.
accommodation
In the end I was able to find a room in Marino, on campus, but this was really expensive.
leisure & culture
There's loads of societies to join! Had a really fun time doing things from pottery to sports.
suggestions/tips
Join as many societies as you want during freshers week. Joining a society only costs 3 euros or something, and this way you'll always have something to do.

**CONCLUSIONS**

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

yes. I had a great time, I did well in my courses and I made loads of friends through the societies.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Keep on top of things such as finding accomodation, this can be hard.