

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: josine.muller@hotmail.com
	my weblog	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	my Facebook account	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	other (social) media	<input type="checkbox"/> yes:
	or	
	<input type="checkbox"/> my contact details cannot be published on the UU webpage, but I do give the International Office permission to forward my e-mail address to individual students interested in my host university abroad: @	
faculty/college	Humanities	
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD	
name study programme	Kunstgeschiedenis	

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
how did you travel to your destination?	By train
name university abroad	Università degli studi di Verona
start date	13 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	23 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION
exchange application process
I started really early to gain information for the application process, because I had to hand in everything the beginning of december the year before my exchange year. Nevertheless I missed a few moments where the UU gave information about doing an exchange. After I sent a few emails to the International Office it was clear what I had to prepare and where I could find documents. On the other hand, searching for courses on the website of the guest universities was a lot of work since the universities all have their own sistem of displaying courses. It is very different from the website of the UU. It took me the most of the time. About the Italian language, the rules for this were very vague. On the website of the university of Verona it said that for everyone following courses in Humanities it was mandatory to have B1 level. Since I knew I was following courses within 'Beni Culturali' I sent a email if this also was the case for me. This was the case, so I took an extra exam and a course outside the UU for the B1 level. In the end, there was nobody who asked me for the certificate for B1 and I could also begin with the courses without. There were also other exchange students in my courses that did not have B1.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The International Office at the UU was very fast in replying emails for questions but also when I needed a signature on documents.
academic preparation

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

There were no special requirements for the courses I wanted to follow at the university of Verona, so I did not have to prepare anything for the courses.

language preparation

I followed the minor Italian culture and language on the UU where I obtained A2/B1 level. Furthermore I followed an extra language course after the minor, which helped me to obtain fully B1 level.

finances

I requested the Erasmus+ grant and the Travel Green Grant. On the website of the UU it was very clear what to do for requesting the grant. Nevertheless the Travel Green Grant office was not very fast in responding questions via email.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I followed courses within the degree 'Beni Culturali' but this degree offered more courses than only art history courses. I was not aware of this so in the end I also followed courses related to literature. I did not really like them, but I already started the course so when I wanted to find a new course, I already missed a few classes, so I stuck to the literature courses. The university has an online learning environment called "Moodle" but the professors don't use it like the professors at the UU. On "Moodle" they only post the Powerpoint slides, but there is no document like the Course Content there is at the UU with all the information of the course. The only thing you have is the description on the website, but some professors do not even follow that. The school system also differs from the UU system, because at the university of Verona you have to follow all the courses in one semester.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of education is really different from the UU. The stuff you learn during the courses is very theoretic. There are only lectures and no seminars. The exam is the only thing that will be graded, so I did not have to write papers. Some of my exams were oral and some were written. Doing oral exam is really chaotic. I was lucky that there were not a lot of people in my courses. It could happen that you end up taking the oral exam three days after the original date when there are a lot of people in your course. Being an Erasmus student is an advantage when taking the exam, because you will also be graded on the participation in class. Especially when they notice that Italian is not your mother tongue. So I would recommend to get in touch with your professor about being an Erasmus student a few times.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The international office of the university of Verona was very helpful and fast in replying emails. They also had a physical office at the university, where you could go for everything that you needed.

transfer of credits

Each course I followed was 6 credits. So I followed 4 courses since the UU requires to do an exchange semester of 22,5 credits.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome day organised by the university of Verona was a recap of the document for incoming exchange students on their website. Since I already read this documents there was no new information during this day for me. I recommend subscribing to the ESN students association. They organise nice activities in the first week of the semester where I met a lot of new people.

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

accommodation
I found my apartment via ESU. This is a company that helps students in Verona with housing but also more organizational stuff. I found the apartment on the Facebook group. I applied together with an other exchange girl, before moving to Verona. The apartment was nearby the location of the university where I had all my classes. It was located in the Veronetta area which is also 5 minutes from the city centre.
leisure & culture
I did a lot of things together with the people I met at the ESN students association. The board of the ESN also arrange whatsapp groups for doing sports, so I played volleybal regulary. ESN organized really a lot of activities so you can make it as busy if you like. The city centre is small but there are a lot of nice bars and restaurants. In the city centre there are no clubs, they are located outside the centre. I did not really meet people outside of the ESN group. Nevertheless, it was very easy to adapt to the Italian culture.
suggestions/tips
I suggest to go to the ESN Integration weekend. There you will meet easily new people.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, I would recommend Verona as a city since it is small and you can really live the 'dolce vita' here. It is also very close to the Garda lake (with the train only 15 minutes). I would consider another univeristy for the level of education. I think when you want to challenge yourself the university of Verona is not really the place to go.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
I would recommend having B2 level italian if you follow the courses in italian. Although it was not mandatory it was really challenging for me to speak during the oral exams. I also would recommend taking part in the tandem project organised by the university. There you can meet with an italian student and learn to speak better italian.

2021-2022**Report 1**

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Italian language and Literature

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
how did you travel to your destination?	By car
name university abroad	University of Verona
start date	21 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	14 / 02 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

exchange application process
Applying for my exchange was a vague process, but with the help of the internationals office it became more clear and I was able to easily apply. At some points it was a little unclear to me what exactly was expected of me. After searching on the UU website I came across the information I needed but it was very clearly indicated where to find this.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The counselling and support from Utrecht University was very good. Quick replies with full and clear answers which really helped me to get everything in order for my exchange abroad.
academic preparation
As far as academic preparation I mostly tried to refresh my Italian knowledge to make following the lectures easier for myself. I wanted to prepare more but my receiving institution did not release any information on the courses until a short time before they started so further preparation wasn't possible.
language preparation
Since I already studied the language as part of my studyprogram, I didn't feel the need to take a language course but I did study some more to refresh my language skills after the summer holidays.
finances
I applied for the Erasmus grant to cover part of the expences and I requested a studentloan from DUO. Apart from this I already saved a bit of money so I would have to stress about it during my exchange.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
I chose various courses from various disciplines. Two of my courses were history related and therefor contained a lot of information. These were also the courses that were the most different from anything I'm used to in the Netherlands because it was more about knowing and less about understanding. My other two courses were more psychological and sociological. These courses were a bit more what I'm used to but still very different. For the course general psychology the start of the lectures was very difficult to find and the timelabel was not correct. Non of the courses had anything similar to a syllabus so it was sometimes unclear what was expected.
academic quality of education activities
Personally I feel like the academic quality of the guest university was less than what I'm used to. This is mainly because of the lack of seminars and discussion. All lessons are lecture based and no form of interaction or discussion is used during these lessons, which makes it more about learning only pure information and less about understanding and applying this information.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Communication with the counselling and support desk was little bit more difficult. The internationals office was very helpful when I had questions but due to the language barrier sometimes there was a bit of miscommunication but all in all I was happy with the help I got. The professors did not reply to emails so asking questions outside of the lectures was impossible, this could be a bit of a hindrance.
transfer of credits
As far as I know the transfer of credits is good. I haven't received my transcript of records yet but I believe all my attained credits will be transferred fully.

STUDENT LIFE

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

welcome & orientation programme
The ESN group was very welcoming and helpful with orientation during my stay. They organized all kinds of activities to get to know other Erasmusstudents and the city. I would absolutely recommend joining when going on exchange because it really helps settling into the new city with new people.
accommodation
Finding an accommodation was very difficult. The website with accommodation offered from the university itself was had nothing available after only a short time, so I had to look elsewhere. Unfortunately most accommodations either don't want international students or are very expensive or don't reply to messages. In the end I found something but it was a little expensive.
leisure & culture
The culture was a bit of a shock at first but I got used to it quickly. It is very nice to be able to really experience the country by traveling to cities and places nearby by public transport, which was very nice and accessible.
suggestions/tips
Definetly join the ESN group at your exchange location! It really helps meeting people. Also be aware of traffic, in most places it will be different from traffic in your own country and it takes a while to get used to. Also the food is very different but it is a lot of fun to try new things. Don't forget to travel aswell! It is amazing to be able to see so much of a country so easily and it really adds to your erasmus experience.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, as far as Italy goes Verona is a very nice city. It is not too big so you aren't surrounded by too many internationals and it is very pretty aswell. You can get anywhere in the city center on foot and it is very easy to go to other places by bus or by train. As far as the university goes I think you get a similar experience in most universities in Italy based on the experiences of a friend of mine who studied in a different place in Italy. So I would base your choise mainly on the city which appeals most to you, and ofcourse which courses are available to internationals at each university. In which case Verona is also a very good option since you have almost free range over all of the courses.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Don't stress too much about oral exams, the professors are very understanding and kind, especialy for erasmus students. It is also smart to prepare something you want to say, in most oral exams I had, they let you decide on the main direction of the conversation so you can talk about the topics you find more interesting.

Report 2

faculty/college	Utrecht University
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Italian language and culture
destination city & country	Verona, Italy
how did you travel to your destination?	By car
name university abroad	Università degli studi di Verona

start date	03 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	09 / 02 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process was very fun for me. I did a lot of research on each of the universities we could choose from, and decided that Verona was the best option, since you can choose many different courses of different faculties. I wrote down all the subjects I wanted to follow and tried to explain why I wanted to follow these classes. I also did some research on the city itself and found out it really suited me. I tried to explain this in my application letter as good as possible.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Before we started the application process there was a meeting organized by my professors to talk to some other students who already did their exchange. They invited students and made sure they all studied in different cities to give us an idea of each possible city.
academic preparation	For the university of Verona and for my study it was necessary to follow the courses in Italian and so my language needed to be good enough to follow the professors. I tried to prepare the best I could by reading, watching movies and tried pen-pals. I already had a good level of Italian, so I didn't struggle much with the language. For the subjects I chose you didn't have to have preknowledge so that was nice too. This is all described on the site of the faculty of the subject.
language preparation	See above
finances	I made sure to subscribe for the Erasmus Grant and also started to borrow more from DUO. I think I spend around 500 euros a month for groceries and fun stuff like traveling and going out to dinner. Besides that my rent was 500 euros so in total I spend around 1000 euros per month. Traveling in Italy was very cheap and also the food was not expensive so I tried to do as many things as possible.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	For the study programme it was difficult at first. The schedule was posted very late and I didn't discover I had a university emailaddress until I went by the IT office. The professors react late to emails.
academic quality of education activities	classes are organized very differently from Utrecht. You only listen to the professor and you don't have readings before class. The only thing you have to do is read some books before an exam, that's about it, which gives you enough free time to explore Italy. further more the exams are mostly oral and they only give you 3 or 4 questions. I think the quality of education activities is fine, since italy focuses more on facts than on application skills, like utrecht
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	I had good contact with lisa Bonfante, she is the coordinator of university Verona for the abroad students, when something wasn't clear i could send her an email and she would respond rather fast

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

transfer of credits
The transcript of records was easy to download on the university site

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	The university itself doesn't organize anything but the ESN is a very nice association with a lot of fun activities to get to know more abroad students.
accommodation	accomodation was very difficult to find. I tried to look at rooms the university provided, but there were only a few for too many students so they were all gone before I could decide on a room. Eventually I found something togheter with another student from utrecht. We had a nice apartment
leisure & culture	When you come across Italians on the street they are very rude, but when they get to know you they will treat you like family. It was kind of difficult to get to know Italians, since the schoolsystem is so different and you don't have any projects to work on together. everyone lets everything run its course and is not in a hurry, which makes everything go rather slowly.
suggestions/tips	My advice is to adjust to the 'tranquillo' lifestyle, really try to travel through Italy with the friends you make there. Don't worry too much about your exams, and let all the professors know you are Erasmus so they can help you a bit, they are very willing to.

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	I would for sure recommend this university, because there is a wide range of different subjects and the university buildings are large and finely arranged. it is fairly in the center, which is also beautiful and everything is easy to reach by bus or bicycle
do you have any additional advice or comments?	no.

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	Italian Language and Culture / Philosophy

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
how did you travel to your destination?	Car

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

name university abroad	Università degli studi di Verona
start date	7 / 9 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	1 / 2 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
Went very smoothly and the university made every step very clear.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The same, it went very smoothly and the university organized a lot of meetings etcetera to explain everything to you.
academic preparation
The university explained what Italian universities could be like, so I was prepared for that.
language preparation
I study Italian, so I already spoke the language
finances
The university also explained how your finances could look like when you study abroad and explained us very clearly how to get a grant.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
The courses I did were very detailed and that made me learn a lot about topics I did not know everything about. Also there were only lectures, no seminars, and for me that really works. The only downside of that is that there was not really an opportunity to come in contact with other Italian students. Also there were no breaks which caused the same effect. The exam was in the end of my semester and I just had to make sure that when the exam arrives I had read all the books. That really worked for me, because the daily deadlines in The Netherlands really cause you to never have time for yourself and that was something I finally could experience in Italy. What I did not really like is that the material and books of a whole semester are a lot and they really expect you to study every detail and every sentence, so the amount of studying was a lot. Also oral exams are not really my thing, I prefer written exams.
academic quality of education activities
I think the academic quality was quite high. The exams weren't easy and they expected you to study a lot. The only thing is that there weren't presentations or papers that had to be written, which doesn't teach you academic skills. But luckily in Utrecht we have studied those a lot, so it wasn't a loss for me.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The university responded quickly when documents needed to be signed. Also the international office was very well organized and clear.
transfer of credits
Fair

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	
The welcome and orientation programme was organized very well. There was an orientation day in which they showed us all the faculties and their locations of the university and they explained everything we needed to know. There was also a welcome week with parties, activities etc. to get to know the other international students, which was very nice.	
accommodation	
The accommodation services were organized very well. They responded quickly and did everything to help you. The accommodation itself in which I was placed could have been better, but I think I was just unlucky, the other accommodations seemed nice.	
leisure & culture	
A lot of activities and parties were organized if you're into that. I am not and also for me there was plenty of stuff to do. The city offers a lot (and with that I mean really a lot) of culture and sites; you could spend days exploring the city and its surroundings. There is the arena, the Torre dei Lamberti, the Castello san Pietro, the balconette of Julia, the Ponte Pietra, the Ponte Vecchio, il Santuario (beautiful viewpoint), beautiful squares, a lot of romanian remains, there is the city wall you can walk on and the river Adige you can walk past. I honoustly think Verona is one of the most beautiful cities I have ever seen. There are also a lot of other cities not far from Verona and easily reachable by train.	
suggestions/tips	
Take part in the Tandem Project if you would like to come in contact with more local Italian students and practice your Italian with them.	

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	
Yes, definitely. For an italian university I thought this one in Verona was actually quite structured and clear. And like I said, the city has a lot to offer, just like its surroundings. Also, Verona is not a very popular destination to go to as an international student, there were only 250 internationals (where other universities have over a thousand). The city is also not an overwhelmingly big one, so it's easy to understand its structure and make your way through it.	
do you have any additional advice or comments?	
Go to Verona, you will definitely not regret it.	

Report 2

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.r.d.speelman@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	Italian language and culture	

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
how did you travel to your destination?	By plane
name university abroad	Università degli studi di Verona
start date	01 / 09 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	31 / 01 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I am not very satisfied. To begin with, some emails didn't reach me because they got in my spambox. Also, there were a lot of emails and it was a bit of a chaos. I never knew where to look and it costed me a lot of time. I understand that maybe this has been partly my own fault, maybe I should have read the emails better, but it gave me a lot of stress.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I have the idea that the international office was very busy, but also quite available for us. They responded my questions mostly within a week. But, if I said it was very urgent they always tried to answer sooner.

academic preparation

I was sufficiently prepared.

language preparation

Since I have been studying Italian language and culture for 3 years now (this is my fourth year) I was sufficiently prepared to follow the courses in Verona.

finances

Italy is not way more expensive than the Netherland and that's why I had no problems. But maybe if I had wanted to go to another country it would have been harder. I didn't notice much support from the UU but maybe that was also because there are not much financial differences between the Netherlands and Italy.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The content was extremely interesting and a very good addition to the program I already followed at the UU.

academic quality of education activities

Very good quality of education activities. The teachers were knew so much about the subjects they taught. I followed some of the best courses I've followed till now in Verona.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

It was okay. Everything was quite clear. Just like at the UU.

transfer of credits

I don't know if I understood this question right, but I am not very happy with the fact that my grades at the receiving university receive at the UU only a sufficient, since I never studies as much in my life as I did in Verona, because I was extremely motivated to do my subject since I could choose exactly the kind of courses

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

that I like. Because of this, I had very high grades and I don't feel rewarded for my work if I get only a 'sufficient'. The ECTS were okay. The system was logical.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

It was quite well organized. The ESN helped with letting Erasmus students get to know each other.

accommodation

My accomodation was very nice in the beginning. After a few months there were some problems, though, such as the heating that didn't work well.

leisure & culture

Very good!! The first of every months, the museums costed only 1 euro. The city was very rich of culture.

suggestions/tips

For other erasmusstudents:1. enroll in the 'tandemproject'. Here, you can meet up with an native Italian and practise your italian with them. In exchange, you talk another language with them so they can also practise that language. For me this was very usefull for practising Italian, and, it was very nice because I got to meet and see more Italian people. 2. become a member of the ESN and go to their welcome week. Here, you get to know a lot of people. Later, you don't have to go anymore if you don't like to, but at least you know a lot of people from the beginning.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, very much. The university is very good, the city is very beautiful and the people are quite nice.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Yes. The language test of the OLS mails got into my spam box, and, there was written '***SPAM***' next to the subject of the email. This is why I was very late with doing my language assessment.This is very unpractical.

2018-2019

Report 1

faculty/college	Humanities
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Italiaanse Taal en Cultuur

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
name university abroad	Università degli Studi di Verona
start date	16 / 09 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	06 / 02 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The application process is very clear, thanks to the help provided by the International Office at the UU. They help you through the entire application process and even offer a masterclass on writing a motivation letter. Once selected to go to the University degli Studi di Verona (Univr), you will automatically receive an email from the Univr International Office, and just have to provide your personal information to complete your application process. Be sure to follow the Facebook accounts recommended by the Univr International Office, since they will provide you with useful information before starting your mobility abroad.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The International Office at the UU offers a lot of help with regards to the application and is always available to answer questions at any point before, during, or after your mobility. Furthermore, they send a lot of reminders to help you remember what forms you have to hand in at what times.
academic preparation	I did not have to do any specific academic preparation beforehand in order to follow my courses in Verona. I did, however, look into courses I would want to follow, seeing as I had to compile a Learning Agreement.
language preparation	Since I am studying Italian, I didn't have to follow extra language courses to prepare for the mobility.
finances	On the Univr page of the UU website, the indication of monthly expenses when living in Verona (including insurances etc) was €700 to €800. I'd say that is a pretty accurate estimation. To pay these expenses, I used my Erasmus Grant, my DUO studiefinanciering, and a small amount of personal savings.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	With my application I had to submit a Learning Agreement, in which I had to specify the courses I wanted to follow. You can find all the courses available in the course catalogue available on the Univr website. When you're going to Verona for the first semester, though, the courses shown in the course catalogue are those of the year before. The course catalogue with the courses for the new year (and the timetables) only gets

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

published at the end of the summer holidays. It is, therefore, possible that upon arrival you have to change your Learning Agreement because of timetable issues or a change in the course itself. At the introduction day, the Univr International Office assigns you a teacher to contact for more general questions regarding the Learning Agreement. For more in depth questions you can always e-mail or visit the Univr International Office. Don't forget to register for your exams a month before the exam period and to visit the International Office at the end of your mobility.
academic quality of education activities
The courses are mainly seminars. You don't really get a lot of homework assigned, but most teachers do assign some books you have to read on your own. Most of my teachers did use Powerpoint slides to accompany their classes, and uploaded them to the online learning platform, however not all of them do and the slides are not as comprehensive as the classes themselves. Most courses only have one exam at the end of the semester, this exam is probably oral, so bear that in mind when you choose a course in Italian. One of my teachers also offered the possibility to take a little written exam halfway through the semester, so you could spread your workload. This intermediary exam was not mandatory, you could choose to also do this exam orally during the exam period. The Univr offers language courses through an institution called CLA for Italian up to level C1, and also for other languages.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
There is a lot of counselling available for international students in Verona. First, the International Office is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to answer any question you might have regarding school. For other questions, and for housing assistance, you can always refer to the International Students Union (ISU). On their website, you can register for housing assistance and health insurance, if you want to do so. Furthermore, their office is open every day of the week and you can always come to them for advice. There is also a general student union called ESU, that offers housing to all students (so international and Italian) and that is in control of the cafeteria, where you can get rather cheap warm meals for lunch or for dinner. Lastly, the European Student Network (ESN) has a location in Verona. The ESN plans a lot of events and daytrips to other cities especially for Erasmus students.
transfer of credits
Your professors enter your grades for your oral exams into Esse3, an online platform that is kind of the Osiris of Verona. After your mobility, you can download your Transcript of Records from here as well. You have to hand in the Transcript of Records, together with some other documents, in at the UU International Office.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
At the beginning of the semester, there is an introduction day for Erasmus students. On this day you get an information package with some useful documents and the International Office, the ESU, the ISU and some student organisations give a talk. Afterwards you get a tour through the most important buildings of the Univr and a tour through Verona. After this introduction day, you have about a week to look into the classes you want to follow, before the courses start.
accommodation
I've personally found accomodation through the ISU. The ISU offers single rooms and double rooms (like in the American roommate system). During your application, the Univr refers you to the ISU Facebook page. On this page, they will keep you updated on when the housing service starts. They also sometimes give tips on legitimate places where you can find housing, like the ESU or some residences. The ISU discourages finding a room though another medium, as there is quite a lot of scamming, but you can always decide for yourself if you want to make use of their services or not. If you haven't been able to find housing through their online housing

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service, you are sometimes still able to find a room when going to their office in person, but this isn't guaranteed.

leisure & culture

Verona has a lot of musea, churches and monuments you can visit. If you have a day off and want to do some serious sightseeing, the VeronaCard costs €18,- for 24 hours and gives you access to most of the touristic attractions. During summertime, you can go see shows at the Arena or at the Roman Amfiteater, and the Teatro Filarmonico has shows all year round. There are also a number of cinemas in Verona; they mainly show films in Italian). Verona is also very close to Lake Garda (I recommend the town Desenzano), Venice, Trento, and other cities worth paying a visit. Verona has a very large train station and you can buy traintickets online via trainitalia.it or at the station itself.

suggestions/tips

If you don't want to walk to Uni every day, but don't want to buy a new bike, look into VeronaBike. They have bike stations at the most important locations in the city, at which you can pick up or return a bike with a subscription. For this service, you do need a creditcard. Students also get a small discount on monthly bus subscriptions. You can buy a subscription at the bus ticket office at trainstation Verona Porta Nuova. Accurate bus info, like the routes you can take and the time the bus arrives at your bus stop, you can find in Google Maps.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I would definitely recommend going to Verona! The city and its atmosphere are gorgeous, and the university offers a lot of interesting courses.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

I really recommend getting in contact with the ISU, even if you don't want to use any of their services. They can give you advice on a myriad of topics that concern international students. Furthermore, I recommend introducing yourself as an Erasmus student to your teachers at the beginning of the course. Sometimes there is a slightly different course programme for Erasmus students that they need to inform you of.

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	Erasmus

destination city & country	Verona, Italy
name university abroad	University of Verona
start date	15 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 07 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	The process wasn't difficult. You receive a list of things you have to do. When applicate, make sure you have prepared all the documents.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The international office at Utrecht helps the students with all their papers. We received a document in which is written all the things you have to do before leaving, during your stay and after your stay. If I had a question and I sent an email, they answered me the same week.
academic preparation	I was well prepared before leaving. I speak the language and I had already choosen my courses. Also I knew that most of the exams in Italy are orals and they work in semesters, not in periods.
language preparation	As I study the Italian language, I didn't had to take any language courses before leaving. The University of Verona offers language courses at CLA, a language institute of the University, where students can attend a language course and make a final exam and get their certificate. But I'm sure Utrecht has them as well.
finances	I received the Erasmus Grant, the uitwonende beurs, OV-vergoeding and I rented some money. This was way enough. I lived in an appartement with 2 other students and I paid around €300 a week. Also the bars and restaurants in Verona are cheaper compared with The Netherlands.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	Before leaving I made my L.A. but after I arrived in Verona they had changed a lot of courses... I had to do my L.A. again...In Verona you have one month to change your L.A. so you can attend a course for one week to see if you like it, otherwise you can still change it. You can make sure that you like a course or not! About the organisational issues. They work in semesters and the teachers don't really care if you come to the lecture or not. At the end you have to make an exam, and it's your responsibility to pass it. Some teachers care about Erasmus students and try to help you, but I had also some who didn't care...
academic quality of education activities	

Italy – Università degli Studi di Verona

Different but fine. They work in a different way. At Utrecht the work consist of a lot out of group works and papers. I didn't had to do that. I only had to make the exam at the end of the semester.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
I didn't have a tutor, but had to go to the Internaional Office for help. Students work there and they are really kind and wanting to help you.
transfer of credits
After the exams, you receive a Transcript of Records in which you're results are written. In my case I had to leave before one of my results was published, so they had to send my Transcirop of Recors via email and post to me.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
In Verona is an active Erasmus organisation. They organise a welcome day and week! For the rest they organise several acitivities during the week. So you get to know all/more erasmus students.
accommodation
I try to find an accomodation online but I didn't reallt work out for me. Italians don't answer their email of phone... Or you have a wait a week... So with some other Erasmus students from the Facebook group (Erasmus students in Verona [year]) I rented a room in a B&B for a week and in that week we have searched for an apartment and we found one. The fact that you are there, in Verona, and can visit agencies and apartments, was a lot easier for me.
leisure & culture
I really love the Italians culture. Everything goes a bit slower, people have a coffee before going to Uni and after they enjoy the rest of the day with an aperitivo. It made me feel more relaxed.
suggestions/tips
Make sure you can speak some italian, or that you are wanting to learn it because not everybody speaks English in Italy. Our housing agency didn't speak any English, so I was the one who had to translate a lot of things for my flatmates who didn't spoke italian. Some Italian language knowledge will make things easier.

CONCLUSIONS

would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
First of all, this Uni is highly recommended in Italy (as far as I understood in Italy). It has a lot of faculties and different directions to study and so a lot of courses to choose. My faculty was near the center where I lived surrounded my bars and coffeeshops, printshops and nice restaurants. Beside this, there is an Erasmus organisation that helps Erasmus students and organises activities and parties! I recommend this univeristy and this city because I felt really welcomed and I had the best time of my life. You don't feel alone, because there are plenty of other students around you. The nightlife is good, but also the restaurants and bars. The public transport works well and you can buy/rent a bike. The city is not to big so you get to know almost all the other Erasmus students and you don't need to take the bus if you don't want, you can walk everything. Now i'm back at home, I have a new life experience and a lot of new friends all over the world.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Choose Verona!! And enjoy your Erasmus, make it the best time of your life!

Exchange Experiences

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International Office