How do I choose my destination?
Your presentors:

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Exercise 1

Making choices always works best if done methodologically
Keep the FOMO real about you!
Checklist to consider

- Academics
- Language Requirements
- Costs / Cost of Living
- Location
- Size of the University
- Housing

- Academic calendar
- Culture of the host country
- International environment
- Number of available places
- Where did other students go?
- Available destinations
Find your most important criteria

Discuss in the break-out rooms what your most important criteria would be
Which criterion is most important to you and why? Put it in the chat!
Let it sink in and come back to it when you’re ready
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Questions about which topic?</th>
<th>How to reach?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study advisor / Tutor/</td>
<td>Questions about your study progress</td>
<td><a href="https://students.uu.nl/en/en/">https://students.uu.nl/en/en/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person Abroad (HUM)</td>
<td>Discuss your Study Plan</td>
<td>➢ your programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Offices</td>
<td>Specific questions about university wide or faculty destinations, registration procedure,</td>
<td>Contact International Offices</td>
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<td></td>
<td>general questions on studying abroad</td>
<td>➢ Choose university wide or your own faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Host university</td>
<td>Specific questions regarding the destination to which you cannot find the answer</td>
<td>UU destination pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other students</td>
<td>Their review on a specific destination</td>
<td>Read the student reports on the destination pages</td>
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Questions?
Useful questions to ask yourself while making your choices

**Academic Requirements**

- Are there enough interesting subjects available?
- Does the university offer courses that match my possible master’s programme?
- Do I meet the entrance requirements of the host university, e.g. average grade, entry requirements for courses?
- Ranking / reputation / of host university?
- How do the courses fit in my programme (free electives, replacement of mandatory courses)?
- Does the academic culture appeal to me?

**Language**

- What is the language of instruction?
- Do I speak the language spoken in that country?
- Do I expect to meet the possible language requirements?

**Costs / Cost of Living**

- What are the expected total costs?
- Which scholarships are available?
- Can I / would I like to save / borrow some extra money?

**Location**

- What kind of city best fits you? A large city or a smaller one?
- Large cities generally offer more opportunities (places to go out, culture), but perhaps it is easier to meet people or feel more at home in a medium-sized or small town.
- Close to nature or in urban areas?
- Close to public transport (looking at travel possibilities)?
- Distance to the Netherlands / home country? As far as possible or rather close-by?

**Housing**

- Via university or arrange it yourself?
- On campus or in the city?
• Share a room or do you prefer a private room?
• Costs?
• House rules (for example: do not invite guests; curfew)

Size of the University
• Small universities may offer more personal attention where large universities offer a wider range of courses and facilities. What is more important to me?

Academic calendar
• Do the semester dates match your study programme at UU (no overlap)?
• For example Australia: mirrored semesters

Culture of the host country
• What does / does not appeal to you when looking at the culture of the host country?

International environment of the university
• How many international / exchange students does this university have?
• Does the university offer welcome / orientation / introduction days for exchange students?
• Are there buddies or international student associations?

Number of places available
• Are there enough places available within your top 3?

Where did other students go to on exchange?
• How did they review this destination?

Available destinations
• Destinations from your faculty and/or programme specific
• University wide destinations