



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Faculty of Humanities at Utrecht University
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE)

destination city & country	Perth, Australia
name university abroad	University of Western Australia (UWA)
start date	18/ 07 / 2022
end date	31 / 11 / 2022

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process was quite complicated, but manageable. The most important disclaimer that I can give is to get everything done as early as possible, as these processes can take a long time and you could run some serious risks of missing important dates if you do not get started early. For example, the student visa can take well over a month to be processed so it is essential to apply for it as soon as possible, which requires you to fill out all the previous steps first. The application process was also complicated in the sense that it required a lot of administrative work and becomes more complicated when a number of different parties are involved. It is important to stay in contact with the region(number)@UU.nl email, for they are able to help you with most of your questions and can help you stay on track. Although the process does become complicated, as there are a number of steps you must complete and you have to interact with many different people to complete the overall process, it is still possible to get done without too much stress if you plan well.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

This element was, from my experience, very much lacking. Aside from region@uu being able to help with a few of my questions, the overall guidance from the university was minimal. In addition, other students on exchange in Australia explained to me how their universities were a lot more involved in helping them set up for their exchange program, which really surprised me. This is also why I say that the process is complicated, because you are almost entirely responsible for figuring out what to do and getting everything organised without much support from UU. Personally, I believe that UU could learn from other universities in making the exchange process easier for their students.

academic preparation

This was a relatively easy step. After filling in the necessary forms, the overseas university will request that you submit an academic transcript to them. To do this, download your transcript by requesting this from your faculty and just ask your course co-ordinator to provide you with what you need (it should be a signature on a copy that you bring to him/her). Once you have done this, you should be fine. There is generally no need to worry about studying before going on exchange in preparation for the courses there (in my experience I had done no preparation, yet I was successful in passing all my courses with good grades). Studying before arriving at your exchange university, I believe, would be voluntary rather than mandatory.

language preparation

My first language is English and I studied in Australia, so no preparation was needed. My degree is a course for international students and is carried out in English, so it was easy to show proof of language proficiency.

finances



I would recommend that if you are staying with people you know and do not need to pay rent (or very little) then 750\$ a month would definitely suffice. However, if you are renting at a student accommodation for example, these rooms often cost around 350\$ PER WEEK so do keep this in mind. The 750\$ accounts for food, transport, phone bill, and general living costs. If you plan on going traveling (for instance, you want to fly to Bali or the East coast of Australia or visit some coastal towns far down in western Australia) then you would need to bring a significantly higher sum of money with. Typically, tourism in Australia is expensive, so going to other parts of the country or hiring a campervan will all cost a few hundred dollars at the minimum, even if it you only go for a week. I would advise having at least 2000\$ saved up as spending money for when you want to travel around and leave Perth (you will definitely want to do this, since Perth feels pretty small after being there for a few months and Australia has so much to explore outside of Perth).

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I was following courses that were related to my PPE degree. Half of my courses were economics related, while the others were politics and history related. Registration and class attendance were very simple and straightforward. The most important warning I have is that you must be confident with your course selection within your first week of studying. The university will warn you when the deadline is to make changes. If you want to make changes, you must make them before it is too late or else you will pay a monetary fine for changing courses after the deadline. This may seem unfair since you have only experienced a few days of being at the university and might not be sure which courses are best suited for you without trying them out for a few days, but unfortunately this is how it works. The best thing you can do is be confident in your selection before departing Utrecht university (which is difficult because their course manuals are very basic).

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality for each subject was very good, considering my own experiences. The teachers were all very knowledgeable, passionate and could explain the content well. As you would suspect, the teacher's in almost all instances could speak perfect English and were easy to understand. I can defiantly say that I had learned a lot while studying at UWA and their level of education is more than sufficient.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

UWA was very responsive to student concerns. They were welcoming towards the new students, made it very easy to settle in as an exchange student and it was easy to ask around to have your questions answered. They also offer a variety of great services, for instance: if it is getting late, you can call the campus security to walk you from the library to the bus stop so that you can feel safe (even though it is very safe there anyways). They care a lot about student safety and wellbeing and also have student psychologists who offer free sessions and good doctors on site. The staff are friendly and willing to help everyone.

transfer of credits

This is a slightly more complicated issue. Instead of doing the regular process (certified academic transcript handed into the respective faculty), UWA uses a system called MyEquals. This works differently, where you can do more research into how it works. Essentially, you send the transcript from MyEquals to your faculty and then your credits will be transferred.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

As stated above, the staff were very welcoming and willing to help us settle in. The orientation program was also enjoyable and allowed us to get to know people quickly and find our way around campus easily.

accommodation



I happened to stay with people I know, so I can not comment on this issue sufficiently. However, the student accommodation buildings that I visited were decent quality, centrally located and had a nice atmosphere.

leisure & culture

Aside from the academics, there was much to enjoy at UWA. They have a nice library where you can also hang out with people in the cafeteria area. The food court has a variety of good options to choose from and enables social interaction. The university tavern (a student bar) is also very nice for socialising and there are many outdoor green areas where people hang out, sit on bean bags, and spend outdoor time in the good weather (which is most of the year). There is also a beach along the river next to the university campus which is a nice place to relax and enjoy the outdoors. Outside of the university, the nightlife in Perth is remarkable, with many great bars and clubs to visit and busy/lively streets at night. I personally had a lot of fun in Perth while I was living there, with so many fun nights spent in the city. During the day, you can relax at some of the beautiful parks and beaches that Perth has to offer.

suggestions/tips

The most important thing in Perth is to get valid ID. They don't accept foreign drivers' licenses and passports are too risky to carry. Therefore, you must go to the one of the licensing departments in Perth and request to get a photo ID card, which allows you to gain access to bars and clubs where proof of age is needed (it is important to tell them to NOT put your address on the ID card, so make sure to tell them this).

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I would definitely recommend going to UWA, or at least Perth (Curtin is also good apparently). The academic side was very manageable, the social aspect was incredible and the setting is perfect. If you want to enjoy good weather, fun nights out with friends and have a very reasonable university workload, then you should go to UWA. The people there are also extremely friendly which is why it was easy for me to make a lot of good friends there, who I am still in contact with. Go to UWA! You will have an amazing experience there and most certainly won't regret it! It was one of the best decisions of my life and it will probably be the same for you as well (if you choose to go). I rate the overall exchange experience in Perth a 10/10!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Another piece of advice is regarding work. If you chose to work, you can expect to earn a very decent wage since the wages there are much higher than what we are used to in most other countries. I would recommend getting some part time work to help fund your experience in Perth if you are worried about finances. With the workload at UWA, you can expect to have enough free time to work as well. Overall, it is a good idea to look into opportunities to work while you are in Perth.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Science and Innovation management

destination city & country	Perth, Australia
name university abroad	University of Western Australia
start date	29 / 07 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	18 / 11 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

After looking into several universities abroad, I came to the conclusion that UWA would be the best option for me. The next stage was to submit the motivational letter and then the waiting began. Mid January I received an email from UU saying that I was selected for an exchange semester at UWA. From then on, I started to look into the units I wanted to do, searched for accommodation in Perth and apply for a student Visa. Everything takes some time to arrange, but in the end it is totally worth it.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The UU was helpful in answering questions. Before departure there was a pre-departure meeting at university in which you could ask questions and get some more information. Unfortunately there were no students who have been to Perth.

academic preparation

The units I chose to do at UWA were mainly first year units, so I didn't need much academic preparation. It is just important to keep up with the lectures and study material while studying at UWA so you don't lack behind.

language preparation

In order to meet the language requirements I had to do an English test. I chose to do the IELTS test which takes about 3.5 hours but is relatively easy to pass.

finances

Australia is a bit more expensive than the Netherlands, but especially the rent for a place to stay is expensive. The groceries were only a little bit more expensive. I opened an Australian bank account in advance, which was easy to do. It is also quite useful to save some money for travelling, it doesn't have to cost much, but it is definitely worth it to go travelling.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

As a fulltime student you are required to do the maximum amount of credits that can be obtained during the semester. In my case I had to do 4 units of 6 credit points each. I did three units of level 1, python programming, environmental economics, mathematical theory and methods, and 1 unit of level 2, perception and sensory neuropsychology. You can choose the units in advance (I was still in the Netherlands) and it is possible to create your own timetable and sign up for the courses. This helps to see if there are any timetable clashes. First I wanted to do another unit but that one had a timetable clash, so I had to choose my fourth unit



in person at the university (in Perth). All the units were organised very well, although I did have an exam on Saturday two times.
academic quality of education activities
The academic quality of the units is very similar to the quality in Utrecht. Compared to Utrecht the units are all held at the same time in one semester instead of spread out over two terms. The semester consists of about 14 weeks, which means that you have more holiday afterwards but that the work load during the semester is a bit higher. This could also be my experience because I chose some very different units than my programme at Utrecht and therefore the units were a bit harder. Furthermore, there were no resits for international students, which means there was only one chance for the exam. However, the grades consist of multiple components so in order to pass the unit it doesn't all depend on 1 final exam.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Contact with UWA was very good. Way in advance you receive emails with information and if you send an email, the response time is normally less than three days. Everything is very well organised and it is possible to ask as many questions as you want. When I came to UWA I still had to choose a fourth unit, but this was easily done at the corresponding faculty and they enrolled me in the unit.
transfer of credits
When the semester is over and all the grades are calculated, you can enter the myequals system. UWA puts in the units and your grades and you are able to give Utrecht permission to access them. After that the board of examiners of your own faculty has to get permission and they will examine whether the credits obtained are transferred to your own programme.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme
The orientation week is a week before the lectures start. There are multiple activities, not all mandatory. I went to the introduction lecture and an amazing race was held to find your way around campus. This is also where I met some other students.
accommodation
The accommodation I stayed in was a student accommodation in the city. The building just opened a few months earlier. Everything was very well organised and I could arrange a room when I was still in the Netherlands. Accommodation is more expensive, so this is something to keep in mind.
leisure & culture
Perth is a beautiful city with a relatively small central area and large suburbs. There are many parks in the city and in the east there are National Parks in the hills which are worth it to visit and very close to the city. I like the outdoors, so for me Perth was a great place to be. The beaches are a good place to enjoy in summer. Furthermore I travelled up north and down south. The nature is completely different, from tall trees and forests in the south to dry and wide areas in the north.
suggestions/tips
The cycle paths in Perth are maybe not as good as in the Netherlands, but in my opinion still quite good. So for me having a bike was ideal to get around and it makes you less dependent on public transport (cycling from the city to UWA was faster than taking the bus). Go travelling, but don't forget to explore Perth and the beautiful nature very close to the city, such as the Perth hills and the Swan Valley. Another suggestion is to open a bank account in advance, which is very easy and makes you feel organised.

CONCLUSIONS



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

Yes, I would recommend UWA as a place to study. Contact with UWA is very well organised and the university really tries its best to welcome you and make you feel at home. It is easy to select units and to create your own timetable. Furthermore, the teaching style is very similar to the one at UU. Apart from that, the campus is beautiful! All the buildings are built in the same style and the grass fields and trees make it look like a small village in a park.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	University College Utrecht
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Of social sciences

destination city & country	Perth, Australia
name university abroad	University of Western Australia
start date	16 / 07 / 2018
end date	10 / 11 / 2018

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The Application process was not too long or complicated. Papers (maybe 3) with information about myself and regarding my choices of universities, had to be filled.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I received many emails from UU with plenty of information and assistance in case needed.

academic preparation

English proficiency required and I maintained my grades

language preparation

Everything is in English

finances

It's quite expensive, especially if you want to travel at some point so I tried to save up some money

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The university is highly organized and there are many people who can help. Every course has a coordinator for example and even though the campus is big, the offices or even the librarians can direct you to the right place/person. One seminar and one lecture a week, at least one essay per course and fair amount of readings.

academic quality of education activities

I enjoyed my courses, however as per usual, some professors are better than others. I thought the quality of the courses was very similar to UCU, the amount of workload was less.

If you can, take an Indigenous study course: extremely interesting and informative.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

Informative and welcoming during introduction week. I never had issues or many questions but there is plenty of assistance if needed.

transfer of credits

You need to pay 20 dollars to receive the document on my equals



STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There were a few events during the first week but not too many. I would have appreciated more team-building activities to get to know more students. On the other hand it was good to have time to settle in and get other things (bank, phone, house) sorted.
accommodation
I lived off-campus in a house with 3 other people close to the beach. This way it was cheaper (around 400 euros) and only a 20 min bus ride away from campus. Go on flatmates.com if you want to live off-campus.
leisure & culture
I was there in winter time so I believe the city is a bit more 'empty' at this time. However it is still full of restaurants, cafés, nightclubs etc. Fremantle is a very cool area to visit (a bit more hipster and relaxed). If you are not too afraid of sharks, the water is beautiful and so are the beaches. Plenty of water activities to do (surfing is not too great) but kite, wind and sailing!
suggestions/tips
Visit or stay in Fremantle, it is a very cool area-a bit more hipster and relaxed. And travel north, if you can up to Exmouth! I know Rottnest Island is expensive but go snorkelling!

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
If you enjoy nature, water sports and have the money to travel I would definitely recommend this destination (especially if you go during winter, you can travel when you are off during summer). The university is also a great experience- it's beautiful, with loads of places to hang around and good courses. However, I experienced the people in my classes a bit less prone to 'make friends', but as I said, there are many occasions and possibilities to meet people in and out of university.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
If you are looking for something completely different/ cultural shock, Australia is not for you (I think)
Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)
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UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	U.S.E.
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Economics & Business Economics

destination city & country	Perth, Australia
name university abroad	University of Western Australia
start date	03 / 08 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	13 / 11 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The procedure was rather smooth, something that could be improved is the speed of contact with the partner university as the only reason I was able to obtain a residency spot was because someone else cancelled even though I emailed them the day I received an email from the exchange office.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Fast replies and to the point, helpful.
academic preparation
None needed, U.S.E. offers a strong enough background as a preparation
language preparation
None needed
finances
None needed

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
Content was rather similar in difficulty, the course structure itself seemed similar as well.
academic quality of education activities
Similar to U.S.E. although I feel U.S.E. offers a stronger degree since the exams are harder and truly test your abilities
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
None needed
transfer of credits



In process

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There was an introductory week, both of the university but also from the residence college itself. The introduction of the residence college was perfect as you get to know new people fast. The university's introduction period was rather standard

accommodation

Residence college, highly recommend, meet lots of new people and you form a large family with whom you spend most of your time when you're not studying

leisure & culture

Lots of stuff to do in the area, we focussed mostly on sports, tennis, surfing, jogging, football and just sitting on the beach

suggestions/tips

Get out, the area is amazing and there is much to do / see

CONCLUSIONS

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

Highly recommend, the area and university campus are mind blowing, feels like you are in a movie. An important addition to my exchange was that I spent my time in one of the five residence colleges which are all on the same street. The benefit of this is that you meet new people fast and almost all of the exchange students are on the same street and go out together. A lot of fond memories and I wouldn't have done it any differently were I to do it again

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Why haven't you applied for an exchange at UWA yet?



UU Study Abroad Report Form

faculty/college	REBO
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	Rechtsgeleerdheid

destination city & country	Perth, Australia
name university abroad	University of Western Australia
start date	17 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	24 / 06 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

An exchange application process always takes longer than you'll imagine it to take. Make sure you start on time, and keep in mind that you'll have to file an application for the exchange at Utrecht University, but also at your exchange university.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I found the preparation support at Utrecht University quite disappointing. For simple things, like getting a stamp on your academic transcript or other documents, I was sent from one office to the next, every single one stating that they weren't authorised. My advice: it's usually the student counsellor at your faculty who is authorised to do/stamp things. Not the International office, not the Exchange office at your faculty (as you would expect).

academic preparation

Personally I didn't do much academic preparation. I looked into which units I wanted to take, registered for those, and dove into the deep when I arrived at the exchange university. Turned out fine! Although I must say that it's nice to try and figure out which books you need before classes start, since at my uni they weren't available in the study store anymore when I found out, and sending times for ordering online were long. Try looking in syllabuses, on LMS (blackboard), or ask people.

language preparation

Going to an Australian university, the only foreign language I needed to get a hold on was English. As for the English proficiency test, for my uni (UWA), having an 8 or higher on your VWO transcript was enough proof of sufficient English, so I didn't have to take the TOEFL. That was quite a relief, cause there already is so much to do before going abroad!

finances

Once I found out I was going to Australia, I immediately put my student loan at DUO on maximum. This was definitely needed, it's an expensive country. To give you a little bit of an estimate:

Rent: I live at St George's College (I'll tell more about this **amazing** place later on), where the fees per semester are about \$10.000. As an international student you get a \$1000 scholarship, so that leaves \$9000 per semester. This comes down to about €1300 a month. This includes: accommodation, food (3 good meals a day), the occasional party, formal dinners every few weeks (lovely three course dinner, with wine and bubbles to start with), access to all of the concerts that are hosted there (which are a lot!), and more. Basically everything is paid for, except your alcohol.

Alcohol: A case of cheap beer costs \$40, a box of goon \$12, a bottle of spirits about \$40.

Since I live at a place where everything is included, I can't really give an estimate on how much you'd spend on



food if you don't live at a college, but grocery stores are expensive.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

UWA is a very nice, organised university. Just like the UU, they use Blackboard (only they call it LMS), but they make even more use of it than we do in Utrecht, so you'll be able to find everything on it. All lectures are recorded, so you can always re-watch everything, which is really nice. For some units they even replaced "old-style" lectures by multiple short videoclips on YouTube (which you can find via LMS).

The content I studied was really interesting and the study load was not low, but also definitely not too high. Just make sure you keep up and you'll be perfectly fine.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the education activities was good. Your grade gets built up by multiple parts, for example: tutorial attendance & preparation (10%), online quizzes throughout the semester (15%), a research essay (25%) and a final exam (50%). This results in better studying throughout the semester, because of which you'll end up knowing way more at the end, and you won't have to study as hard for the final exam. Especially the system where they mark tutorial participation is really good, because people will actually speak in class and tutorials won't be as awkward and silent as they sometimes are at my units in Utrecht.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

There's a very broad counselling & support system set up at UWA. If you have any problems whatsoever, there will always be someone to help you. For your 'normal' routine questions, there's a guy behind the counter that's there especially for internationals, who can help you with a lot. If you have trouble studying because of sickness (or even stress), you can go to the doctor's practice (which is on campus), and they can write you a form which you then bring to your faculty, and if needed you'll get an extension on your essay, or whatever else is needed. They definitely pay a great deal of attention and take great care of students' (mental) health.

transfer of credits

My credits haven't been transferred yet, so I can't really say much about this. Just one thing is to make sure whether your grades will be transferred fully, or whether you'll just get pass/fail.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

My student life mostly revolved around St George's College, so naturally I participated in their (mandatory) orientation programme, and only went to the mandatory parts of the Uni orientation programme. Therefore I can't really explain a lot about that, so I'll focus on the College's intro week.

The orientation week is called O-week, and it's filled with plenty of fun things to do. We did a scavenger hunt in the city, went on a day trip to the zoo, got acquainted with Uni, the College (which is not uni, but the place where you live/sleep/eat/have a social life), and the people in it. Of course we had a good party at the end too, and it was definitely a fun week and good welcome!

Accommodation

At UWA there are 5 colleges on 'college row' – located across the street from the university campus. All colleges have their own identity and image, and there definitely is some healthy competition between them.

As I've mentioned, I live at St George's College, a little castle on college row. It's the oldest college and it's built in the Oxbridge style, which makes it look even older than it actually is. It literally made my exchange the best time of my life, to the extent that I have decided to stay for another semester. The people are friendly, open, and everybody feels free to express their true selves. There is space to grow personally, through the organised



activities or casual chill sessions, and academically, through the tutorials (bijlessen) which are given by students who have already taken the unit, and are free to attend. But what characterises this college the most is the music. The music programme is amazing. There are two acapella singing groups (one guys, one girls, very Pitch Perfect), multiple choirs, a band, and uncountable casual jam sessions or people who team up and make music together. And although there are a lot of very talented people, there is absolutely no need to be talented yourself! I've picked up my music instrument again after years of quitting, and even though it still sounds absolutely terrible, everybody keeps asking me when I'll perform. But there are also plenty of people doing nothing with music, and who are just enjoying the chill atmosphere, where everybody can be who they are and make heaps of friends.

leisure & culture

Of course, in Perth, for leisure you go to the beach to swim, surf, throw a football/play beach cricket, or just to chill. Another relaxing thing people do is have a stroll in King's park, the world's largest city park. On cultural aspect, there isn't too much to do in Perth.

As for going out, it's very different from the Netherlands! People go out at 8/9 PM and the lights in the club will go on again at midnight on weekdays, and in some clubs at 2AM on weekends. That's it! So good thing is you'll actually be able to sleep, sad thing is that most of the time you won't really be done partying yet. Club life isn't too amazing, but there are some good parties every now and then. Fun thing to go to are the pub crawls that are organised by PI (Perth International) for international students!

suggestions/tips

Live at a college!! It'll be so easy to make friends, you'll have everything provided for, and you'll have the time of your life. I noticed that a lot of internationals who didn't live at college would find themselves only making friends with other internationals, through the activities of PI, but weren't really able to get to know the Aussie culture. When you live on college row, you'll be right across from uni (which is a huge pro, cause Perth is big, so you'll have to commute a lot if you don't live at college), and you'll get both international- and Australian friends.

CONCLUSIONS

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

YES! As I already said, I had such a great time, that I decided to stay for another 6 months. I made amazing friends at college, some of which I already know will last a lifetime. It's a super chill life, you'll realise that people at home are always stressed, plan every minute of their lives, but that you don't have to live that way. Australian people are chilled. Doesn't mean that they study less, or don't work as hard, I'd say they might even study more sometimes! It just doesn't feel as heavy, because you literally take your study breaks at the beach or in the park, which is great. Oh, final note, the weather is amazing.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Make sure you take enough money with you, or get a job (which is definitely possible if you go on an active search), because life is expensive and you'll want to be able to enjoy it.

Can students contact you for additional info and do you give us permission to put this in the student reports on our website? If yes, please write down how they can get in touch with you (e-mail, Facebook, Instagram etc)



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Family name:	xxx
First name:	xxx
Student number:	xxx
Faculty/college:	Social Sciences
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Psychology

Destination city & country	Perth, Australia
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	University of Western Australia
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	31/01/2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	30/07/2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

The application process was relatively straightforward but also quite lengthy (around a year) due to the amount of paperwork that had to be filled in. In my case, it was very important to check whether both UU and UWA processed the application correctly, since there was a mix up of semesters in which I wanted to attend UWA.

Counselling/support at home university:

Support from the home university was good. I think it is best to email directly to region 3 of UU's international office to get the support you're seeking.

Academic preparation:

The amount of academic preparation depends on which units you choose to do. I enrolled in three level 3 units and one level 1 unit so I'd say you do need academic preparation for level 3 units but you don't need to prepare for the level 1 unit.

Language preparation:

I had to provide an IELTS test but no preparation was needed for this test, it just cost money to sit the exam. Further English preparation wasn't necessary.

Finances:

Living in Perth is quite expensive but your expenses depend on what you want to do during your



stay. Make sure you've got a realistic financial plan and you'll be fine. You're also allowed to work 20h/w on a student visa so if you want to you can work during your stay in Perth.
Study/placement abroad period
Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):
It was very helpful that UWA gives students time to experience the units and switch when they're not entirely happy with their choice. I switched one unit and had to ask for approval from the UU, which they gave me within a day.
Level 1 units are easy and probably easier than level 1 units at the UU. I also entered a few level 3 units from a different faculty and I would recommend reading the handbook before choosing the units so you know what to expect because the workload can be higher when you're not familiar with the topics.
Academic quality of education/placement activities:
The academic quality was good but as mentioned before, there is a big difference between the levels.
Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:
UWA was very supportive and offered all the help that I needed.
Transfer of credits:
Credits are not yet transferred.
Student life
Welcome/orientation programme:
The orientation week was packed with fun activities and I highly recommend participating in a lot of them. Join all the activities that you find interesting because this is the time to meet new people and get involved in UWA's student life.
I stayed at Unihall, which is one of the colleges across the road, and they also had a fully packed orientation week planned so I had to find a way to combine all of it to get the most out of this week.
Accommodation:
As mentioned above, I stayed at Unihall. This college is probably the least strict college out of the 5 colleges you can choose from. It was expensive but if you seek for a place where you can live with your friends, be close to UWA and get the full college experience, you should apply for a room at one of the colleges. Unihall's community is supportive and has the best location on college row. However, if you prefer a more independent lifestyle (comparable with living in a student apartment in Utrecht) you should go for renting a private property.
Leisure/culture:
Perth offers plenty of fun activities. Aside from the amazing beaches, there are a lot of great places to eat (including breakfast), enjoy nature, Perth's nightlife and sports. You might have to drive a bit but outside of Perth is a lot to discover as well.
Suggestions/tips:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- I highly recommend hiring a car and go on road trips with friends. WA is absolutely stunning so go explore its beautiful nature and wildlife when you've got some spare time. Don't only go to Cottesloe beach but search for less crowded beaches (be aware of the



signs though, because sharks etc. are around).

- Get yourself involved in lots of activities and choose your units wisely so you have a good balance between your free time and the units' workload.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

I would highly recommend studying at UWA. The university offers good quality education, provides support and gives you the opportunity to get involved in loads of different activities. Aside from that, Australia's lifestyle is (as expected) very laidback and there is no need to worry about anything because everything is easily solved and people are always willing to help.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

In case you're in doubt whether you'd like to study abroad for more than one semester, I would recommend staying two semesters. Time flies and the semester is over before you know it!



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Family name:	xxx
First name:	xxx
Student number:	xxx
Faculty/college:	Bètawetenschappen
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Farmacie bachelor

Destination city & country	Perth, Australia
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	The University of Western Australia
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	13-02-2018
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	29-07-2018

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

It is a long process, it takes several months to apply and to get accepted. There is a lot of paperwork. I would definitely recommend starting early so you have enough time to sort everything out.

Counselling/support at home university:

The staff at Utrecht University is very friendly and in general they replied quickly whenever I had any questions about the whole process.

Academic preparation:

The syllabuses of the units at UWA clearly state if any previous knowledge is required to enrol in a certain unit. I only enrolled in first year units so I did not have any problems entering my units.

Language preparation:

The courses are taught in English, I think most university students will have a sufficient level of English.

Finances:

Australia is an expensive country to live. I made estimation of my expenses before I left to Australia. I found relatively cheap accommodation and saved some money there, but I spend more money on groceries and eating out than I expected.



Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

At UWA you will be permitted to allocate your courses yourself. Most courses have two 1 hour lectures a week (they are also recorded) and a one hour tutorial where attendance is mandatory.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

I really enjoyed my courses at UWA. Most lectures offered a broad amount of information and the tutorials involve a lot of discussions with other students. It is a pleasant way to work.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

The exchange office at UWA will give you a lot of information before the semester starts. This information helped a lot in the process, and they replied quickly to any questions I had.

Transfer of credits:

I have not gone through this process yet.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

In the week before the courses start a lot of activities are organised to help international students to get to know Perth and meet their fellow students. It is a good opportunity to make some new friends. Not all of the activities were mandatory.

Accommodation:

A lot of international students stay in the colleges near the campus. Besides accommodation they will also give you three meals a day and you can participate in the activities they organise there. However these colleges are very pricy. This is why I chose to look for accommodation somewhere else. I started searching for a room while I was still in the Netherlands but I was unsuccessful so for the first two weeks I stayed in a hostel. It was a bit stressful to not have a room at the beginning but it was not too hard to find one eventually. On top of that in a hostel you get to meet a lot of other international people in Australia and a lot of them have great tips for travelling around.

Leisure/culture:

Perth is a great city with a lot of events. Most beaches are about half an hour away from the city, and there are a lot of National Parks with exciting hiking trails close to Perth. Besides that UWA has a lot of clubs that organise activities during the semester. At the beginning of the semester you will be able to join those clubs for a fee (most between \$5-\$10).

Suggestions/tips:

- A lot of international students want to travel around after they finish their courses. Australia can be very expensive since the distances between towns are very large, and for some roads you might need a 4WD. Make sure you save enough money.
- Another option is going to other countries. Bali is very cheap, but most flights to Asian countries are not too expensive.
- Most people think Australia is always warm, but Perth is a city with a lot of wind. Sometimes there was a lot of rain and it can be cold. Make sure to pack at least two good sweaters.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:



Universiteit Utrecht

I would definitely recommend UWA. The University is beautiful and I enjoyed my stay here in Perth so much. There are so many other great things to do here besides studying.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

No



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Family name:	xxx
First name:	xxx
Student number:	xxx
Faculty/college:	Medicine
Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Biomedical Science

Destination city & country	Perth, Australia
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	University of Western Australia
Purpose of exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	18/07/2017
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	19/12/2017

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

It takes a lot of time and effort to finish the application process from the first deadline at the UU till the final approval of units you want to take. It's worth it, but start early.

Counselling/support at home university:

You'll get help if you ask for it, but only if you ask for it. Don't hesitate to ask for help.

Academic preparation:

The academic level of Biomedical Science at UU is good, so wherever in the world you'll go, I think you'll be prepared really well academically speaking.

Language preparation:

The average level of English of Dutch students is good enough to find your way through exchange in Australia.

Finances:

There are several scholarships you can apply for, including the BMW Grant. Australia is expensive and Perth especially (one of the most expensive cities to live in).

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

I took the biomedical units Cancer Pathology, Viruses and Viral Disease, and Advanced Neuroscience II, and Exercise Rehabilitation at sport science (all third year units). Officially, you



cannot take Neuro II without Neuro I and, although I did it and passed, I wouldn't advice it. Neuro I contains all the lectures and Neuro II is difficult without them.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The unit Cancer Pathology was of a lower level than expected, so I'd advice not to take that unit. All other units were a good balance of lectures and application of the subject matter.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

There's a lot of help and support available. Help with your units, personal matters, study problems, ... ; you can find help with literally anything.

Transfer of credits:

The percentages I got as grades in Australia were transferred by dividing them by ten.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

The orientation programme from the university is nice, but not that broad. I guess it's bigger in February, because that's the start of the regular academic year in Australia.

Accommodation:

I stayed at Trinity residential college. There are five colleges right across the road from the university and Trinity is the one with the most internationals and social activities. It's a little bit more expensive than living on your own, but you don't need to worry about groceries and a lot of activities and facilities are included. I would definitely advice going to Trin, without it, my exchange would have been completely different and I would have missed out on a lot of possibilities.

Leisure/culture:

There are many things to do. Perth is the only city in the whole of Western Australia, so they've got basically everything. Colleges and university also organise lots of activities. Get involved!

Suggestions/tips:

Even if you don't go to Perth. Find time to travel in Western Australia. It's amazing.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

Yes. The city is great, the people are lovely, and the units are good. I do think there are universities in other cities in Australia that have better biomedical science programmes.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Wherever you want to go, try to find someone who's already been on exchange to that university or city to ask for help. People from the international offices know a lot, but not that many specifics. Don't hesitate to contact someone!



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Faculty/college:	University College Roosevelt
Level:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	UCR Liberal Arts and Sciences

Destination city & country	Perth, Australia
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	University of Western Australia
Purpose of exchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	22/02/2017
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	02/06/2017

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

There was a fair amount of paperwork for Utrecht University but ample time was given to complete the paperwork. The application process was a lengthy process—it took several months to apply, be accepted, and enrol.

Counselling/support at home university:

The approval of my application for exchange took over a month, which was worrisome. However, the staff at Utrecht University responded to all emails I sent quickly and were very willing to help me with the application and placement process.

Academic preparation:

Certain UWA courses have pre-requisites but I had no issue entering into higher-level courses at UWA having taken similar pre-requisites at my home university. As I suppose is to be expected with any exchange program, there are certain courses that assumed a basic knowledge of Australia's culture, history, etc., but no additional studying was necessary to understand these references.

Language preparation:

No language preparation necessary; courses are all taught in English.

Finances:

Australia is quite expensive. The cost of accommodation in Perth is significantly more expensive than the cost of accommodation in the Netherlands. However, some of my fellow exchange students were able to find work in Perth and balance work, study, and extracurriculars fairly easily.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):



The study programme can easily be moulded to suit everyone's preferences. There are a wide variety of courses and I had no issues with time conflicts with my courses. I also liked the format of the courses. Most courses have 2 hours of lectures (optional attendance) and 1 hour of tutorials (mandatory attendance and participation) weekly. The lectures are recorded and can be watched at any point, which makes the study programme more flexible still.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

UWA is ranked a top 100 university worldwide. All of my lecturers had an incredible wealth of knowledge on their subject. The workload at UWA was significantly less intense than my workload at UCR but I feel like I learned more from and was more engaged with my courses at UWA than my courses at UCR.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

The exchange office at UWA is extremely helpful in the process. For every single step I had to take in moving to Perth, I had an email from the office telling me specifically what actions I had to take. Every time I sent an email to the exchange office, I received an answer within half a day.

Transfer of credits:

I have not yet gone through the process of transferring my credits.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

I am not exaggerating when I say that I felt welcome the minute I arrived at the airport gate. UWA has a free shuttle service that picks international students up at the airport and brings them to their residential college. Upon arrival at my residential college, the Dean of Students presented me with a welcome pack and walked me to my room. In the week prior to the start of UWA, there were daily activities that allowed me to bond with other students and get to know Perth. The transition to UWA was made easy and fun.

Accommodation:

I stayed at one of the residential colleges on campus, Trinity. Admittedly, the colleges are expensive but, in my opinion, they are worth the money. For the semester fee at Trinity, you are given a single room, 3 meals a day (the food is good too!), access to washing machines, free private tutoring, music and fitness courses, gym and kitchen access, and are given a place in the numerous activities the college has planned throughout the semester. College activities include formal dinners, pub crawls, various trips, transport to clubs, wine and cheese night, games nights, yoga, fitness classes, etc. The residential colleges are the primary place where UWA students meet their friends for the semester and my college truly is what made my experience in Perth what it was.

Leisure/culture:

It seems like UWA has a club established for all existing interest groups. Most of the clubs have a membership fee, but the fees are reasonable. In my time at UWA I joined the Buddhist Club and the Outdoors Club, both of which I really enjoyed. The beach is about a 20 to 30 minute bus ride from campus and the city is about a 10 to 15 minute bus ride. There are always events happening in Perth itself.

Suggestions/tips:

- 1) If you are interested in surfing or learning how to surf, cheap surfboards are available on GumTree.com. It is worth checking out the surfing scene while in Australia. Shakas ;)
- 2) Take advantage of your position in the globe and travel around! In my exchange period, I was able to go to Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea, and China. Flights to Bali are particularly cheap.
- 3) A lot of the exchange students here tend to only spend time with other exchange students. Put in the effort to become friends with the Australians too.

Conclusions

Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:

I would recommend UWA without hesitation. My experience here has truly been one of the best experiences of my life.

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

If you want to ask me any questions about Perth, UWA, or Trinity, please feel free to send me an email. I would be happy to talk. Contact info is available at the IO.