



Tulane University, New Orleans

2022-2023

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	The application process was a lot. You really have to start on time with this, especially getting the visa takes a lot of time and paperwork, but it is definitely doable.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The UU International office was very helpful and answered all of my questions that I had.
academic preparation	
	There was no academic preparation needed for the exchange to Tulane. I had a month of orientation at the end of July and the month of August where I learned a lot about the American judicial system. But this was included in the exchange, I did not do any self study before I left.
language preparation	
	It is not really needed to take language preparations. Most students in the Netherlands can speak English quite well. You also improve really fast, because English is the only language that you will speak.
finances	
	Studying in the US is quite expensive. You will have to show that you have sufficient financial resources. For example I had to show 11.000 dollars to Tulane before I came. Tulane thinks that you will be spending about that much money. I would recommend bringing more than enough money, especially if you want to go on trips. Also the books for classes are more expensive than the Netherlands, just like housing and groceries. As an international student you are also required to have health insurance and to pay a health fee, which costs a lot of money.
STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	Tulane has a lot of courses to offer, but some courses are only offered in a certain semester. I took 12 credits and that is the max credits you can have. I had four courses while studying there. I took the courses Legal Profession, Immigration law, International Human Rights and Constitutional Law: 14th Amendment. Also everything is organised very well. Through your Tulane mailaddress you will receive all important information.
academic quality of education activities	
	I think the academic quality is basically the same as the Netherlands. The only thing is that you have less knowledge in some courses, because some of the courses already start with the idea that the students already have some knowledge on the subject. And as an international student you sometimes lack that knowledge in comparison to the American students.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	The support of Tulane is great. Mallory and Maria in specific are the nicest women and are willing to help you with anything. Before I arrived I already had a lot of contact with Mallory, because she answered all my questions through email.
transfer of credits	
	I am not really sure how this will work yet. I have not received my grades from Tulane.



STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I left for New Orleans on the 22nd of July, because the orientation started on the 25th of July. If you go to Tulane in the fall semester there is a month-long orientation program. I first doubted going, because it started so early, but I'm so happy that I went because I met most of my friends during that time. The orientation was quite intense, most days were 9 to 5, but it helped me a lot, especially getting adjusted to New Orleans and Tulane University. Mallory and Maria also organized so much fun stuff during the orientation.
accommodation
Until August 1st I was in the dorms, but after that I moved to a house with 5 other girls. I lived with 4 Americans and 1 other German girl who was also an international law student. I lived 1 minute away from Tulane which was super nice. I would recommend living with Americans, because that gave me the full American university experience and I would also recommend living not more than 15 minutes away from Tulane. I found a room through Facebook which was quite easy, it was way easier than finding a room in Utrecht.
leisure & culture
People in NOLA are super friendly and always open for a conversation. New Orleans has a big party and student culture and it is really fun to participate. There are a lot of football and basketball games to go to. Before the football games there is often a tailgate which is a lot of fun. Another place where students go a lot to party is Bourbon Street. Besides partying, there are very nice seafood restaurants, music and musea.
suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, I would really recommend New Orleans and Tulane. There is so much to do there and because of the warm weather people are often outside. It is a beautiful city and a great university to be for a semester.
do you have any additional advice or comments?



2019-2020

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	The application process was quite intense and took a lot of time and effort. This was mainly the case, because it was an exchange to the United States. Therefore you need a visa, a separate American health insurance, vaccinations etcetera. Because of the time difference, responses took longer than it would take normally.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The UU international office was very helpful with all of my questions regarding to my exchange and provided a lot of helpful information during the whole process.
academic preparation	
	There was no academic preparation needed for my exchange. The only thing I would recommend students who plan to go on a law-related exchange to the United States is to learn about the American judicial system. When you have a good base about this system, it is much easier to understand the courses.
language preparation	
	I don't think it is very necessary to take language preparations, because I noticed that from the moment I was in the USA and I had to speak English all the time: you learn to speak it better right away.
finances	
	With regard to the finances, you have to prepare for the fact that you have to show the American university you are going to that you have sufficient financial resources. So you have to go to the bank and receive a letter from them that this is the case. Also: prepare for extra costs! Despite of the fact that you'll have to have an American health insurance, it can happen that they will still not cover 'simple medications' or a quick visit to a doctor. Also, the books, the room you will stay in, the food (especially healthy food) etc. are much more expensive than in the Netherlands. So make sure you will have a buffer before you start!

(interrupted) STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
welcome & orientation programme	
	Because I went to New Orleans in the spring semester, I only had one day of orientation. When you go in the fall semester, you have a whole month of orientation. I heard from my fellow students that started in the fall, that this is much more fun. You will have more time to get used to the city and to explore the university before you really have to start studying.
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	Tulane University had a broad variety of courses. Especially the maritime-law and environmental-law courses are known to be one of the best of the whole world. Also, everything is very well organised. You get your own mailaddress before you start, where you receive all of the information and the steps you have to take before take-off.
academic quality of education activities	
	I think the academic quality of the education is the same or even a little bit lower than in the Netherlands.
transfer of credits	
	The transfer of credits is different than the ECTS we know in the Netherlands. I took three courses and a minicourse, which was allright for 10 american credits (which is the minimum amount you have to have for your visum).



CORONAVIRUS CONSEQUENCES
support guidance of host university
We got a lot of help and extra information according to the corona-virus of Tulane University. They made an extra information mail each week to inform the students about the upcoming changes with regard to the virus.
support guidance of home university
The same as I described above here.
online offer and quality of digital courses
N.v.t.
suggestions/tips on digital exchange
N.v.t.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
See what i described above.
accommodation
I got an apartment together with the other student from Utrecht University who went to Tulane University. We got in touch with each other through the international office and we found an apartment together on the Facebook page: Tulane classifieds. On this page, a lot of rooms and apartments are being offered.
leisure & culture
The American culture is very different from the Dutch culture. People are very friendly and easy-going, but not as open as Dutch people (in general). Thereby, in New Orleans there is a big student culture with a lot of sorority houses and college sports. It is a lot of fun to attend these sport-games the 'american way'. There are also a lot of party-opportunities on one of the biggest party-streets named Bourbon Street. When you are not a party-person, there are a lot of other things to do (musea, nature, street art, music etc.). Last but not least: the food in New Orleans is amazing! Especially when you prefer seafood and spicy food, you will like it a lot.
suggestions/tips

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would definitely recommend others to go to New Orleans, because it is an amazing and unique city with a beautiful culture that is very different from the typical 'American culture'. There is so much to do and the city is so beautiful that it will never bore you.
do you have any additional advice or comments?



2018 – 2019

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	The application process is okay if you start on time. Look at the deadlines of Tulane University carefully once you know Utrecht University chose you to go that University. Take your time for the forms on the Tulane website.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Not that much, they don't really know what is going on and how the application process at Tulane University works. I recommend, if you have any questions, to call or e-mail Tulane. (Note from IEO: the International Exchange Office is trying its best to assist every exchange student. If you have any questions, you can always call us or send an e-mail to ieo.leg@uu.nl !)
academic preparation	
	No specific academic preparation.
language preparation	
	Make sure your English skills are good. To follow lectures about law with the judicial definitions is not easy. Cambridge level is recommended at Tulane.
finances	
	Make sure you have saved up a good amount of money before starting at Tulane. At the website of UU they recommend you to have 11.000 dollars and I think this amount is about what you spent in one semester, excluding plane tickets etc. It's always better to have a little extra for some trips you want to take!

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	You are very free in choosing your own courses at Tulane University. UU will allow you to follow most of the courses. I had a first year course Criminal Law, a second year course Business Enterprises and an advanced course Foreign Affairs & National Security. Because the law is so different in the United States UU will accept almost all the courses.
academic quality of education activities	
	The quality of the education at Tulane University was good, the pace of the lectures was pretty fast so make sure to be up to date with the readings. They offer a lot of ways to improve your skills with mock exams etc and you can make it as crazy as you want it to be.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	Tulane University offers a great amount of counsel and support. You can come to them with any questions you have and they will patiently respond and give you advice.
transfer of credits	
	This was a little different than UU said it would be. They double the credits, which makes it nearly impossible to obtain all the ECTS in Utrecht. I had 12 EC's in New Orleans, which is the average for a semester, the maximum is 14, so I got 24 ECTS in Utrecht. Think about this if you need the full 30 ECTS from the semester in order to get your bachelor and talk about this with the UU.

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	



In the first semester they offer an orientation programme of 4 weeks, this sounds really hard and you have days from 9-5 at the university for 4 weeks, with an exam in the end. First couple days I thought about dropping out of the orientation because it was tough and a lot of work, not what I expected from an orientation program. In the end I stayed and finished it and I highly recommend everyone who has the possibility to do it, to enroll in this programme. You get really close with the other internationals, and the people I met during the orientation I spend time with the entire semester. Other than that, it is a great introduction to the US law and it really helps during the semester.

accommodation

I found my house on Tulane Housing, the Facebook page. I lived with 6 girls, of whom 4 were Americans and 2 internationals. It will be expensive, and you should count on spending 700\$ a month on rent, but the houses are great and a lot of houses are around the campus. I had to walk 1 minute to get to law school. Tulane will not really help you that much with finding a house, so make sure to start early and look into it yourself.

leisure & culture

New Orleans culture is amazing. Try to eat a lot of good food and dance as much as possible!:)

suggestions/tips

Go on a roadtrip to Texas, spend a weekend in Miami or go to New York in the fall break. Try to see a lot but don't go too crazy and spend more time outside of New Orleans than actually being there. You have a lot of breaks during the semester were you have time to do fun stuff.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes!! It was probably the best half a year of my life. I met amazing people, internationals as well as Americans. I've seen a lot and I partied as much as I could, whilst of course keeping up with the university. I would recommend this destination to all people who next to a good education are really looking for the exchange experience.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

As I mentioned before, try to go in the first semester so you are able to participate in the introduction course.

Also, it might seem as if you would have to pay for this but for internationals it's free!

Start on time with your application process and visa, vaccinations etc.. You don't want to do all of this last minute.



Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

Utrecht University prepared me well for the application process. They gave several presentations, and when you had a specific question, they were always there to offer you personal help. Sometimes the forms and requirements from Tulane were a bit vague, but they respond very quickly to your emails and help you well. Make sure you read all the emails and forms well and take enough time!

Counselling/support at home university:

Utrecht University helped me good. However, if you have questions about the requirements Tulane asks for, it is better to consult their international office, as they are more aware of their specific requirements.

Academic preparation:

No real academic preparation is needed. It might be useful to follow some legal English courses, but without it you probably will do just fine.

Language preparation:

The lectures are very interactive and without a lot of visual help (ppts etc.), so your English needs to be at a decent level. Next to that, you will probably have to do a lot of case readings, so make sure your English is fine. However, you don't need to worry about not understanding it.

Finances:

The US is an expensive country. Rent, food, and university are not cheap, so expect to use about \$10,000 per semester. If you want to do a lot of traveling, or buy lunch at the university every day, bring some more!

Study/placement abroad period

Study program/work plan (concerning content and organizational issues):

Tulane offers many courses you can choose from. This is not limited to only freshmen or sophomores' courses (which might look that way if you look at the registration document from Tulane). Utrecht University will probably allow most courses since they are very different, however if you need the credits to graduate from UU (or participate in the LL.M. program at Tulane after the exchange), make sure you communicate with the universities to check if they accept these courses.

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

Tulane's quality of education is good. Expect to do a lot of readings, which will help you to keep on track during the lectures (which cover the topics very fast, but thorough). The professors expect you to actively participate in their classes, and they are very nice. If you have any questions, they are happy to help you.

Counselling/support at host institution/organization:



Tulane's employees are all very friendly and more than happy to help you.

Transfer of credits:

Expect Utrecht University to double your credits when transferring them. Tulane advises you to take no more than 12 credits, which will get you 24 ECTS in Utrecht. If y'all need the credits for graduation, talk this over with Exam Committee in Utrecht.

Student life

Welcome/orientation program:

I studied at Tulane during the Spring semester (in which you will be there during Mardi Gras!! And the weather is better), but there was only a very brief introduction program of 1 or 2 days. I was helped out by some other internationals from another faculty, but you'll find it out. During this introduction you will have enough moments to meet other internationals. The only downside of this short intro is that you did not get any introduction into US law, which I think would have been helpful sometimes.

Accommodation:

I found my house at a Facebook page called "Tulane Classifieds" on which locals will also sell a lot of stuff. Most houses can be found there. Make sure you look for houses in the Uptown area! I lived at a great place at St. Charles Ave (one of the main streets in NOLA) with 2 American roommates, which was about 10 min walking from Law School. It is not difficult to find a place to stay, just make sure you start in time. Expect to spend about \$750 a month.

Leisure/culture:

NOLA is a great city!! There is a lot of good food (best chicken wings: Manchu food store), and good bars. If you want to have a good time Uptown (University area) I recommend going to Bruno's, Red's, Snake and Jakes, or the Boot. If you like great music, go downtown get a Hurricane at Pat 'O Briens, drink a Hand grenade and enjoy yourselves at Bourbon Street (more touristic) or Frenchmen St. (best music).

Suggestions/tips:

Do a Swamp Tour (best one is in Breaux Bridge, LA; car is needed), make some road trips in FL, go on a roadtrip to Memphis and Nashville, TN, or Austin, TX. Most important: be there during Mardi Gras!

Conclusions

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

Yes! I had a great time just living there, hanging with friends and roommates, going out and listen to great music, enjoy the weather and culture there!

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

Start in time with your application process and read your emails carefully!

**2017-2018**

preparation
exchange/placement application process
The application process took some time, but you get plenty of help from the UU and Tulane. If you have any questions you can always email them and they respond very quickly, so it was pretty clear for me what to do. The most important thing is to apply for your visa in time and keep all of the needed documents organized.
counselling/support at home university
The support at my home university is, like I said, good as well. Before you go you'll have a pre-departure meeting for all the students where they try to prepare you for all the highs and the lows of going abroad and you have the chance to ask any questions you have. They can also help you write your motivational letter or other important documents, I did a training organized by the JSVU and I had a personal meeting with someone from the international office to get some feedback about my motivational letter which really helped.
academic preparation
When I went to New Orleans, I didn't have to stress about credits etc. because I already got all of my required credits before applying to go abroad.
language preparation
Before I went I was already a decent English speaker and I also did an English course at Babel Talen in Utrecht. I think Dutch people from university are all capable to keep up with the English level in the US. Students from some other countries had much more difficulties and they could also keep up with everything so I think everyone will be fine.
finances
Some things in New Orleans are a little bit more expensive than in Holland but it's a relatively cheap place for the US. The estimated living costs that you see on the UU website are estimated very highly in my opinion. Also the dollar-euro rate compensates for the extra living costs. Big expenses are housing (I paid 700 dollars = 600 euros for a beautiful house), you have to get an extra health insurance (the insurance offered by Tulane is very expensive, it's around 1500 dollars but they accept cheaper ones, mine was 600 dollars for the semester) and books (try to get your books in time or from different websites, a lot of second hand books are offered to buy or for rent which is much cheaper than buying a new book at the Tulane bookstore). Some things are cheaper in New Orleans: you get free access to the gym with indoor and outdoor pool and shopping for clothes is pretty cheap too. When you hit a good happy hour you can get drinks and food for a good price too.
study/placement abroad period
study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)
You can sign up for every class you want in lawschool, but they do give you some advice on what would be



better to choose and what not. One huge benefit of going to an English school is that you're not limited in your choice to which classes are offered in English, I really enjoyed that.

academic quality of education/placement activities

I think the academic quality of Tulane Lawschool is excellent. It's a highly appreciated lawschool throughout the country and internationally and they have a very interactive and interesting way of teaching. They also have very good professors with a lot of experience in the practical field. I really got motivated to participate in classes next to enjoying the beautiful city of New Orleans and I passed all of my classes with good grades without having to put in too much effort. New Orleans is also a very interesting place to study, because it's a progressive city in a very conservative state, Louisiana (they still do death penalty etc.)

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

I got a very warm and nice welcome at Tulane Lawschool. You have to start classes quite early, I started July 24th because you have a 3 week class about the introduction to the US law system. But it's not only learning; they also organize a lot of activities to get to know your fellow classmates and the city of New Orleans. Because of this introduction our group of international students got very tight very quickly and it's a great preparation for the upcoming semester. They also inform you a lot on how to stay safe and they have many different institutions for you to go to if you have any problems (sidenote: this extensive introduction programme is only offered when you do the fall semester. In the spring semester the intro program is much shorter but I don't know the details of that).

transfer of credits

Haven't finished that yet but I don't think there will be any problems.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

See the question about counselling/support at host institution/organisation

accommodation

It's not possible to live on campus, but I think that's a good thing. Living on campus is very expensive and you have to share a bedroom with a freshman or sophomore. A lot of students live off campus but around campus, so very close to uni (5 minute walk). Most of the houses are very beautiful and spacious. I shared a house with 4 American Tulane students which I really enjoyed. I learned how to speak English very well and I learned a lot about the Tulane culture. They were really nice and I would encourage everyone to find housing with American students because you learn a lot more this way instead of living with people from your own country or only international students. Americans are overall really warm and welcoming, especially in New Orleans.

leisure/culture

I think this is the most important and beautiful part of my experience abroad to New Orleans. I think it's the



<p>most beautiful city I've been to in my life, I truly fell in love with it. Not only is the weather quite nice throughout the year, the people are so incredibly wonderful. Everyone is really open, warm and welcoming and random people will chat with you when you walk down the street. New Orleans is also called 'the Big Easy' because everyone's just enjoying life and there's always something fun to do like a festival or another party and all sorts of different people go to these festivals or parties. New Orleans is of course also the city of music so there's always an amazing band or any other performance to see, most of the times for free. Even at the University they're very relaxed, they encourage you to experience New Orleans at its fullest because it's such a unique city, there's truly no other place like this in the world. Also when you go in the spring semester you'll get to experience what New Orleans is almost the most famous for: mardi gras! It's carnival like no other. Unfortunately I couldn't experience mardi gras but it's definitely on my bucketlist.</p>
<p>suggestions/tips</p>
<p>I have a lot of suggestions and tips, but the most important one is: just go to New Orleans! Don't be held back because it's all the way in the US or because you think it's too expensive, it's truly the most incredible experience I had in my life and it was all 100% worth it.</p>
<p>conclusions</p>
<p>would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain</p>
<p>YES! I think it's the best combination between an excellent education and having a lot of fun out of all the possible destinations.</p>
<p>do you have any additional advice or comments?</p>
<p></p>

<p>preparation</p>
<p>exchange/placement application process</p>
<p>As soon as I heard I was placed at Tulane, I started the application process. Everything you need can be found in the online application form on the TLS website, you just have to follow all the steps. The Law School's international office quickly answered all my questions regarding the application.</p>
<p>counselling/support at home university</p>
<p>The UU international office was very helpful during the application process. Whenever I didn't understand parts of the application or when I needed extra documents or signatures from UU, they were willing to help and provide the documents very easily.</p>
<p>academic preparation</p>
<p>Tulane does not require any academic preparation, because there were 4 weeks of orientation before the</p>



semester started. Participating in this orientation was not only helpful as an academic preparation to the semester, but also a great way to get to know all the other international students. During the orientation we were introduced to the US legal system. I did Comparative Constitutional Law before I went abroad, which was helpful but I wouldn't say any preparation is necessary.

language preparation

I didn't take any language courses before I went to Tulane, and I wouldn't say it's necessary if your English is reasonable. Of course there are a lot of legal terms you might have never heard of, but you will learn them quickly enough as soon as you enrol. Tulane doesn't require a TOEFL score for Dutch students, so you will not have to provide any test results during the application (just let the UU provide you with a waiver).

finances

Living in New Orleans is simply more expensive than in Utrecht. Especially rent, because \$ 700 is the average price for a room Uptown. Also groceries and textbooks (even when you rent them) are more expensive and of course you will probably spent more money on going out and taking trips than usual.

study/placement abroad period

study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues)

Registration for the courses in the Fall semester started in summer. I already registered for some courses when I was still in the Netherlands, but this is not necessary. During the orientation the Law School provided a lot of information regarding the course registration. Also, there is a period in which you can add and drop courses so that you can see which ones you like the most. I did not experience any difficulties with this.

academic quality of education/placement activities

The courses are different from the courses at UU. The courses last a whole semester and there is not the typical lecture + seminar structure that UU courses have. You are just required to do the readings before each class and listen to the professor during the entire class. Most professors are very passionate and overall the quality of the courses was good.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

All employees of the Tulane law school were very helpful to the international students. During both the semester and when I was still in the Netherlands, they provided a lot of information and were very open to any type of questions.

transfer of credits

student life

welcome/orientation programme



Although the orientation starts pretty early, I would definitely recommend to participate. You get to learn the basics of US law and they also organize activities for the students to get to know each other and New Orleans. Although sometimes the days were very long it was a great way to get to know all the other students. I made most of my friends during the orientation.

accommodation

I lived off campus in the Tulane area, where basically all students live. I found a place on the Tulane Classifieds Facebook page already before I arrived in New Orleans. It turned out fine and most of the students find a room this way. The rent is very expensive (around \$ 700) but it's a great area and there is a lot of fun stuff to do.

leisure/culture

New Orleans is a great city. I fell in love with the place as soon as I arrived there. In the Uptown area where all the students live there are a lot of bars and restaurants, you could go out any day if you wanted to. I would recommend going when you're 21, because it's just easier going out then. Besides Uptown, New Orleans has a lot to offer. The Downtown area has a lot of fun places, museums and restaurants. The city is all about music, food and culture and it's just awesome to be there. The people are very warm and open and you will feel welcome immediately.

suggestions/tips

conclusions

would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? please explain

Yes! I really had an amazing time at Tulane and I will miss it a lot. Tulane is a great university and besides campus life there is the beautiful city of New Orleans.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Just go there, you will have the time of your life (especially if you like going out).