



ERASMUS+ STUDIES - UU Report

Every student receiving an Erasmus+ STUDIES grant has to submit a UU report as well. Writing the UU report is one of the university's conditions to receive and keep the grant. Only after submitting this report your Erasmus+ grant will be awarded definitively.

Your report will be **published** (anonymously!) on the [UU study abroad destinations webpage](#) to inform UU students preparing an exchange or research period abroad. Not all of them are Dutch-speaking, therefore we prefer to receive reports **written in English**.

faculty/college	Science		
level	bachelor's	master's	PhD
name study programme	Mathematical Sciences		

destination city & country	Copenhagen , Denmark		
how did you travel to your destination?	By car		
name university abroad	Københavens Universitet		
start date	01 / 02 / 2023	(dd/mm/yyyy)	
end date	30 / 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



The application process contains a lot of different steps and deadlines that you need to be aware of. Once you know where to look it is all quite straightforward, just a lot. It is unfortunate that the application deadline is so early (more than a year before the start of the exchange), because it happens at the same time as the application for the fall semester. This makes it harder for people to sign up.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The support in Utrecht was nice. There was a meeting within Science of information about a few countries, as well as a meet with students who went to your university last year. Also with emails they were very helpful and answered questions quickly.
academic preparation
There was not a lot needed for academic preparation. I had looked at the course schedule before applying and already decided what I wanted to take. I could make a nice continuity with my courses in Utrecht and the courses in Copenhagen. In Copenhagen they have a lot on offer, at least within maths, so there were definitely enough courses for me to make a curriculum.
language preparation
Apart from some Duolingo, I did not do any language preparation. The whole study in Copenhagen was in English. Moreover, everybody on the street speaks English, so there was no need to learn Danish.
finances
Applying for the Travel green Grant was easy and quick, even though I did not end up using it. Do pay attention to the application deadlines. The Erasmus grant application and completion was more complicated, as there are a lot of different forms to be signed by different parties. They have a step-by-step guide, which helped a lot but it took a while for me to find the guide.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
The content of my study programme was very good, I would say the same level as they are offered in Utrecht. Everything was well organised, and they listened to our feedback and changed the courses accordingly. For organisation there were some difficulties with tablet examination that didn't really work.
academic quality of education activities
The quality of education was very high. Copenhagen is famous for its topology department, which showed in their course Algebraic Topology 2. The rest of my courses also were from a level I expected from such a large university.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
I didn't have much experiences with the counselling and support in Copenhagen. I did notice it is a lot more bureaucratic and getting the right forms signed usually takes longer than it does in Utrecht.
transfer of credits
I did not receive all my grades before July 1st, so I have not been able to transfer my credits just yet.



STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I the letter of acceptance from Copenhagen there was promised I would receive more information about an introduction week at the start of the semester. I never received more information. Since I arrived later because of exams in Utrecht, I don't know if the introduction took place. I came to Copenhagen and started my classes a day later.
accommodation
One company regulates the housing of international students: the housing foundation. They are not a pleasant company and I've had some stressful experiences with them (I moved houses twice after coming here). Other people have less bad experiences, but almost everybody agrees that they try and scam you. What is nice is that they offer 2-person rooms if you want to come with a partner.
leisure & culture
Copenhagen is a very large city with lots to explore. Every weekend there was some cultural event or other I attended. They really love coffee and pastries which I didn't mind at all. They people are very friendly but quiet. All the neighbourhoods have a different vibe. I lived in Amager, which is more quiet than some others. There's definitely enough to do in this city.
suggestions/tips
The university has a lot of different locations spread throughout the city. Pay attention to which campus you will have classes in choosing your accommodation. Everything in this city is within cycling distance. I definitely recommend bringing a bike with you or renting a Swapfiets (they have them here).

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I recommend this destination to others. I made very good friends here and we already made plans to see each other again in half a year. Copenhagen was such nice city to explore for half a year. The only problems I have were with the housing situation, but that was manageable for a half year exchange. The university is really nice as well with high quality education.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
No



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faculty/college	science
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	molecular life sciences (chemistry)

destination city & country	copenhagen, denmark
how did you travel to your destination?	train
name university abroad	university of copenhagen
start date	05 / 09 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	27 / 01 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION
exchange application process
At the time I thought the applicaton process was a lot of work and most of it could only be done pretty late. So with a lot of stuff I just had to wait until I could for example fill in/ hand in the forms. Other than this, it was fine. The most work will probably be in deciding which city you want to go to and doing some research on all the different universities.
counselling & support at Utrecht University



The University can help a lot if you're struggling so don't forget to send an e-mail if you have any questions!

academic preparation

I didn't have to do any academic preparation before my exchange, since the courses I did were in the same field as my "normal" studies.

language preparation

My classes were in English, so I also didn't have to prepare for language.

finances

Copenhagen is very expensive, so I looked for several ways to finance my exchange. First of all I got money from my parents, which helped a lot, I also got money from my duo loan and the Erasmus grant was pretty nice. Don't forget to turn off your ov-chipcard because you can get money from that as well. And I subletted my room in the Netherlands.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I started with a big course that was worth 15 ECTS called molecular microbiology. This was interesting but there wasn't much new stuff that I learned. After that I did two 7.5 ECTS courses, supramolecular and macromolecular chemistry and crystallography. These were maybe a little bit too hard, but I did really learn a lot. It did take me a long time to figure out which courses I could do and which fit in the timeschedule.

academic quality of education activities

The quality was high, although the teaching was very different. The teachers really want you to pass their course, so you could always ask for extra help, when needed. There was a lot of presenting and reading papers.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counselling was fine, especially in the first weeks. After that I didn't really need it. The welcoming days were really nice to meet other people. The idea of a buddy group was very good and I met a lot of friends through it, but you have to meet up yourself, the mentors aren't gonna do it.

transfer of credits

While I'm writing this, my credits weren't transferred yet. But I think it should be fine, it also helps that I didn't change any courses.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcoming days were nice, I would really recommend going there. It wasn't very much so try to sign up for everything. Also definitely sign up for the buddy groups. They aren't very active but it does help to meet people right away.

accommodation

I got a room through the housing foundation. It's very expensive but to me it looked like the only possible option with roommates. I rented a room at mariendalsvej, which was the best. The flat was very social and active and the location was pretty good as well.

leisure & culture

There are loads of museums to go to and some are free on specific days of the week. There's a week K7 in which almost everything is for free as well. There's just a lot to visit, so really nice. It's also nice to go to malmo for a day trip.



suggestions/tips

I rented a swapfiets, which was very nice but you can also try to buy a bike via facebook marketplace.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, Copenhagen is an amazing city, expensive but really nice.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

There's some websites and apps that can help with deals/ free coffee etc.



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faculty/college	Faculty of Science
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Pharmacy

destination city & country	Copenhagen, Denmark
how did you travel to your destination?	By car
name university abroad	University of Copenhagen
start date	01 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 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	The exchange application process took a lot of time and effort, but everything was worth it. My first task was to figure out where I could go on exchange. Fortunately, I could find on the UU website what the opportunities were. This way, I could orientate and choose a destination. After this, I had to fill in a lot of papers before I could go on exchange. I had to provide papers both for the University of Copenhagen and Utrecht University.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	



The study supervisor helped me with my studyplan of my bachelor. Also, I could ask the International office for help and advise any time by e-mail. Overall, the support at Utrecht University was great.

academic preparation

I did not have to prepare the courses before going on exchange. In the course catalogue I read about what the courses were about and what kind of things I could expect.

language preparation

Utrecht University provided an OLS test. This test was to determine my English level. Since I obtained my Cambridge certificate and learned English in high school, I did not specifically prepare my English.

finances

I got an Erasmus + grant, my parents supported me and I worked hard to earn money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I did all my elective courses in Denmark. There were some courses I really wanted to attend, but unfortunately my home university did not give me permission to follow those courses. But I was happy that the host university provided more interesting courses in Denmark. Sometimes I was disappointed because the courses that I wanted to attend were in the same timeslot, so some courses I could not choose.

academic quality of education activities

I was surprised by the fact that in Denmark they use the 7- point grading scale. A lot of exams were also oral exams instead of written exams like we have at Utrecht University. For me the workload in Denmark was intensive. However, I really liked the lectures and compared to my home university we were more focusing on helping each other when needed and discussing the study material.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

If I had a question I could always contact my teachers by email or if I had a question about my study abroad I could email the Exchange team.

transfer of credits

Every course was worth 7.5 ECTS and the transfer of credits was done by the host university.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The host university organized a welcome day for all the incoming exchange students of the same faculty. This way I could meet people with at least one thing in common. The whole day was to meet other people from different countries and to make friends with them. Thanks to this day, I could make some friends and I spent my whole exchange with them!

accommodation

The Housing Foundation gave me a lot of accommodations to choose from. The rental was high because Denmark is an expensive country. I had to pay around 7500dkk per month. The foundation gave me a lot of information and there was a whole process to apply for an accommodation. You have to read and sign a lot of contracts.

leisure & culture

Copenhagen has a lot of nice places to visit when you are free. For example, Nyhavn or Tivoli. The museum was also nice to visit and since they also have good public transport it is easy to move around within the city or even to visit other cities near Copenhagen. The Danish people are really proud of their country which is nice to see.



Everywhere you go you will see a Danish flag. They seem to a bit shy at first, but after that they are really nice and open.

suggestions/tips

Find people who like to do the same things like you and spend time with them. You can meet a lot of nice people in a café.

CONCLUSIONS

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

It is really worth it to study at the University of Copenhagen. They organize a lot of things for all the incoming exchange students and they make sure you feel comfortable. This way I was really happy during my exchange. Also, Copenhagen is a nice city which never sleeps. It was really safe to live there and I was never bored.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

X



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faculty/college	Faculty of Science
level	master's
name study programme	Mathematical Sciences

destination city & country	Copenhagen, Denmark
how did you travel to your destination?	train
name university abroad	University of Copenhagen
start date	01 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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PREPARATION	
exchange application process	I went to an information meeting of some type, and was able to find most other information online easily. I also emailed the Science International Office with a couple of questions, and they were able to help me. For me it was very important to be able to go on exchange with my partner, so we made sure to choose universities that accepted at least two mathematics students per semester, and that had interesting courses for both of us. We were told we were allowed to go to Copenhagen, our first choice, within six or so weeks of our application. It was unfortunate that Utrecht University only gave our application to Copenhagen university in September, as we



were only able to start looking for housing in November. This made the process a bit more stressful, but it all worked out okay.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

My tutor helped me to choose the correct courses to follow in Copenhagen. I had only just started my Master's when I applied, so I didn't really understand the course descriptions. My tutor was able to help me choose which universities would suit my type of maths, and when I was accepted to the University of Copenhagen, she helped me decide which courses to actually take there.

academic preparation

I didn't do much academic preparation -- the courses I decided to do were essentially without Master level prerequisites.

language preparation

The courses were taught in English, just as in Utrecht.

finances

I had some savings, and I worked as a TA before I left, to save some money. We are renting our apartment to a friend while we're abroad, and I have upped my student loans for this half year, as Copenhagen is in the top ten most expensive cities in the world to live in.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I took three courses within the Master's degree Mathematics. I found all information I needed (like how and when to sign up, where the exams were, etc) on the KU website. Though I did have to work it all out on my own, there was no introduction or anything like that, I was able to find it quite easily and did not encounter any organisational issues.

academic quality of education activities

The courses were all well taught, but they were a little bit easier than in Utrecht.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I did not receive any help without asking for it, but when I needed some counselling it was free and easily available.

transfer of credits

I have not done this yet, as not all of my grades are available before the deadline of this document.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

In my acceptance email, they said there was an introduction week that we were invited to. I did not receive any more information about this, but I also did not ask because I still had exams in Utrecht during that week, so could not attend anyway.

accommodation

In my acceptance email, they said I should find accommodation via the Copenhagen Housing Foundation. This is a non-profit organisation that has different types of accommodation scattered throughout the city for exchange students to live in. When I first arrived, they had made a mistake and sent me to a room that was already occupied. This meant that I had to move to a whole other location. In the end this was a nicer location in my opinion, but it was very stressful. Then halfway through, it turned out that they were renovating my apartment



without telling me about it, so suddenly I had no more water. After a week of this I went to the Housing Foundation and complained, and only then was I informed I wouldn't have water (or even a sink / shower, they were literally ripped out of the wall) for the rest of my stay, and that there would be builders in an out of my apartment for two months. I told them that this was clearly unacceptable, and thankfully they agreed. I was able to move to another apartment within three days, but it was an extremely stressful experience. On top of this, they charge you a 1000 euro deposit that they keep for even the tiniest reason. All international students I met in Copenhagen rent with them, as it is what the university itself says to do, but they all have subpar experiences with it. The staff are nice, and they do try to help you, but be prepared to fight them on things.

leisure & culture

There is lots to do in Copenhagen. There are a lot of places to eat, fun parks, etc. The people value their private time, but are still very sociable. Their English is very good, and I was able to pay with my dutch debit card everywhere. However, for online purchases you really need a credit card, they do not have iDeal (which I use in the Netherlands). I have not used public transport at all (except for the day I arrived), I have been able to do everything by bike. The company SwapFiets has a branch there as well, and most international students rent one of their bikes. There are also plenty of easy to rent bikes for if you have visitors. I also took the train to Malmö twice, which was lovely and quite affordable.

suggestions/tips

Copenhagen is a very expensive city to live in, so I suggest buying lunch at the university. That way you get a full meal every day, for a decent price. There are lovely parks you can visit for free. I was there February through June, but during the last two months, the city was really overrun by tourists, so be aware of that.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I had a great time, Copenhagen is a lovely city and the university is very good. I would definitely recommend this location to study abroad.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

The city and the culture are not too different from those in the Netherlands.