



## 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**.

Please use Tab to go to the next (text) box.

family name*	
first name*	
student number*	
permission to publish contact details**  <i>See end note for * and **</i>	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input type="checkbox"/> yes:      @ my weblog <input type="checkbox"/> yes: my Facebook account <input type="checkbox"/> yes: other (social) media <input type="checkbox"/> yes: <b>or</b> <input type="checkbox"/> my contact details cannot be published on the UU webpage, but I do give the International Office permission to forward my e-mail address to individual students interested in my host university abroad:      @
faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Human Geography and Spatial Planning

destination city & country	Stockholm, Sweden
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Stockholm University
start date	10 / 02 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	10 / 06 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

<b>PREPARATION</b>
exchange application process
<p>First I wanted to go to a different destination but this was cancelled due to Covid-19. I got a second chance and chose Stockholm. This made the application more difficult and there were fewer options left when I got to choose. The selection of courses was a nightmare, since the exchange coordinator at the SU got the available courses wrong three times which required me to switch courses everytime. In the end I was lucky to be able to attend courses that were in my field of interest. However, they were not all approved by the UU board of examination. I would have chosen different courses but they were not available for me. In the end I had to do a</p>



master's course, even though I was still doing my bachelor's, just because there were no other available courses.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The international office helped me with all my questions.

academic preparation

I did not do extra preparations on top of my normal studies.

language preparation

I did a language course (English) which I was invited for by the Erasmus programme. The result was that I did not need to do further language courses as my English level was sufficient.

finances

I applied for an Erasmus grant and saved money on top of that.

**STUDY ABROAD PERIOD**

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I followed courses similar to the ones from my home university. The topics and methods of the SU were different however. They did not provide proper counselling and support and the spokesperson for international students was often uncertain. For instance, I only received account details for the online platform of the university on the day before my first lecture. They also spelled my last name wrong in their system which led to further difficulties and they could not change it.

academic quality of education activities

The quality of the education was good. I learned a lot from the professors there. The different way of looking at the subjects I study at home was a nice experience.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

This was bad. See the study programme paragraph. The international officer was more of an interim position and he left after my first course, which left me stranded with questions regarding the courses and procedures.

transfer of credits

Also bad. I finished three courses, but one course has not been updated since May. The professor does not respond to my emails and the credits I earned have not been transferred and therefore do not show up on my Transcript of Records. Other international students which I met during my course have the same experience. If this becomes a problem for the final assessment of my grant, I would be very disappointed.

**STUDENT LIFE**

welcome & orientation programme

Since I started the semester abroad three weeks after its launch, I missed the welcome and orientation programmes and was left to find out for myself. The university did not accommodate me with these issues and luckily other international students were there to help.

accommodation

The accomodation I stayed in was nice. It was inside of the city and not far from the centre when taking the public transit. The studio was relatively clean, had good insulation, and nice facilities.

leisure & culture

Stockholm has a lot of free museums which are nice to visit to learn about the Swedish culture. Due to a combination of covid restrictions and winter in Sweden being ice cold, there were not many leisure activities



until mid April. It was nice to have other international students who were in the same situation as I was who has the same leisure and culture interests as I.

suggestions/tips

For other students contemplating a stay in Sweden: save enough money. Life is very very very expensive and I went way over budget. However, it is most definitely worth it.

To UU: check if universities that students can go to abroad have proper contactpersons for the students who know what they are doing. It is very stressful to arrive in a country and not know anyone, let alone be without support from the university staff.

### CONCLUSIONS

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

I recommend the city, but not the university. There were many problems with the communications and the online platform. The contactperson was unqualified. They have not uploaded my grading still, two months after completing a course. There is no insight into the grading. All in all a bad experience. The city however is beautiful and is a worthy destination for a couple months of living abroad. I stayed for four months and still feel like I did not see everything.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Nothing more to add. Hopefully my dossier will not suffer from the missing course result.

Save this UU report for your own records and upload the report in your Erasmus+ file/application in Osiris within 30 days after finishing your study abroad period and in ANY case before the final deadline!

**NOTE: Please upload in Word (.docx) so we can delete your \*personal details between processing for grant purposes and publication on the website for future UU exchange students. \*\*Contact details will only be included if and where permission has been given.**