



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>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input type="checkbox"/> yes: luukrader@gmail.com my weblog <input type="checkbox"/> yes: my Facebook account <input type="checkbox"/> yes: other (social) media <input type="checkbox"/> yes: or <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: @
<i>See end note for * and **</i>	
faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Earth Sciences

destination city & country	Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	UNIS
start date	11/ 08 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	07/ 12 / 2021 (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 is clear. It is some bureaucratic work, but in the end it is done quickly.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The international office is always ready to help and to find possible solutions for you. I personally had some struggles with the (negative) travel advise, but in the end the international office was really looking for solutions and in the end I was able to go!



academic preparation

All fine! I think the courses were not that hard on Svalbard, although I learned a lot! I got a good background of knowledge from the UU before going to Svalbard.

language preparation

Fine! Although my English wasn't fluently, I was able to communicate with people well. I think if you are able to manage English in college, you will also be during the exchange.

finances

Svalbard is very expensive and the grant, together with my expenses I would otherwise have in Utrecht, was absolutely not covering.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

Very nice! It consists of 2 15 ECTS courses with lots of fieldwork, writing and presentations as well! Especially the amount of fieldwork and the amount of presentations were really different from the UU and thus very learnful!

academic quality of education activities

Very good! Although fieldwork is way more chill in Svalbard (during fieldwork at UU we had to work way harder), the quality was good.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

In the beginning the instructions that I got were a bit short. But in the end when arriving on Svalbard, everything became clear very quickly.

transfer of credits

All well! I had no problems with the transfer of credits! I think that the 30 ECTS are justified, although the courses are only 4 months. Namely, they are more intense (often college during the weekend as well).

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There was none! But since Longyearbyen is so small, you will get to know everything very quickly.

accommodation

Very nice! Good, social and new student accommodation! Only a bit expensive (€500 each month), but this is very according to the prices on Svalbard.

leisure & culture

Amazing! Obviously, the nature in Svalbard is beautiful and very special. By just walking outside of town, you find yourself into the beautiful and impressive realm of the Arctic.

suggestions/tips

Make sure that you get your rifle license as quickly as possible. Without, you have very limited freedom to explore the island, since a rifle is more or less mandatory outside of town. Also, the writing work for the 2 courses is a lot, so make sure to spread the work over a bigger amount of time.

CONCLUSIONS

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



Absolutely! Studying for 4 months at UNIS is really learnful, because it offers a different way of teaching compared to the UU. Besides, Svalbard is a (more then) beautiful place and since it is small, you will become close really fast with the people there. It was an amazing experience!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Make sure to save some extra money for your exchange to Svalbard, since it is very expensive. But absolutely worth it!

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.