



## UU Study Abroad Report Form

Every student going abroad is expected to submit a report, as stated in the conditions of the Exchange application which you agreed to in Osiris. Please send it as an e-mail attachment to [international.geo@uu.nl](mailto:international.geo@uu.nl). State your destination country (e.g. *Costa Rica*) as subject. The deadline to return this report is **February 1, 2019**, even if you are still abroad at that time!

Your report will be made available to UU students preparing an exchange, placement or research period abroad. We will take out your name and student number. Not all of them are Dutch-speaking, therefore we prefer to receive reports **written in English**.

**Thank you in advance!**

**Text boxes will expand automatically while typing. Please use Tab to go to the next (text) box.**

family name	
first name	
student number	
faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's
name study programme	SGPL

destination city & country	Bogota, Colombia
name university abroad	Universidad de los Andes
start date	5 / 8 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	12 / 12 / 2018 (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	Really easy. Just do as international office says and hand in the documents on time. From Universidad de los Andes there's a good international support team to help you out. Only difficulty could be to get a document to state that you have a B2 level in Spanish. In the end the a professor from the Spanish department could sign one for me.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Was very good until Mirjam went on holiday for a week or two. Doesn't sound dramatic but (if I remember correctly) I had to get documents handed in exactly that week and nobody was really able to replace Mirjam so that was a problem. When Mirjam got back everything was fine again.
academic preparation	None, you should speak Spanish though otherwise you will have a tough time in class!
language preparation	See above, in my case none since I already spoke it. There's a Spanish class of Uni in month July
finances	Were alright, Bogota is cheaper in all aspects (except for beer) than Utrecht so your finances will be fine (unless you drink too much).



STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
Took courses on Colombian history and politics and a Spanish course. Registration was a bit tricky with entry requirements so I'd advise you to contact international office before for specific information.
academic quality of education activities
Outstanding! Keep in mind that this is the most expensive university not only of Colombia but of the whole of Latin America.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Very good, international office helps out quickly if not on holiday (just as in Utrecht)
transfer of credits
I don't know why they still ask this. Literally everyone always states: still in process. So do I.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There's the Hermanos sin Fronteras. They organize a lot of happenings to get to know the city and Colombian culture. There's a 4 day orientation week to get to know fellow international students.
accommodation
The university advertises CityU, which is really near to uni but is a bit strict (No alcohol (in reality there is but that aside), no guests after 11 pm or you have to register them earlier in the day) and quite expensive. I lived in the Candelaria neighbourhood really near to uni in a residence called R10 which I enjoyed very much. There's loads of student housing in this neighbourhood so you can just arrive in Bogota in an Airbnb and then look for something here (or check r10 on facebook). A lot of people also stay in Chapinero which is a cooler neighbourhood and a bit saver but you'll have to take a bus everyday – up to you to decide.
leisure & culture
This is a capital of 8 million people. There's so many things to do I haven't seen everything after 5 months.
suggestions/tips
Try to speak as much Spanish as possible. It really improves your experience in all aspects.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes, definitely.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Take with you a good warm jacket!! Bogota can be cold and you don't want to arrive (like me) with just one sweater and a thin jacket.
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)
Email: <a href="mailto:jurian.vanderzwet@gmail.com">jurian.vanderzwet@gmail.com</a> Facebook: Jurian van der Zwet Instagram: jj.vdz



**Universiteit Utrecht**

**Contact details Student Services / International Office**

Visitors' address: KBG – room 1.20, Budapestlaan 4B, Utrecht

+31-(0)30-253 9635

[international.geo@uu.nl](mailto:international.geo@uu.nl) (information/questions)