

Family name:	XXX
First name:	xxx
Student number:	xxx
Faculty/college:	Chemistry
Level:	□ bachelor □ master □ PhD
Name degree programme:	Chemistry
Destination city & country	南京 Nanjing(Jiangsu province), China
Name host institution	Nanjing University
Purpose of exchange	⊠ study/courses □ other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	27-02-2018
(dd/IIIII/yyyy)	

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

The application process of Utrecht University was very clear. I went to a few introduction meetings where they hand out checklists and brochures with useful information. However, all information can also be found on the website under the subject study abroad.

https://students.uu.nl/en/academics/study-abroad

After the application was approved at Utrecht University, I had to apply for Nanjing University. I choose Nanjing because it was smaller than Beijing or Hongkong and I thought there might be less English speaking people there. I saw that as a good thing because this would force me to speak Chinese. Looking back it was also a good choice because the airquality is generally better there.

The application procedure for Nanjing University was also very clear. It could be found on the website of Nanjing University and the international office of Nanjing also sent an email that detailed all the documents they wanted to receive.

It took me some time to find everything on the Nanjing University website, as not everything is in English and some information was not on the main website. Some of the information could be found on the website of the institute of international students, other information could be found in unnamed brochures that were in some folder called downloads. So don't give up if you can't find anything, just keep looking!

Try to apply very early, that way you have enough time to send additional or improved documents.



There was no one that wanted to go to Nanjing except me, so I can't tell you anything about the selection procedure.

Counselling/support at Utrecht University:

I am not satisfied with my student exchange coordinator. The communication did not go smoothly and it took her a long time to answer my emails. However the other people of the international office were very helpful and the introductions of the students that had been on an exchange were also useful.

Academic preparation:

None.

Language preparation:

It was not possible to find a Chinese course in the University, so I found another school in the northern part of Utrecht(the Meern). I highly recommend this school. They have good teaching material and the teachers are amazing! They teach in English and Dutch. The books are Chinese-English. https://www.chinesecollege.nl/index.php/nl/

Before I went to China, I studied for a year at this institute and got my HSK2 diploma. If you want to study Chinese in China, it is not necessary to study Chinese beforehand, as they have classes for beginners, but it makes daily life so much easier. It is especially useful to know some basic characters and phrases, like ' Where is the toilet'. Another advantage of learning some of the language beforehand is that you show that you're motivated, that you really want to go. Also people really appreciate it if you just try to speak some Chinese.

Finances:

For studying Chinese in China these are the scholarships that I know of,

The Confucius Scholarship

Chinese Government Scholarship

Read the requirements carefully.

Also, there are some scholarships of the host university itself. Ask the host university before you go. Unfortunately I did not know this beforehand.

My grades were not high enough for the general scholarships and my Chinese level was not high enough for the Confucius scholarship so I payed by myself. I applied 1½ years in advance and have since then been working to earn money for the exchange.

You can get about 92 euros a month from the government if you apply for OV-vergoeding. You can sublet your room in Utrecht to maybe make some profit or at least have a place to live when you come back.

With a student visa, you are not allowed to have a job in China. Recently the rules are changing and I know that a lot of people did it anyways and earned money working as an English teacher.

Study abroad period

Study programme (concerning content and organisational issues):

It is very well organised if you only do the language courses as I did.

The registration is the most important day. Make sure you are on time as there are very very long lines and that you have enough cash on you to pay for insurance(400 rmb for one semester) and



housing. At the registration you will receive your schedule, important documents and all kinds of useful information. After registration you can go to the campus get a room in a dormitory. If possible, mention in you application that you want a room in the dormitory, because it is very cheap to live there (3000rmb(ca 750 euros) for five months with one roommate, 6000 rmb for a private room) and conveniently close to the classes.

But if you want to do other courses as well, there might be organizational problems. You have to travel an hour each time to another campus for most English-taught classes like law and business, and there are classes in the weekend. The internationals office of Nanjing University was also in the campus that was an hour away, so I had to go there whenever I had a question.

The first two weeks you can try out all kinds of classes and change if you don't like them. During these two weeks you have to decide which courses you want to do and register for them. After two weeks you cannot change them anymore.

Academic quality of education:

The language courses were good, don't expect perfect English from the teachers but it was sufficient for teaching the classes. The only negative thing that I can say about the language courses it that I felt like they could have corrected my pronunciation more.

Counselling/support at host institution:

I am really satisfied with their support. Although it usually took more than one person to solve my problems, everyone wanted to help. I got sent to a lot of different offices and people and sometimes I had to come back later again but everything worked out in the end.

Transfer of credits:

I can't tell you anything about that as I am still in Nanjing, however the teachers promised to send the transcripts to the home university.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

At the registration we got a lot of useful information and there was a welcome meeting(2 hours) with an introduction about the university, the coordinators and important procedures.

It was rather short but good enough for me. I was in Nanjing for the second semester; February-July. Other international students told me that the orientation program at the beginning of the schoolyear (September) was more elaborate.

After three weeks there were welcome parties from the two different student associations for international students, but this was mainly for socializing.

Accommodation:

Very good. As Xianlin campus is very new, maybe 5 years max., it was a very modern dormitory with new furniture and equipment. I shared a room with another exchange student, but you can also choose to have a room for yourself. We had a shared bathroom with an European style toilet(no squatting toilet) and shower. We both had our own sink, a large desk, bed and closet. Not included in the rent is the price for electricity(about 75 yuan per month for two people) and internet (30 yuan per month).

Leisure/culture:

This was mainly organized by the student associations. They shared the activities in a WeChatgroup



and if you wanted to go you just said so there. A few of their activities were: climb the purple mountain, make typical spring festival food, movienight and more.

We also went to a park and mausoleum with my language class, this was organized by the teacher. The rest you had to organize by yourself. You could go whenever you wanted, however you were required to be in 75 percent of the classes, otherwise you would automatically fail the course.

Suggestions/tips:

Conclusions

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

Yes, definitely! Unfortunately I discovered that Nanjing is no longer a partner of Utrecht University. But other cities in China will also be amazing!

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

No.



Faculty/college:Social Sciences, Psychology						
Level:	bachelor	master	PhD		other	
Name degree programme:	Psychology A	&O				
Destination city & country	Nanjing, Chi	na				
Name host institution and/ or company/organisation	Nanjing Univ	ersity				
Purpose of exchange	study/courses	work placement	field work	other		
Departure date (dd/mm/ yyyy)	8 August 2010	6				
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	20 december 2	2016				

You are requested to write on the following topics.

Text boxes will expand automatically while typing.

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process: The process itself was a little messy because I applied for a different university at first and I got denied so I had to throw everything overboard and start over.



Counselling/support at home university: I emailed the study abroad people so many times haha but they always helped and made sure I understood the process and things going on.

Academic preparation: Its important to think the near future through, which courses fit before and after the exchange and how to make sure you get enough credit. I did an extra course before going on exchange because it was a compulsory course in the bachelor.

Language preparation: I started following mandarin courses once a week on a very low level just so that I would be able to understand and say a few things and wouldn't feel completely lost in the beginning. This helped me a lot!!

Finances: Because I went outside of Europe I couldn't apply for an Erasmus scholarship. There are some other options that you should definitely look at before applying but they are usually quite specific.

Study/placement abroad period

Study programme/work plan (concerning content and organisational issues):

To be honest the host university wasn't very forthcoming with which courses I would be able to take. The only thing I knew was that there would be courses in my field available but the real decisions were made only when I was already at campus!

Academic quality of education/placement activities:

The quality of education was very good! The classes are quite small which makes every class quite intensive but also extra interesting. You have class with people that you usually become friends with and that is very stimulating too. The teachers in my university had a good english level but I did hear some friends of mine complain about the english level in other courses.

Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:

Transfer of credits:

I dont know about the transfer of credits yet, I still have to hear from Utrecht University.

Student life

Welcome/orientation programme:

The welcome was very nice, the entire university was decorated for the incoming students of the new year.

Accommodation:



The accommodation was very roomy and cheap but a little different. In China it is custom to have a squat toilet so thats what we had, but you get used to it;) We had our own bathroom in each room, it was a good place!

Leisure/culture:

This is probably the best part about the exchange. In the weekends, if you make sure school stuff is done during the week, you can make all kinds of trips with your exchange friends. All the people there on exchange want the same things and that is to see the country so it is very nice to go with friends!

Suggestions/tips:

I worried a lot before going there because I didn't know what I could expect and I didn't want things to go wrong but, everything will fall into place don't worry to much, just do what you are asked and email people if you want to check on something.

Conclusions

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

YES, it is educational and...cliche but true, a thing you wont forget for the rest of your life. I already finished my photobooks to make sure I wont forget a thing:)

Do you have any additional advice or comments?:

faculty/college	Social sciences			
level	bachelor	☐ master	☐ PhD	other
name degree programme	Interdisciplinary so	cial sciences		
destination city & country	Nanjing, China			
name host institution and/or	Nanjing University			
company/organization				
purpose of exchange	study/courses	work placement	☐ field work	other
departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	2/ 09 / 13			
return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	27 /01 / 14			

preparation

exchange/placement application process

You can do the placement application process online or send it by post. You have to fill in some documents and send copies of your passport etc with it. To send this was quite expensive, because I had sent it with the 'aangetekend' option. So I would recommend to apply online. The website of Nanjing University doesn't give a lot of information in English, but it does in Chinese. When I went there I didn't even know where I would stay, when the semester exactly would start and other crucial information. But you don't really need to worry, because they are very laid back, everything works out in the end. Ones you have applied you have to wait a few weeks and they will send a reply with the necessary documents to apply for a visa. They will also state some very strict rules, but don't worry about these, the university is not strict at all. You also don't have to be nervous about not being selected/placed, because I think that's almost impossible. It might be interesting to search for scholarships the government gives or the university itself.

counselling/support at home university

Utrecht University knew as much as I did, or even less. But you can ask the coordinator to send the contact person of Nanjing University some questions. This might be helpful.

academic preparation

I went to Nanjing for the Chinese language course. For this they have all levels. So you don't really need to prepare. If you already now a bit of Chinese, it's a good idea to revise and practice a bit, so you can start in a higher level. But this is also not something you really have to worry about, because you can change class/level whenever and how many times you want. I did it halfway the semester and that was my 3d time changing class. If you want to take other courses in Nanjing you have to have HSK 6 level.

language preparation

For the university you don't really need to prepare, but you first have to get there. And not many people speak English, so best is to not expect any English. So I would recommend to learn some words or prepare it and write it down. But Chinese mostly can't read alphabet so it has to be in characters. I did 2 courses Chinese at the James Boswell institute, which is now Babel, before I went to Nanjing. It didn't help me a lot, but without any knowledge of the Chinese language I think I would have been really lost.

finances

Primary living expenses in China are really cheap. I could pay everything with the 'uitwonend studiefinanciering',

or the money our government gives. You can also stop your OV and ask for a refund, so every month I received almost 400 euro. Which is more than enough to live off. My room was 90 euro a month and food is also very cheap.

study/placement abroad period

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

There are a lot of organisational issues in the University. The first week will be very chaotic, but you will get used to it. Just go with the flow and don't worry too much. Also keep in mind that its very common in China to have a 2 hour lunch break. And waiting/queuing is part of life.

academic quality of education/placement activities

The quality of education compared to Holland is not so high. I did learn Chinese, but for me it was more a fun year than an academic learning year. If you are on time, you can do a placement test. The result will tell you which level suits you best, but if you want to change or you didn't do the test, that's also no problem. There are 'compulsory' lessons (you can skip a lot of classes) and optional classes. So you can make your schedule as busy as you want. These optional classes mostly require a higher level of Chinese, but it can also be a nice challenge if your level is not that high. A few classes are given in English, but you will have to inform about that. (since the schedule they give you and related information is all in Chinese). Next to that, they also offer Chinese painting and calligraphy classes. These are also in Chinese, but very popular! I was 2minutes early with entering the classroom and the classroom was already overfull.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

The staff working at the university is mostly very nice and helpful. Some can speak English very well, others not. But if you have a problem, it will eventually always be solved. Go to the 5th floor of the school building or ask your teacher for advice.

transfer of credits

I haven't done this yet, but at the end of the semester you can ask the university to send your results home or to University Utrecht. You have to buy an envelope and sign. You need this paper to transfer your credits

student life

welcome/orientation programme

There is not really a welcome or orientation programme. You just have to figure it out yourself. But there was this one presentation which was titled as an introduction, but it was actually a police officer telling you what was allowed and what was not allowed.

accommodation

You will probably live in the Xiyuan Hotel. This is where all the internationals live and is about 2 minutes walking to the university. I shared a room with one roommate and two showers and two toilets shared with the whole floor. I payed around 900Yuan every month, which includes internet and tv. You can also choose to live alone with shared bathroom or alone with your own bathroom. The prices are twice as high, but relatively still not expensive. If you don't want to live here you can also search for an apartment, but this is normally more expensive.

leisure/culture

Nanjing is a nice city. It has 1912, which is the name of the street where are the nightclubs are. There are several shopping areas, it has a nice big lake/park and also a lot of history. But the city is mostly modern, so you don't see many historical buildings.

suggestions/tips

conclusions

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

I would definitely recommend going to Nanjing! It has all the convenient aspects of a big city, but it's not as expensive as other cities and also not as crowded. It's also very central in China, so if you like travelling it's a very convenient starting point. Only one hour away with the train from Shanghai. But I would only recommend it if you want to do the Chinese language courses. Because the other courses are in Xianlin Campus, which is an hour away with the subway, and the subway closes at 11 in the night, so it's very isolated! The language program of Nanjing is supposedly one of the better ones. Everything goes in Chinese, so you learn very quick and you can adjust everything to your needs! Although the standards are not that high, you can challenge yourself by taking extra courses or going to a higher level.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you really want to learn the language and get to know the culture, try to make many Chinese friends. The environment doesn't really make this easy, because you are always surrounded by internationals. But sometimes it's a good idea to do something alone and go explore yourself!

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	□ bachelor □ master □ PhD □ other
name degree programme	Cultural Anthropology
destination city & country	Nanjing, China
name host institution and/or	Nanjing University (NJU) – 南京大学
company/organization	
purpose of exchange	□ study/courses □ work placement □ field work □ other
departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	11 / 02 / 2014
return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	05 / 08 / 2014

preparation

exchange/placement application process

Even though the websites of Chinese universities aren't always that clear or even lack a English version, applying for Nanjing University was not very hard. Through e-mail I could submit all forms and the admission was sent back through regular mail. Don't expect to get a lot of exact information up front. I myself got an e-mail in advance with all of the courses I could attend, but not everybody did. Even though I got this e-mail, only after coming here and making inquiries it became clear which courses were and weren't available. That's pretty normal here.

counselling/support at home university

Very good. The international office helped me a lot with the application process and went the extra mile when things didn't go as planned. There's also a few meetings you can attend at your home university before leaving, I would recommend attending these as they are very informative.

academic preparation

Not sure what to say here. I did this exchange as part of my minor, so there was no direct relation to my major.

language preparation

Recommended! At Nanjing university you will automatically be enrolled for the Chinese language classes. If you want to make the best of these; start at home with the basics! It makes the classes definitely more enjoyable and more manageable.

finances

Going to China means you don't have to worry about money so much, except for the very big cities like Shanghai, Hong-Kong or Beijing. In Nanjing life can be as cheap as you like it. My (estimated) costs for six months, without food, leisure activities, etc.:

Tuition (UU): 917

Coursematerial in China: 11

Airplane and train - return: 667 Rent and expenses: 550

Healthinsurance:

Visa: 115

Travelinjections: (free with the right healthcareplan!)

study/placement abroad period

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

Studying at Nanjing University means the Chinese language (Mandarin) will be your major. Next to that you can choose from the English courses that are on offer which can be divided into the following categories: Medical, Business and Law. Apart from those courses there are history and philosophy courses which focus on China and several Chinese arts you can practice in workshops. Language courses are held every morning from 8 until 12 and the other courses are optional in the afternoon.

If you want to follow extra courses, make sure you gather information about location and times yourself, because nobody else will do it for you.

I liked all of my courses (Chinese, history and philosophy) very much and I would definitely recommend taking some extra courses on Chinese history or philosophy if you are serious about learning Chinese and getting to know Chinese culture. Also, if you are not satisfied with one class, you can switch throughout the semester.

academic quality of education/placement activities

I did the beginners class Chinese, so I guess that doesn't give a good insight in the 'academic quality' of different lessons. I do know that in about four months I learned a lot of Chinese, since 4 hours per day plus homework is pretty intense! One of my English classes did not provide a very high level of education, namely because my Chinese classmates did not understand English very well. In general I think Nanjing university has a high quality of education, especially concerning the language classes.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

The biggest problem you will probably encounter is a language barrier when dealing with the host institution. Apart from the beginner-class teachers, people generally don't speak English that well. But, sign up for the language-buddy program and you will meet enough people that are more than willing to help you out with these kinds of things. Don't expect too much from the school concerning counselling and support. Instead, gather your own information and let language buddy's help you arrange anything you need; a lot of things are possible if you want!

transfer of credits

No experience yet.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

This was quite poor. We got the introduction and general information only <u>after</u> the first few classes, which didn't make sense. On the other hand the local international student organization does actively seek contact from the very beginning and organizes some activities/party's where you can meet other people.

accommodation

Good. If you accept the university's invitation for reserving accommodation, you will end up in the international student dorms. This is what I did, and there I shared a room with another international student, toilets and showers are shared with the whole floor (€90). You can also opt for a private room, which is of course a little more expensive. There's also the option of renting an apartment outside the campus area, which is worth considering since it's not expensive in China. This will mean you certainly have some private space and all the facilities for yourself. If you're serious about learning the language; try to find a host-family through and agency or institution. This is the absolute best way to help your Chinese lessons along!

leisure/culture

Nanjing is the perfect city for studying I think. It's big enough to have some things to keep you busy and entertained, but doesn't necessarily feel like a big city, even though the international dorms and school is in the very centre! The city has a lot of interesting sights and when you've seen 'em all, it's possible to make lots of worth-while day or weekend trips from Nanjing. Furthermore the people here are very nice and it's quite easy to meet others: Chinese and internationals.

suggestions/tips

Do it! It's a great experience and learning Chinese is actually good fun. If you're not so much interested in learning Chinese, then there's still enough to do and experience. Start in time with the application, so there's room for some error and miscommunication, since this is often the case due to language barriers. Nanjing (China, for that matter) is an enormously interesting and entertaining place to study at right now.

conclusions

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

Yes. Very relaxed, life is cheap, good facilities and education.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No, but feel free to contact me through the International Office if you have any questions!



UU Study Abroad Report Form faculty/college Faculty of Science Level □ bachelor ☐ master ☐ PhD other name degree programme Information Science Nanjing, China destination city & country name host institution and/or Nanjing University company/organization purpose of exchange □ work placement □ field work ☐ other

15 / 01 / 2012

12 / 07 / 2012

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

Preparation

exchange/placement application process

departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)

return date (dd/mm/yyyy)

I thought the website about 'Going Abroad' was really helpful. I explained what you were supposed to do and provided a lot of information. Filling in the different forms and writing a motivation letter wasn't such a problem. The placement took very long though, this was because I had to wait for a third person that applied for the exchange but didn't go in the end.

counselling/support at home university

If you need help with anything you can contact the International Office. They respond quick and provide you with the information you need.

academic preparation

During the application progress I was able to pick several courses from a list that seemed interesting. I almost finished my bachelor and was free in picking the courses I wanted.

language preparation

For the language preparation I followed a small course that taught me the basics of Chinese. I recommend this to everybody that wants to go aboard to China since most of the population doesn't speak any English at all. In the end this also proved to be useful when starting the Chinese Language course in China since it goes at a pretty fast pace.

Finances

Because I was still enrolled at the University of Utrecht, I didn't had to pay an intuition fee at Nanjing University. Living in China is fairly cheap. Traveling however, is pretty expensive in comparison.

study/placement abroad period

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

As soon as I arrived at Nanjing University it was clear that the list with courses was adjusted. Because of this, I would advise people not to pay too much faith in the list of courses that will be provided on the internet. Most courses will not be taught or you will not be able to attend the course. Besides that, most people at the international office don't speak English or only for a little bit. This might cause some problems in the beginning but it worked out for me in the end.

academic quality of education/placement activities

If you want to study Chinese, I would recommend going to Nanjing University. The classes are really useful and will soon help you to understand some basic Chinese. The Chinese language courses take a lot of effort thought.

They are divided into three different courses: Speaking, Writing and Listening. Most of these courses have a lot of overlap, but especially Listening will go at fast pace. You can expect to get homework for all the Chinese Language courses. Thinking about the other courses at Nanjing University, I would only recommend the MBA courses. The quality of the other courses is pretty weak.

counselling/support at host institution/organisation

If you need help you can always go to the International Office of Nanjing University. If I had problems, they were always willing to help out. Besides that, you could contact 'Ms. Sunshine', she was part of the Office of International Cooperation and Exchanges.

transfer of credits

As far as I know, there are two options of receiving credits. First of all, you will be asked during the semester whether you want your transcript to be sent to your place. This will be around the start of the next semester. Secondly, you can take your transcript with you from the university. This might cause a small problem however, because most courses besides the Chinese Language courses might not be graded when you're leaving China.

student life

welcome/orientation programme

There was a nice orientation talk at the beginning of the semester. During the talk the speaker explained where to go when you had problems and gave us some general information about the daily life in Nanjing. After the talk we had the possibility to sign up for a language partner.

Accommodation

I recommend everybody that goes to China to not stay in the dormitories and look for an apartment. The dormitories are pretty expensive, you will pay around 2200 RMB for a single-room and you can expect to pay around 1600 RMB for a double-room. For the same amount, you can get a nice decent apartment with much more space. If you want to move into an apartment, I recommend you to contact some English-speaking Chinese agents by e-mail before going to Nanjing. They'll be happy to show you some apartments.

leisure/culture

There is enough to visit in Nanjing if you want to do some culture activities. Besides that, Chinese people like to start a small conversation with you. This is a great way of trying to improve your Chinese. There are also enough places to hang out with your new friends.

suggestions/tips

For this I would just say: Go abroad and experience it for yourself. It will be a lifetime experience for sure!

Conclusions

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

If you want to study Chinese or MBA courses, the answer Is yes. If you want to study other courses, you might have to rethink your decision. For the destination itself, I really enjoyed the city Nanjing.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Get a bike! You will see so much more of the city and it is easy to go around. Secondly, just go abroad!