



	/
faculty/college	REBO
level	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Constitutional and Administrative Law (Staats en Bestuursrecht)

destination city & country	San Marcos, Texas, United States
name university abroad	Texas State University
start date	17 / 08 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	17 / 12 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	The preparation started somewhere in april I think. I received an email from Texas State with all the steps to be taken. I am usually pretty well-organized, so I started early with everything. You had to fill in a lot of forms and you had to get approval for your courses in Texas by international office, which is kind of weird. I was sent from international office to the study advisor form law, but they sent me back. This was a little unclear. Further on some official documents needed to be sent. Honestly, the info from Texas State was not always really clear, I asked them a lot of questions via email, that really helped. Especially with housing, I would inform myself well! There is a lot of options.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	The counselling at Utrecht University is fine, I didn't use them a lot though.
academic preparation	
	My IELTS was waived, so I did not do any academic preparation. I did courses on another field, Political Science, but I could follow most of my courses just fine. I only missed some background information sometimes, but there was no way of knowing this.
language preparation	
	No preparation. Although I did take the Legal English for Academic Purposes in the past, but that was two years ago.
finances	



I saved about 2000 euros. Next to this I had an income of 1000 euro a month. This was enough for the four months. For travelling I would advise you to save a little more. Also, rent is kind of high, so I would take this into account.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The courses were all really interesting. I took Roots on American Constitutionalism, American Political Discourse and International conflict & security. The first course was a little bit boring, but this was mostly because of the teacher, who gave lectures the whole four hours and he didn't explain the assignments very well. The second course was interesting because I learned a lot about American politics and presidents. However, the assignments did not make sense to me. They were a lot of work (we did this big project, which was supposed to be a research thing) and we didn't learn much from them. The last course was amazing though, the teacher was really good, I not only learned about the content, but also how to write and some other stuff.

academic quality of education activities

I didn't really attend extracurricular activities

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

There were a lot of options. I didn't use it, but I think they were really helpful.

transfer of credits

Has not yet been processed at this time, it is taking quite long though.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The first week we had about three moments to meet the other exchange students. That was nice. Also, most information was provided, we got a lot of flyers and stuff.

accommodation

I lived at the local, which is a nice place to stay: a pool, a gym, study room and close to campus. The rooms were also fine. Only thing is it is not cheap. When I looked into it it seemed to be the only place that offered one semester leases. However, when I came in summer I saw that some other housing locations offered last minute things with discounts even. I would definitely just go there and maybe arrange my rent from a hostel/motel. You could get a cheap offer, although it might feel risky.

leisure & culture

I really loved all American people. Campus was nice to eat sometimes, and the town is small, so you can walk most stuff. You can also rent bikes really cheap (50 dollarscents per 15 minutes or something), so if you need to go a bit further this is a great option. San Marcos is also really close to Austin so you can go there in the weekends, or San Antonio.

suggestions/tips

As I just said, San Antonio and Austin are close. They are nice to visit. I would also highly recommend the Big Bend National Park. It's beautiful and next to the Mexican border.

CONCLUSIONS

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



Yes! It is small town America and a nice opportunity to visit Texas. It is a state you otherwise might not visit and the people are really great!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No.



UU Study Abroad Report Form

Family name:	xxx
First name:	xxx
Student number:	xxx
Faculty/college:	U.S.E
Level:	X bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> master <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> other
Name degree programme:	Economics & Business Economics

Destination city & country	San Marcos, Texas, USA
Name host institution and/or company/organisation	Texas State
Purpose of exchange	X study/courses <input type="checkbox"/> work placement <input type="checkbox"/> field work <input type="checkbox"/> other
Departure date (dd/mm/yyyy)	15.08.2017
Return date (dd/mm/yyyy)	15.01.2017

Preparation

Exchange/placement application process:

Don't forget to take your I20 to the airport!!

Counselling/support at home university:

Academic preparation:

None, I just registered for my courses

Language preparation:

None, I already have an English taught bachelor

Finances:

Don't underestimate the US, it is quite expensive. Groceries are really expensive, it was not fun running errands.

I paid \$700 dollar for my accomodation

Study/placement abroad period

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

Academic quality of education/placement activities:



Counselling/support at host institution/organisation:
Transfer of credits:
Student life
Welcome/orientation programme:
The Welcome was good organized. I landed in Austin with a fellow UU student and got picked up by a TxState volunteer. The first day we met the students who were already there and they took us to run some errands at Walmart, BestBuy etc
- Tailgate
Accommodation:
Leisure/culture:
Suggestions/tips:
Don't bring any clothes, the premium/tanger outlets are right around the corner and the clothes in America are quite cheap. I ended up sending a 20kg box home. If you want to send stuff home use myus, it ships your stuff to Florida first and gets bulked with other packages to make it fairly cheap.
- Start doing stuff early
- Check out the student complexes (Jacuzzi)
Conclusions
Would you recommend this host organisation/destination to others? Please explain:
Do you have any additional advice or comments?: