



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 made available (anonymously) to 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	
e-mail address	<i>optional; only if you don't mind students preparing for study abroad contacting you directly</i> @
faculty/college	Geowetenschappen/ Geoscience
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Sociale Geografie en Planologie

destination city & country	London, United Kingdom
name university abroad	University College London
start date	20 / 09 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	16 / 12 / 2016 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	I applied in December 2015 via my home University in Utrecht for an exchange semester in London. I was selected in February for an exchange at my first choice: University College London. I was asked to write a personal statement in order to apply there, and received an offer to study at UCL in April. Although the process took a long time, it was well organised.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	The University of Utrecht was helpful and provided all the information I needed.
academic preparation	I did my exchange in my third bachelor year but did not undertake specific academic preparation
language preparation	Although I had taken some English taught modules I did not undertake special language preparation
finances	



Life in London can be very expensive. Accommodation, food and travel are costly in the United Kingdom. This was one of the reasons why I chose to live in a host-family instead of in university halls. This, in combination with the Erasmus grant and a loan from the Dutch government made my stay financially possible.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

At UCL, modules are chosen in the week the lectures start so it is important to have an idea about which courses you would like to follow but the definite choice is only made in the second lecture week. I could not do two modules I applied for because of the timeslots but found two different interesting modules. There was a very helpful tutor available in case of any questions. Note that physical and human geography at UCL are seen as two parts of the same study, there is a different Planning department.

academic quality of education activities

The education at UCL is organised differently from the education at the UU. As a UCL student you are expected to read a lot and all the education was given in lectures and tutorials in which you discuss the lectures and readings. There was almost no work in groups or applied assessments. Lecturers were well approachable and encouraged students to come talk to them in their office hours.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

UCL was very helpful and provided all the information I needed. As geography students we had a tutor from the geography department who familiarized us with the way UCL organises things and to whom we could talk in case of any questions. In the first week, several welcome events were held where everything you need as an exchange student was provided. The UCL-union provided also a range of facilities.

transfer of credits

At the time of writing, my grades are not yet available and transferred

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

UCL organised a week with several events for international students. In this week, a general introduction to the university was made and there were also campus tours and 'meet your department' sessions. In the second week, different student unions presented themselves, they are very easy to join for international students!

accommodation

Although UCL provides student halls for its students I chose to live in a host-family in the south of London. This was cheaper and it was also a lot of fun to meet British people outside university.

leisure & culture

London offers a range of leisure and culture activities. There is always something to do! The (mostly free) museums are worth the visit!

suggestions/tips

Join student unions and go and see London! Visit Oxford or Cambridge if you want to get out of London.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend UCL as an exchange destination for others. UCL offers world class education, is



very welcoming and well organised for international students and is located in the heart one of world's most exiting cities.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Go for 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!

See *Erasmus+ Studies timeline and instructions* for more details. 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.