



UU Report form - Erasmus 2022-2023

faculty/college	Utrecht University
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	By train with an interrailticket from the Travel Green Grant
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	08 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	23 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I think the application process can be quite stressful and a bit of work but you should not let this stop you. I remember being very afraid to accidentally do something wrong but the people at the international office are super helpful and kind. The university of Granada is not the most organized one and I heard very late that I was officially admitted and only after I had emailed them.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I experienced the counselling and support at Utrecht University as very welcoming and helpful, I was not afraid to ask for help or for clarification as some parts of the application and later processes were sometimes a bit unclear. They were very friendly and even if they could not help me themselves, they always gave advice on who to email next as well as that they checked in on us when we were dealing with extreme weather circumstances.

academic preparation

Academically I was well prepared and I think that the courses I followed in Granada were easier than the ones I followed in Utrecht. However there was a language barrier which sometimes could be challenging.

language preparation

I had done a minor spanish and followed the courses spanish 1, 2 & 3. I think this was a good and necessary preparation however after this minor I did not practice my spanish a lot, which looking back now I would have done in order to make my stay easier. The teachers I had were super nice and in general I think that the teachers in Granada are very used to having international students in their class who don't speak spanish that well. I had 4 courses of which 3 were in Spanish and 1 in English. Of the Spanish ones i was allowed to make the exams and papers in English for two of the courses and only for one course I really had to do everything in Spanish. Whether you are allowed to do this or not depends on the teacher and the course. In general I think you can still manage if your Spanish is not that great but it will be less stressfull if you speak it well and the andalusian accent is hard to follow.

finances

Granada is very cheap compared to Utrecht. I paid 230 euro rent + money for gas and water = approximately 260 a month. However I think my apartment was quite cheap even for Granada but you can easily find something for 230-300 a month. Going out for tapas is very cheap since in many places you get a free tapas with every drink. This will make it very disappointing to go to other Spanish cities where you have to pay separately for your tapas :P



STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
It was a bit of a search on the sit of the university of Granada which courses they offered and what those entailed but it is not that hard to figure all of it out. It is important that you also check with exam commision if you are allowed to do all the courses but since my study program is very open and they had a lot of different anthropology courses than in Utrecht this was not a problem.
academic quality of education activities
In general I think the academic quality is a bit lower than in Utrecht but since I followed courses on different topics than in Utrecht it was still very interesting. Unfortunately I didn't know this until very late but they also have some non academical activities and courses such as a ceramics class or a painting course.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Where to go exactly on the introcuton days, how everything worked with the different sites and what you still had to do when you had arrived in Granada was often very unclear. However if you go to the international office in Granada they speak English and are able to help you.
transfer of credits
I still have to figure out how this works.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
In the faculty introduction they will explain that in the first week you have classes you can try out different classes and still make changes in the courses you want to follow in a certain period afterwards. This was very helpful because you could hear different professors speak and find out who is the easiest to follow as well as getting a better picture of what the course is about. I decided in this time that following 5 Spanish courses was a bit too much and I looked at a english course and dropped some of the Spanish ones. They don't offer a lot of english social science courses and in the 2 period when I was in Granada they only had two options. Therefore, if you have the opportunity to chose which semester you would like to go, I would advice you to already have a look at the courses they offer at this time and take that into account with your choice.
accommodation
There are some facebook groups in which people put pictures and information of rooms that you can rent. I went to Granada without a room and stayed in a hostel the first week. In the beginning I was very nervous about this but in the end I really liked it because I was able to visit some rooms I was interested in and that allowed me to also see the neighbourhood it was in. The housing situation is very different from Utrecht and because there are so many international students each year the there are also a lot of houses available for them. I think that it would still have been possible to find a house later in the year and that there are a lot of options available.
leisure & culture
The culture is amazing and there is so much to do in Granada as well as in surrounding cities. Granada is a great place to stay and to visit the surrounding national parks and other cities such as cordoba, ronda, sevilla and some beaches.
suggestions/tips
There are 3 organizations in Granada that organize trips and other activities for international students. These are ESN, EMYCET and Best Life. Especially in the beginning this is very helpful to meet other students and to visit nice places. You will get information about these organizations during your introduction but if you arrive before the introduction days you can look them up on instagram or facebook and maybe already join some of their parties or activities so that you don't have to spend your first days there alone.



CONCLUSIONS

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

I am in love with Granada and the beautiful mountains that surround it and I would definitely recommend going here!! Granada doesn't feel that big but there is always something to do and there are still many restaurants and miradors that I would like to visit. There are some parts of the city that have high differences in them and my main way of transportation was by foot (a lot of walking but you get used to it very fast) or bus. The university of Granada felt a bit unorganised to me but I would still recommend going here.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Something that was different for me about the lessons is that there were no clear distinctions between lectures and seminars and I had classes twice a week for each course that were the same structure. In addition to this the classes lasted 1,5/2 hours without a break which I in the beginning found difficult. However, this also depends on which study and courses you do and professors you have. My advice would be not to stress too much if you don't hear something very often from the university of Granada before you go and that you can always contact them if you are in doubt about something. As well as to really keep an eye on your UU mail inbox before and during your stay even though you will also get a lot of emails on your new UGR email account. In addition to this I would recommend you to find a house in Granada in person if this is not too stressful for you.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2022-2023

faculty/college	Psychology
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Erasmus Semester Abroad

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	plane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada (UGR)
start date	13 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	28 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

I went to the information night about the exchange options for students of the social science faculty. After going through the destinations I chose two and I had to write a motivation for my first choice. Eventually I got selected for my second choice and I got an email from my exchange university including all the steps I had to undertake (choosing courses, etc). The first emails were both in Spanish and English and eventually, they were in Spanish.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The International office from FSW was very helpful and caring. They always respond very quickly so that was really nice.

academic preparation

I did not necessarily prepare myself academically, because I had already finished my bachelor so the courses I took were an addition to my curriculum and mainly to improve my language skills, as all courses and exams were in Spanish.

language preparation

My only preparation was a minor in Spanish at UU a year before my exchange. However I strongly recommend to do as much language preparation as you can before the exchange. I took an additional Spanish course at the exchange university during my exchange, but you have to pay extra for it. I was B1 in Spanish as was recommended for the exchange, and I am now B2. However, I think being B2 or C1 at the beginning would make the exchange a lot less stressful. Also because in Granada they speak with a very thick accent (they don't pronounce certain letters) so I would recommend preparing as much as you could, just to make it a bit easier for yourself.

finances

My rent was 330 euros per month and I had a really big room in the centre of the city. Going out for food is also very cheap (Granada is one of the cheapest cities in Spain). There is also daily lunch at the university comedor (3,50). A coffee is around 1,50 and a beer around 2,50 and it includes a tapa.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

The organisation is a lot more laid back than what I was used to in the Netherlands.



academic quality of education activities
As for the academic content, at UGR the professors also teach the workgroups, so the contact is a lot more informal. The assignments are more creative and less scientific I would say, and there is a lot more interaction between the professors and students. In the lectures as well as in workgroups.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The support from UGR is sufficient. There is an office where you can go if you have problems or questions regarding your exchange, and it is at the faculty. Also they organise two different introduction days: one general introduction for exchange students and one per faculty.
transfer of credits
My credits are not transferred yet, but the procedure was easy and was sent to the students by email.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
As I said, there are two introduction days. One for all exchange students and one for your faculty. These were very helpful and the general introduction was half in Spanish and half in English. The Psychology introduction was in Spanish
accommodation
I had a shared apartment with other exchange students in the centre, and I paid 330 per month.
leisure & culture
suggestions/tips
There are a couple of erasmus student organisations that do a lot of trips and organise parties.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Yes I would. I think Granada is a beautiful city, not too big, cheap and there is a lot of things to see and do.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
I lived with Latin American housemates to keep practicing my Spanish and this was very helpful.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2022-2023

email address	lunacoricarlitto@gmail.com
faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	Good! I went by plane from Schiphol to Málaga, and from there took the bus to Granada.
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	15 / 02 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	24 / 06 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application was a lot of deadlines, and you really have to pay attention to the deadlines of the Erasmus Grants, because there are many. Other than that the International Office and the Erasmus committee are always there to help you which works really well.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

International Office is super nice and responds quickly.

academic preparation

I actually study cultural anthropology, but got admitted to Granada in the psychology programme. I didn't really do any academic preparation for this, but looking back I should have! Especially because it was all in Spanish and then about a subject you don't know, which makes it even harder!

language preparation

I had 6 years of Spanish in high school and did a language course before I was going to Granada.

finances

I worked before going to Granada, saved some money for it. Also had my OV paid to me and borrowed money from DUO. Luckily Granada isn't the most expensive city!

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

I did two courses of psychology (in Spanish), two courses of the education faculty (in English) and a Spanish language course through the university which also counts for ECTS.

academic quality of education activities

It was very different from the Netherlands, but sometimes more work than you'd think. Also for the exams you really had to know things by heart, instead of understanding the content of the course. This was also a major difference for me and good to know before studying for your exams.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad



The international office of the UGR is quite good, with fast replies and she also speaks English if necessary.

transfer of credits

Didn't do it yet!

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Very good! There are a few organizations which organize tapas evenings and other activities or trips, it's very easy to meet people through these! And because Granada has so many Erasmus students you will easily meet people who are alike.

accommodation

I lived in a flat with 3 other roommates, two Italians and one Finnish. They were really nice and we had the best time in the flat. I found it through one of the facebook groups!

leisure & culture

Granada is amazing, in the winter you can ski and in the summer you can go to the beach, it has everything! Free tapas at your drinks, the best Erasmus activities and the city is so beautiful.

suggestions/tips

Just do it!!

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would 100% recommend! It was honestly the best time of my life.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

In the beginning you will need to get used to the new surroundings, language and the people. But give it a while and it will be amazing!!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2022-2023

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	bachelor's
name study programme	Cultural anthropology and development science

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	By plane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	15 / 2 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	22 / 6 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
The application process was a lot of work, but it worked out in the end. There are a lot of forms to fill in and it is hard to find the right courses. However, the UU and Ugr were always ready to help me whenever I had a problem with anything.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
The uu always responded very quickly and helped me when necessary.
academic preparation
I did not do any academic preparation for my exchange.
language preparation
I have taken Spanish in middle school and took Spanish for anthropologists' in the first semester at the uu. However, it was still very hard in the beginning to be able to follow the classes. The Andalusian accent is very hard and sounds different from the Spanish you learn in the Netherlands. Luckily, the academic level is way lower than in the Netherlands, so I had extra time to spend on my Spanish. Furthermore, the teachers and other students were always happy to help and (some of them) spoke English. My tip is to try and speak Spanish as much as possible. This way you will get used to it very fast.
finances
Everything in Granada is way cheaper than in the Netherlands, so I didn't really have financial problems.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
It was kind of hard for me to figure out my courses. I had made a study plan, but once I arrived some things changed. Apparently at the Ugr you cannot register for your courses in advance so you have to do it in the first week after your arrival. I also had some problems with the registration. I went to the international office in Granada and they could luckily help me with all of this (in English).
academic quality of education activities
University in Spain is way different from here. The academic level is way lower, and in my opinion they look at the material from a very shallow point of view. Some tests I had were multiple choice and just reproduction.



The classes were also different, it is more like middle school where you have a small class you take all courses with. Furthermore, the mentality around school is way more relaxed, students and teachers do not care that much about school and try to get days off whenever possible.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Although they usually took a lot of time to respond, the Ugr always helped me whenever I had problems.
transfer of credits
I have not done the transfer of credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I liked the welcome programme, although it was not very extensive.
accommodation
The accommodation in Granada is very cheap. I stayed in a student residence near the centre. Most of the people living there were students from Spain, but there were some Erasmus students as well. In the residence I met a lot of new people and made many new friends.
leisure & culture
It took some getting used to for me, but I absolutely love the culture in Granada. The people are way more relaxed and the mentality is different. They usually care less about school, work, etc. and more about having fun and relaxing. The people are really nice and open to meeting new people. Granada is a really beautiful city and there are endless things to do.
suggestions/tips
Don't worry too much about school! The teachers do not either :). The academic level is way lower than at the uu and the tests are usually easy to pass.

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
Definitely! I have had a great experience and never regretted choosing Granada. I really loved the city, the people and the atmosphere there.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
Go to the Alhambra!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2022-2023

email address	s.r.boelens@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	07 / 09 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	25 / 01 / 2023 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The exchange application process takes some time, but it is nice that it begins early in the year, so you have enough time for everything. For me, it took the most time to figure out which universities I wanted in my top 3. After the placing, it depends on the university how much time it takes. In my experience the application for the UGR did not cost that much time. But make sure you do everything on time for the deadlines. Just follow the steps and you will be fine!

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I found the counselling and support at the UU very good. Everytime I had a question I sent the FSW international office an email and they answered always very quickly. So, I felt very supported, which was nice.

academic preparation

I did not really do academic preparation, because I already graduated my bachelor pedagogical sciences at the UU and did not need any ECTS anymore. I followed in my last year some psychology courses, so I hoped that that would be enough preparation.

language preparation

I did not have Spanish classes before I knew I was accepted to the UGR, and directly after I knew I was placed there, I started with an intensive language course at a Spanish language school in Utrecht. I did this for 2 months at A1 level, but then I could not manage to do this anymore while writing my thesis at the same time, so I had a pause and went 4 weeks earlier to Granada to follow a 3-weeks-course at a language school, where I had Spanish class for 5 hours a day and 5 days a week (again at A1 level). I enjoyed it, but there were not many Erasmus students yet in the city, so in the beginning it felt a bit empty. It really helped with my Spanish and I liked that I already got to know the city quite well, before all the other Erasmus students arrived. Then, during the semester, I followed also a Spanish language course at A2+ level at CLM. I have managed myself during the semester and really improved my level, but I would recommend being on a higher level before you go.

finances

I made a financial plan before I went, applied for the Erasmus Grant and I worked/had savings to use for the semester. I also put my DUO the highest possible. Spain is not that expensive, but of course it is what you make of it yourself. I wanted to be able to do trips, eat out often and party, so then in the end, it was not much cheaper than in the Netherlands. But with the same amount of money I could do way more things, so that was



very nice!

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

When the semester starts you get two weeks to follow all the courses you want and then you can change courses and your Learning Agreement. I followed the courses I had in mind beforehand and some courses in English that friends were following. In the end I changed my LA a lot. Before I came I wanted to follow 6 courses, but I changed it to 4 courses: Spanish language course (at CLM, you have to pay extra for this, but you get 6 ECTS for it), Psicología de la Personalidad (1-year-course), Cognitive Neuroscience (the only English course at the faculty of psychology; 4-year-course) and an English course about teaching English literature to elementary children at the private faculty of primary education (4-year-course, the faculty: CMLI, this was possible, because even though it is a private faculty, it is still connected to the UGR). Every course is 6 ECTS and for the Erasmus Grant I needed 22,5 ECTS to keep it as a gift, that is why I followed 4 courses in total. A tip: the Erasmus officer at the UGR is very slow in answering and you also need to check with the UU if you can follow the courses you want, in the beginning this costed me a lot of stress, so don't begin to late.

academic quality of education activities

Overall, the courses at the UGR have less quality then the UU, but for me Cognitive Neuroscience was very difficult, because I had no background knowledge in this subject. So, it really depends on what you choose as well. For most of my courses I had small activities during the semester that I had to hand in or bigger practica's where I had two weeks the time for to make them. Those activiteits were often 50% of the end grade. The other 50% was the exam at the end of the semester. Here in Granada, you follow the courses from september untill december and then in January it is exam period and you don't have any classes anymore. So, you can study a lot for your examens. In my semester the exam period started at the 11th of january till the 25th.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support in Granada was not as good as in Utrecht, because the Erasmus officer took a long time to answer questions through email and could also not speak very good English in my opinion. So, I hesitated more to ask for help, so I often found classmates and friends that could help me with things.

transfer of credits

I did not receive my credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

When you arrive in Granada there is a welcome week organized by the University, but there are multiple student organisations in the city that make you feel very welcome and organize a lot of different things the whole semester. You can join a lot of activities, like eating tapas, discover the city and the area around Granada, partying etc., so you can meet a lot of people very fast! The 3 different organisations are ESN (connected to uni), Emycet and Best Life Experiences (both commercial). So you can see for yourself which one you like best, but you can do things with all 3 of them through out the whole semester. In the first few weeks I joined a lot of activities and met very fast my friend group. So, I really recommend to do this in the beginning.

accommodation

I lived in a piso (apartment) with 3 other Erasmus students, all girls. I found this piso when I was already in Granada and beforehand I did not really look for something. This is fine, but was also kinda stressfull in the beginning, because I was not sure if I would find something in time. In the end, it worked out very well and I found the piso through one of the big whatsapp groups. I lived at Calle Arabial, which was really nice, because it was very close to the student area. I really recommend this if you like going out. My roommates were very nice,



but you have to be lucky with that. We rented the whole apartment for a year, so I had to find my own replacement. The other girls stayed there for a whole year. Finding your own replacement is something I would not recommend, because it takes a lot of time and rejections in the last few weeks of your stay, which sucks. So, make sure before you rent a room or an apartment, what your terms/condtions are and make sure that that works out for you!

leisure & culture

Granada is an amazing city which has so much to offer!!! First of all, the city is very focust on students, which makes the atmosphere super chill. The city has a lot of beautiful parts, like the old city center, the Albaicín, Sacromonte and Realejo (and of course the Alhambra!). Some days I would just stroll around these neighbourhoods with my friends and enjoyed the sun. Then there is the student area, Pedro Antonious, where all the bars are and everywhere in the city you can find tapas bars! The clubs I would really recommend to go to are Mae West, Basaba, Granada 10 and most of all Nocta! Not only inside the city there is a lot to discover, but also outside the city. The Sierra Nevada is reachable in 40 minutes (to hike or to ski!), in 40 minutes there is a lake where you can swim and in an hour you can be at the closet beaches. So, eventhough Granada is not a very big city (what I really liked, because you get to know it very well very fast and I still got never bored of it), there is also a lot to do around the city. Furthemore, it is also very easy to do daytrips or longer trips to other cities. I did one organised trip with Emycet to Algarve, but all the other trips, I went just with my friends, because we preferd that. Places I have been for example: Nerja, Tarifa, Córdoba, Jaén, La Herradura, Alpujarra, Sevilla, Malaga, Madrid and in the end I have been to Morrocco for 12 days with a friend I met there. With Alsa, bus trips are very cheap and it is very easy to book everything with the app.

Then, the Spanish culture is very nice. People are not that tight up as in the Netherlands and are never in a hurry. In the beginning, this took me some time to adjust to, but after a couple of weeks I started to really appreciate it. They enjoy life in the sun and like to eat tapas and drink. During the weekends, I really loved to be in Granada and just see how the Spanish are everywhere enjoying their weekend. The rhytym is very different, because I normally had dinner (almost always tapas and Tinto de Verano) around 21:00/22:00. I really liked the Spanish living style.

suggestions/tips

Try everything out to know what you like the most! And be open to meet new people :).

CONCLUSIONS

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

YES!!! I loved my time abroad and think the destination was perfect for me. If you like a smaller city with mostly students, then this place is perfect for you!! You can do a lot of different activities in and around Granada, so you can fill in your semester exactly how you like it. It is very cheap and there are a lot of amazing destinations in Andalusië to visit. I really think everyone could have an amazing time here!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

Make sure you go to the welcome activities, because it is the fastest way to meet new people. And it is also a lot of fun!! I also would recommend to arrive a bit earlier in Granada then the official beginning of the semester. I knew the city already and had more time to meet people before uni started, so for me, that was a very nice start. And mostly: enjoy!!!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2021-2022

faculty/college	Social sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	14 / 02 / 2022
end date	28 / 06 / 2022

PREPARATION

exchange application process	Not very hard.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	Also fine.
academic preparation	I did not do any academic preparation
language preparation	I did not do a lot of language preparation. However, the level of Spanish was more difficult than I expected so this could have been good to do.
finances	I had my Erasmus grant and DUO. Granada is a relatively cheap city, but since you do a lot of activities you do need the money.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)	In Granada the semester is not divided in two, so I followed four courses at the same time to get enough ECT's.
academic quality of education activities	For me, this was very different sometimes than in Utrecht. We had to do a lot of assignments. They were not big or very hard, but we had to do many for each course. I would say the hardest part for me was the language. The quality of the courses itself was not very hard.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	Was fine. In the first week there was an obligated lecture for the Erasmus students for psychology. The rest you basically have to figure out yourself, but there are many erasmus students so that is fine. If you have any problems you can go to the international office.
transfer of credits	



I dont have my credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

For the faculty there was not a lot of this, only one lecture. However, there are student organisations that organise a lot of activities and trips and these are very well organised. This way you can meet a lot of new people and they organise many things in the first weeks.

accommodation

I found my flat on facebook. Some of my friends went there and found something there. It is not hard to get a room in Granada compared to Utrecht.

leisure & culture

Granada is a very good city to study abroad. The Spanish culture is very relaxed and the people are very nice. A lot of students live in Granada and also a lot of international students. It is a small city so everything is within walking distance, and there is a lot to do. It is a relatively cheap city so that is also nice when you are a student. Around Granada there is also a lot of beautiful places you can go visit.

suggestions/tips

In Granada with every drink you get a tapas, so I went out for tapas very often. Its very cheap and good food.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, definitely! Granada is a great city to be a student with a very divers student life and many organisations for students so that you meet new friends very easily. It is also not as touristic as the bigger cities.



faculty/college	University of Utrecht
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

destination city & country	Spain, Granada
how did you travel to your destination?	By airplane to Malaga and bus to Granada
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	06 / 09 / 2021
end date	04 / 02 / 2022

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	
	At the beginning it might make you a bit nervous, as you are unsure where you will end up going and which paperwork has to be done for it. However, the University of Utrecht provides enough information and support to get you through the process :)
counselling & support at Utrecht University	
	Loes van Velzen is so super sweet and supportive, she will answer quickly and help you out in any case. Never feel ashamed to email her and to ask for help.
academic preparation	
	As I will mention below, it is recommended to practice your Spanish and if you can to take advantage of the free Spanish courses that are given at the University of Utrecht.
language preparation	
	I have taken A1 and A2 classes that were given at the University of Utrecht. Furthermore, I practiced at Duolingo and have spent a summer by myself in Spain, trying to improve my Spanish. However, in Andalusia (the south of Spain) the accent is very strong. Thus, I can advise to travel through the South of Spain, or find a teacher that is from the South as well.
finances	
	With the money that will be given from pausing your Public Transport (ov) from Holland, the Erasmus grant, and with the knowledge of Spain being more cheap than Holland, thankfully I was able to manage well.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	
	My study programme consisted out of 4 Psychology courses. I choose courses from the 3th and 4th year. I would recommend to take courses from the 2nd and max. 3th year. As it is a challenge itself to have classes and exams in a new language. The 4th year courses were (to my opinion) too much.
academic quality of education activities	
	The way of education is definitely different than from Holland. I would say that the level of education is lower, but with the language barrier you will still be challenged a lot. I learned a lot; academic, cultural, language wise.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	
	The support and counseling of the teachers and other students were great. It is not like every teacher would



explicitly introduce the Erasmus students, but they are definitely willing to give you extra time and attention. Same for the students. Just don't be afraid or nervous to ask for it. They are very easy to interact and talk with.

transfer of credits

As when the time comes to transfer your credits, you are probably or at your last part of the Erasmus or at the start of being back home again. Thus, it will probably not feel like the right time to be busy with transferring your credits. However, it is a very easy proces, and long as you start on time and ask help where needed: fine :)

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome day is mostly great to meet some people. Also the large Whatsapp groups and for example organizations as Erasmus Experience, really help to get started. Here you meet Erasmus students and together you can learn and explore.

accommodation

The greatest way of finding an accommodation I would say is to be in the large Whatsapp and Facebook groups that are made by Erasmus students. Try to find an appartment that seems to be with lovely people, check the heating system (because in the winter a lot of Spanish houses get super cold!!) and find yourself a great location :)

leisure & culture

The culture is absolutely AMAZING! You will probably fall in love with the language, the free tapas, the people, the beautiful nature and city of Granada and the siestas and fiestas!

suggestions/tips

Stay for a whole year, truly. Because it takes a while to get used to the different language, the city and all it entails. If you get the chance and you are not affraid to be away from home, than stay for a year. This way you get time to get used to the ways of living, and you have time to truly and fully enjoy it.

CONCLUSIONS

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

YES!!!! BEST STUDY PLACE EVER! Truly Granada is so so beautiful and the paradise for Erasmus students. The city is large enough to find new places and people to explore and to have a real paradise adventure. But is also not too large, so everything can be walked by foot and you can get to know many people and really feel like the whole city is your home :D

do you have any additional advice or comments?

STAY AS LONG AS YOU CAN AND ENJOY THE FULLEST! :D



faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Algemene Sociale Wetenschappen (Interdisciplinary social sciences)

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
how did you travel to your destination?	Airplane
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	23 / 08 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	05 / 02 / 2020 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION	
exchange application process	I started by collecting information online about all the universities you could chose from. For me sometimes there were so many forms and application rules, that I lost the overview a bit. But the international office was very helpful and in the end everything will be solved and cleared up.
counselling & support at Utrecht University	When I had difficulties with understanding the whole process, I made an appointment with the international office which was very helpful. You can always email them and they will respond quickly. There are a lot of forms and sometimes it is unclear when or what you have to fill in, so it is very useful to have a organisation like that to help you.
academic preparation	I did not prepare myself adacemically.
language preparation	I followed Spanish courses at high school, but after graduating I never used it again. When I decided to go to Spain I started courses again for about a year, but because I almost forgot everything I ended at A2 level. Because a lot of UU reportst said this was low but sufficient I thought it would be fine. For me it was pretty hard to get around with this level of spanish, and in Granada I decided to follow my courses in English and take a Spanish language course. This all worked out and the language course was very good, but I would advice new students to acquire at least B1 level to study in Granada. It will lower your stress and everybody in Granada expects you to speak Spanish.
finances	Granada is a very cheap city, but don't underestimate all the extra expenses you have because you want to travel, parties etc. For me my loan and the grant were enough to live with, but I also saved some money by working in the Netherlands to travel a bit.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	Courses in Granada are 6ECT's and a semester is not divided in two periods like in the Netherlands. This means that if you want to have 30ECT's, you have to follow 5 courses at the same time. The courses have quite a lot of contact hours in comparison to Utrecht. I would advise future students who go to Granada to plan your programme well so you can follow less courses in Granada, so you can enjoy your exchange time a bit more



because it can be hard to immediately follow 5 courses in Spanish. The organisation of the study programme is a bit chaotic, but here you also have a international office that tries to help you.

academic quality of education activities

For me, it was quite hard to understand the level of academic skills they require from you in Granada. I had to hand in a lot of assignments and essays, way more than in Utrecht. But they didn't grade this until january, which made it hard to know if my work was good enough. In the end I passed all my courses really well, so I think the academic quality is less than in the Netherlands, but the work load is more. They expect you to hand in a lot, but the assignments are not really hard. So more quantity than quality I would say!

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The counselling was a bit chaotic, but you can make an appointment with the international office and they will try to help you!

transfer of credits

I did not get my credit transferred yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The welcome programme from the university is pretty clear, they send you emails about it and there are information lectures. How your timetable is designed is very different from Utrecht. You have to search for all the courses online, for every faculty there is a different website. Then there are 1-2 weeks where you can follow some lectures of the courses you're interested in, and after these weeks you have an appointment with the international office to officialy sign your timetable. For me this was a very unclear time because it is so different from how I was used to do it. But, time will sort things out and there is less pressure for formal deadlines etc in Granada.

Different erasmus organisations like Best Life Experience, Emycet and ESN organise a lot of trips, parties, tapas evenings etc. to welcome all the new erasmus students. It is a very nice concept to meet new friends very soon, so don't worry about meeting people in a new city. I only went there the first few weeks to make friends, but they organise events throughout the whole year.

accommodation

I read in the student reports that it is very easy to get an accomodation in Granada and that it is easier to just go there and find a room. I partly agree with this. It is indeed easy to find a (cheap) room in Granada. I hired an Airbnb for the first week and wanted to look there for a room. In the end I could rent my airbnb for the whole semester, which was very nice. But for me it was quite stressful before going to Granada to not know if you would fine a room. So I think it depends on your personality, are you laid-back and relaxed: go to Granada and search for a room there. If you like to be well-organised and structured: look for some rooms online!

I think the best areas to find rooms are close to the cathedral/gran via if you want to live in the beautiful more authentic city centre. If you want to live close to the party/student area: calle pedro antonio, this is where are the parties are, but it is not that beautiful. Albacyn is also a very beautiful area, but be aware that it is quite steep so you have to climb a bit. Realejo is also a good area. Everything in Granada is within walking distance.

leisure & culture

I think Granada is one of the best cities to study abroad. It is a city full of parties, culture and food. Everything is within walking distance but the city has everything a big city also has. Everbody lives outdoors so there are thousands of restaurants, bars, clubs, pubs etc. There are a lot of erasmus students so you meet people very easily. Furthermore Granada is not that touristic as for example Barcelona/Valencia, so it is really authentic. Waiters in restaurants speak to you in Spanish and not in English, something that I really liked. The Alhambra is very beautiful, and there are a lot of viewpoint with Alhambra view where you can chill/picnic. Furthermore the life in Granada is cheap, i went for tapas around 4 times a week because it will cost you only 7/8 euros. With



every drink you get a free tapas!

suggestions/tips

Prepare yourself well with the language, and just enjoy! Granada is such a beautiful and nice city.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes definitely! As I explained, Granada is one of the best cities I ever went to. In the summer you can go to the beach, and in the winter within 45 min you are in the Sierra Nevada to ski. It is an authentic Spanish city with a lot of culture, but also with a lot of parties!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2018-2019

Contact details	e-mail address r.vanzijderveld@students.uu.nl
faculty/college	behavioral sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	11 / 02 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	02 / 07 / 2019 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
I made a list of locations and universities I would like to visit, then focused on their specialties and courses
counselling & support at Utrecht University
went to the information that was given by the UU.
academic preparation
I've looked for some basic terms used in psychology in Spanish
language preparation
Did 2 courses from Fuentes in Utrecht (A2.1 and A2.2)
finances
worked the last months before I left (+/- 3 months full time)

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
They did speak spanish with a really big accent (andalucian) so it was hard to follow them (as well in the international office as during the courses).
academic quality of education activities
Some courses were quite hard to follow, because of the accent and the vocabulary they use. At the end I had the feeling I understood more or less everything.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
Most of the time when I had problems, I asked another Erasmus student or another student. In little of the cases I asked the teacher.
transfer of credits
nothing special



STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	Was quite professional and official, especially the introduction of the faculty (a lot of information in little time). after the acte de bienvenida (official opening) you can enter the parque de ciencias and it's worth to take a look at that!
accommodation	Was not really hard to find. If you want a shared house with other students (piso), it's really easy to find it. I found it at housinganywhere.com, but there are more places to find it. Don't go to the accommodations offered by the university, they ask a lot of money for it (+/- 400/500 euros). The average room costs like 230-300 euros. Check with google whether it is in the center or not! Calle pedro antonio is the street where many people go out, so take that as a reference. The ultimate border of the citycenter is Camino de Ronda, the Genil river and until Albayzín (this quarter is actually quite high in the city).
leisure & culture	The city has a lot of difference in height (city itself is at 750 meters with a difference of 50 meters), so if you want to do a walk through the city: bring good shoes with you. As an international student you can enter the alhambra at Sundays for free! there is an office which provides 100 free tickets for the Sunday for people living in Granada (or international students). Bring your matricula (transcript of courses) or your rent contract (at least 6 months) and you can enter the alhambra on Sunday. You have to go early though (around 7:30-8:00) and go to la oficina corral del carbón. If you like to walk, you can go to the Sierra Nevada (you can also do skiing there) or to Monachil. The beach is more or less 40 minutes-1,5 hour away (depending where you want to go). Enjoy the culture, it is as Spanish as it can be and the weather is lovely (in February it's like 20-25 degrees and in july it goes easily up to 40 degrees!
suggestions/tips	If you want to travel cheap, travel with EMYCET or ESN for quite good prices. furthermore, ALL the tapas are included with the drinks, so going out and dining are combined really well!

CONCLUSIONS	
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain	Absolutely. The only thing is that you really have to adjust to the accent (for example: they don't pronounce the s in the words). The tuition is really good, although it is very different from what you're used to at the UU. This is more like high school (small classes, small classrooms, as well as for the lectures as the workgroups (prácticas). The schedule of when you have classes you have to find out yourself and it's actually hard to do (you have morning and afternoon groups and within that you also have variation) so I'll advice to do that with a buddy or someone familiar with it.
do you have any additional advice or comments?	Enjoy. It is shocking how fast it all goes and how fast it feels like home. Best time to go is the 2 nd semester, because the ypu have an enourmous amount of parties! Carnaval de Cadiz, Fiesta del agua y fuego, feria de sevilla, corpus cristi in granada (a lot of party and a lot of flamenco, paella and tapas!

UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD



name study programme	Cultural Anthropology and Development studies
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	05 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	11 / 07 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The application process demands some effort and since the starting date of the exchange seems so far away, this can be quite annoying to put a lot of time in. However, it is important that you prepare these papers with some effort, because in the end the exchange arrives way faster than expected.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The support I have gotten by the UU was simply amazing and probably one of the best compared to other Erasmus students from other universities. The international office of my faculty where extremely helpful (and fast) with every small problem I encountered. It is important that future Erasmus students don't hesitate to ask any help from either previous Erasmus students or the international office.

academic preparation

Since my time abroad was merely focused on improving a foreign language, the courses I took were not included in my study program of the UU. That is why I was not to focused on getting specific courses and just wanted to choose interesting courses upon arrival at the UGR. For this reason, I did not require any academic preparation.

language preparation

Half a year before my exchange, I started one Spanish course at the UU for half a semester. After this Spanish course, I made sure that I had more free time to study Spanish in the 3 months before leaving to Granada. In these three months I took some private classes (3 hours a week) and did a lot self-study. In the end, I was not prepared that good and took another course in Granada at CLM (Centro de Lenguas Modernas).

finances

Before the exchange I have saved some money for my time abroad, besides that I had also my Erasmus grant and a compensation for my OV (public transport card) in the Netherlands

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

My programme in Granada consisted of one language course (at CLM), one course at Psychology and two courses at Criminology. It was kind of a task to figure out which courses to follow, since the UGR let you figure it out yourself. Therefore I just searched some information how to sign up for a course at CLM and at which hours the other courses were. I attended a few courses to see if they fit me. In the start it will seem really chaotic, but in the end it will all work out fine. Don't worry!

academic quality of education activities

As said by many, the level of education is a bit lower in Spain. However, it will be quite hard to do it all in Spanish, especially with the Andalusian accent! The way of teaching and testing is really different from what I am used to at the UU. There is in my opinion more hierarchy between students and professors: at lectures students just listen and write, they don't go into a discussion with a professor. Also the testing was different, because all the exams were multiple choice, something I am not used to within my study.



counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The support is not amazing at the UGR, but don't let that scare you! The communication can be a bit difficult and clumsy sometimes (also because of the language) but in the end all the teachers and staff want the best for you and all the Erasmus students. Just go up to someone and ask for their help! This works way better than sending questions via e-mail, since they don't read/answer their e-mail that often. The same applies on the International office of Psicología: if you have any questions or problems, just go to the office in the opening hours.

transfer of credits

I still have not received my transcript of records, but normally the UGR send your records automatically to your International office.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The orientation programme by the UGR consisted of one general information event, one faculty specific information event and a few activities you could participate in (which I did not do). For me, the welcome programme of the UGR was not that special, but the welcome weeks of the Erasmus students organisations were really nice. Granada have three different students organisations (BLE, Emyzcet, ESN) specially for Erasmus students which organize different activities every week. Especially in the welcome weeks they have activities day and night which are really helpful to meet new people and get around in Granada as a freshman. So don't be afraid you won't meet anyone, because you will meet lots!

accommodation

I found my own accommodation a few weeks before arriving on a Facebook group. However, it is really easy to find accommodation in Granada. Many students just arrive in Granada without any accommodation and find a room within a few days. Granada is not that big, so almost every accommodation is in a good spot, because you can walk almost everywhere. Almost all the students live in a shared flat with other Erasmus students, what leads to houseparty's almost every day in different flats.

leisure & culture

You will definitely fall in love with Granada if you will spend your Erasmus here. This city has literally everything: the beautiful Sierra Nevada an hour away for some wintersports and the beach about an hour and a half away. Granada itself is a beautiful, cosy city in which you will feel immediately at home. It has a lot of culture and history, which you will experience in the Albaicin and Alhambra. I just loved the lifestyle in Granada, spending your days and nights on the terrace with free (!!) tapas and then end the night in a bar or a club. You can experience something new literally every day!

suggestions/tips

Eat tapas as many tapas if you can, I still couldn't decide which bar is the best!

CONCLUSIONS

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

Definitely! Granada is one of the best cities to do Erasmus in. The UGR can be sometimes be a bit problematic, but in the end it will all work out completely fine and you will have probably one fantastic Erasmus! Granada is amazing and the people you will meet there even more.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

No, just go!



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Cultural Anthropology

destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	25 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	30 / 06 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

After I was conditionally accepted at the University of Granada, I had to fill in an Online-form and already choose the subjects I would like to do. It took quite a while after they confirmed that they had received my application. Arrived in Granada it turned out the subjects I choose didn't all fit in the same timeslot, luckily I could change this at the International Office of Granada and change my Learning Agreement. It's very convenient to be present at the information meeting, so you know what to do to change and choose subjects and where you should go.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The Counseling and support from the International Office of the Utrecht University was quick and helpful. Whenever I had a question about ECT's or formal paperwork they reacted within a few days with a clear answer.

academic preparation

There was no special academic preparation needed, although I really had to get used to the way of teaching in Granada - it's less interactive and a lot of listening. It would have been better if my level of Spanish language was higher in the beginning. Now I missed a lot of information in the beginning because of my lack of capability in understanding and speaking the language, which has definitely influenced my academic development.

language preparation

I prepared myself by doing the courses Español1 y Español2 at the University of Utrecht. At the end of these courses you approximately have A2 level in Spanish. What I realized from the moment I arrived in Granada is, that this level is mostly in understanding/reproducing grammatica, and not really in applying it. Using and applying the language is a totally different thing, which I definitely learned this semester, but not without the necessary struggles and frustration. In the end of february I decided to join a language-school for a month with individual classes and a lot of conversation; this helped me a lot. Speaking a language is grammar, but more confidence and acostumbration.

finances

In Granada everything is cheaper than in Utrecht, which made that my finances weren't really complicated in Granada and that I could live very comfortably. I rented my room in Utrecht, and the room I rented in Granada was 150 euros cheaper. Living - groceries, beers, going out, transport - is a lot cheaper compared to Utrecht.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)



Beside my 'external' language course, I did 4 subjects on the University of Granada. Two within my own field of anthropology, and two in philosophy. Although the subjects in philosophy were a bit more complicated because of my lack of foreknowledge of the subject in combination with my lack of Spanish, I enjoyed these subjects the most. It was very interesting to go outside my field, and discover new ways of thinking. The Anthropology subjects were quite easy to me; although both were subjects of the 3rd/4th year, they were not very profound.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality of the courses on the university was not that high as the courses of the University of Utrecht; the classes are not that interactive and the way of teaching is in my opinion slightly conservative [teacher talks two hours, students listen]. Subjects within the courses were not treated very profoundly, and the test were more reproducing information than critical thinking. BUT! Because of having class in a different language is a challenge in itself, it was good that the content was a bit more simple to be able to focus on the language-part [which was personally my priority this semester].

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

From the beginning it was very clear what I had to do with the international office and in what period. Counselling and support from the teachers was usually good; I could send them an e-mail when I didn't understand things and they would respond pretty fast. Afterwards I wish I had more personal contact with the teachers when I didn't understand things, but that has to do with taking initiative myself.

transfer of credits

I haven't transferred my credits yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

The Orientation programme is very practical; which is useful and good in my opinion, but it's not the moment to meet a lot of new people. For meeting new people own initiative is needed - but the city is full of nice, open and interesting people, which makes it easy to find people that suit you.

accommodation

It's pretty easy to find a room in Granada. I found my room by a friend who studied before in Granada, so I reserved my room beforehand. This is not necessary though; in the beginning there are a lot of people advertising rooms on facebook or in the streets. Also in groups like ESN and Emicet there are a lot of people looking for rooms, which give you the opportunity to rent a whole house together for example.

leisure & culture

Granada is full of things to do, and full of people who take initiative and organize things. Yuzin is the Cultural Agenda of the city, which was for me very useful to find things to do. Later on, I heard about things that were organised within my own network. Beside culture and music, Granada is surrounded by beautiful nature. This was one of the most amazing things of the city to me: within ten minutes walking from the city you're in green and mountainous landscapes. In the summer I had a lot of picnics and campfires which I really, really enjoyed. Beside the direct environment, the sierra nevada is also close - in summer for nice hikes, in winter [until the end of April] for skiing. As well, you can go to the sea in 1 hour by bus. To me this endless opportunities of nature and culture and the big international community make Granada a very special place to me.

suggestions/tips

- Have a solid base in speaking Spanish, this makes a lot of things much more easy.
- If you want to improve your Spanish, actively invest time to it. - And speak Spanish when you can, although English is easier.
- Get lost in Albaicin and enjoy it.
- Don't be ashamed to ask things to your teachers, although these things are simple: overall they are very willing



to help, and like it when you take initiative.

- Go to Marrocco, it's so close!

- When you like bouldering: there's a 'hidden boulderingclub' where you can climb for poco dinero: la sala [in Realejo].

- December, January, february, [March] can be very cold, although it's in the South of Spain. - Be prepared, because most houses don't have central heating.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, definetely. Granada is a place I can't compare to other places - I directly associate it to freedom. The city is not big, but big enough to keep discovering new things. Beside Erasmus students, there is a big international community that is open to everybody. The city is surrounded by beautiful green mountains and nature. Like I said before: you're close to mountains, close to sea and even close to desert. Granada is really a city to dive in to, and I'm sure there's something to find for everybody

do you have any additional advice or comments?

-



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Science
level	X bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Interdisciplinary social science/Psychology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	University of Granada
start date	31/01/2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	06/07/2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

The process was straightforward and fast. Everything was done online, for which you got a specific link through email. There you needed to fill in your personal information and courses. For the process there is a manual in Spanish and English available. In general, the international office of Granada was quick to respond. However, it took quite some time to find all the information about the different courses available at the University and once in Granada half of my courses were quite different than described in the manuals, so I had to change them.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

The international office in Utrecht is very helpful. They respond fast and answered all my questions clearly.

academic preparation

For my courses there was no academic preparation needed

language preparation

All my courses were in Spanish. When I left I had a B1 level. I had already studied Spanish, but did a fast refreshment course in Utrecht before leaving.

finances

Granada was cheaper than Utrecht. Rent was less than I paid at home and especially food, drinks and traveling were cheaper. I received my Erasmus Grant (partly) before arriving and had saved up a little.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

During my stay I followed four courses, two of sociology and two of psychology. Granada University has a semester system, so I had all 4 courses at the same time, for 5 months. Two of my courses were related to social psychology, one was experimental psychology and one was an introduction course to social change. Most of my courses were 1st or 2nd year courses and therefore the content was good to follow in Spanish. Upon arrival I did have to change two of my courses (that I chose before arriving), because one was too difficult and the other was unavailable.

academic quality of education activities

The academic quality was lower than I was used to in Utrecht. However, the language was enough of a challenge, so it was less stressful that the academic level was not high.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

The international office was helpful and responded fast. Most teachers were kind and available to help when



needed. Most teachers had specific hours in which you could get help with the course content or ask your questions.

transfer of credits

My credits haven't been transferred yet.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

There was a welcoming week. In this week a lot of information was given and there was the opportunity to meet people and the international organisations. We also had to enroll for the courses in the first week. The first week of courses was quite unorganised. Officially the courses had already started, but it was complicated to find a time schedule when you hadn't been enrolled yet, so I missed some of my 'official' first classes. Moreover, I switched some courses in the weeks that followed, which was still possible. Fortunately, it turned out that all this wasn't a real problem.

accommodation

I lived in the centre of Granada and found my room through Facebook. In general, there is a lot of accommodation available. Most common is living in a shared flat, usually with other students. I already had a room when I arrived, but I have heard many students that first went to Granada and then searched for a room there. I do recommend looking for housing in the centre to be within walking distance of everything (except the Psychology faculty). However there is a good bus connection between the centre and the University.

leisure & culture

In Granada there are three international student organisations active. All these organise activities and parties throughout the week and trips in the weekends. For me it was a great way to meet other people and see something of the city and surroundings. Besides, there is a lot to do in Granada, the biggest 'student leisure activity' would definitely be going out for tapas every night. In some ways the Spanish culture is quite different and it took me some time to adjust. For example the eating times are very different and usually everything closes between 14-17h for siesta.

suggestions/tips

Go to the activities of the different organisations to meet other Erasmus Students and use the trips to travel in the weekends. Go for tapas and explore the different neighbourhoods of Granada. Do not stress too much about the university and your courses: everything in Spain goes very relaxed and sometimes seems quite unorganised. It takes some time to get used to this, but in the end it always works out. If you have trouble with the language, you can make use of the opportunity to do a language course as a university course (6ects).

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes, I had an amazing Erasmus in Granada. It is a very lively city, with a lot of Erasmus students. This makes it a very nice place with a lot of activities and it gave me the opportunity to travel a lot. Moreover, living and studying in Granada is a great way to improve your Spanish (& English). However, take into account that the academic level is lower in comparison to the Netherlands.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

If you have a B1 level Spanish, it is enough to get by at university. However, in the beginning it is not enough to understand everything perfectly, so I benefited a lot from choosing 1/2year courses, so I could focus more on the language instead of the content.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Sociology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	Universidad de Granada
start date	07 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	26 / 01 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process
I didn't face any big difficulties with the application process. Everything is quite clear in the e-mails.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
When I did have some small difficulties the international office at Utrecht University was always able to help really fast.
academic preparation
I wasn't obliged to do any specific courses, because I was doing my fourth bachelor year and had all the credits I needed. I went to Universidad de Granada especially to learn Spanish and to spend time doing more creative things and therefore I didn't choose very difficult courses. I didn't prepare myself academically.
language preparation
Because the majority of the courses at Universidad de Granada is in Spanish and I didn't know any Spanish when I decided to go to Granada, I did feel the need to prepare myself. I took three language courses from the language school 'Fuentes' and in the summer holiday I went with a small and really nice organization to a small pueblo in Spain to learn Spanish. This programme (you can check it at www.espanolquijote.com) helped me a lot to be less afraid of talking.
finances
Before applying, you have to make a financial plan. This helped to be more sure about having enough money during the stay abroad. I applied for the Erasmus grant and got some compensation for the OV-card that I wouldn't be using. Furthermore, I was prepared to use money of my savings account. Eventually, that wasn't necessary.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)
Whereas the enrollment in courses happens very organized and usually online in the Netherlands, in Granada every international student had to go to the international office. For me this happened in the second week of education, and I could go to different courses to try them out in the first week. It was a bit unorganized but everything worked out for me. Because I went in my fourth year of my bachelor and I didn't need to do some specific courses, I didn't have to stress about having the right courses. Also the courses were less organized, but I liked how everything always worked out.
academic quality of education activities



I did three courses at the university and one language course at the Centro de Lenguas Modernas. This Centro is related to the university and you can get ECTS for doing this course if your language level is B1 or higher. You do have to pay for this course... I really liked the language course and one course in English: 'Theory of Democracy' of the faculty of political sciences. Furthermore I did a course on psychology of personality and a sociology course on historical movements. Both were in Spanish and quite interesting, but the assignments were really different and of lower level than I am used to in Utrecht.

counselling & support at receiving university abroad

I was enrolled at the faculty of Psychology and the international office over there has helped me when it was needed.

transfer of credits

I haven't yet received the transfer of credits, but I do know that I passed all the courses.

STUDENT LIFE

welcome & orientation programme

Granada has a very big international student community. There are at least three erasmus organizations that organize many nice events almost every day of the week. This made it super easy in the beginning to do things and to meet new people.

accommodation

I stayed my first days in Granada in a hostel and from there on I looked for a room. This was a little bit stressful, but I met nice people in the hostel and eventually found a room within 5 days. I had a room a little bit outside the center, but it was close to everything. I paid 230 euro, but gas, water and electricity was not included. The area of Albayzin is really beautiful to live, but it is also on a hill and many houses do not have a central heating. Especially the central heating is really important to have in the house, because in the winter it can be really cold during the nights, although the sun still shines during the day.

leisure & culture

Granada is such a nice, diverse and lively city. Ofcourse you have the Alhambra, which is for many tourists the only interesting thing, but Granada offers so much more. There are super nice and cheap cafes where you can get a drink with a free tapa. Many cafes and other places have often performances: bands are performing or there are some dancing performances or poetry slams. I took some dancing classes at Casa de Porras. This is an institution from the university and they offer many nice creative courses. I also really liked to travel around Granada. With bus you can go very fast and easily to the Sierra Nevada and do some hiking or skiing in the winter. But you can also go to many beaches that are quite near or go to cities like Cordoba or Sevilla, or Marrakech.. with the erasmus organizations or with your own group.

suggestions/tips

I already mentioned some of the things I did and although I could tell much more, Granada offers so much that everyone can find those things that he or she is looking for.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I would definitely recommend Granada! It is a really special place, and I definitely want to go back soon. I do think you should think about what you want from your time abroad. If you want to have the best education than it would be nicer to go to a better university, but if you want to learn Spanish, want to know more about another culture, want to learn other things than just what they teach you in the university, then Granada is one of the best places to go.

do you have any additional advice or comments?



I do want to mention that the Spanish accent in Andalusia is quite difficult to understand! So it would maybe be good to keep that in mind while preparing.



UU Report form - Erasmus 2017-2018

faculty/college	Social Sciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Psychology
destination city & country	Granada, Spain
name university abroad	University of Granada/Universidad Granada (UGR)
start date	11 / 09 / 2017 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	01 / 02 / 2018 (dd/mm/yyyy)

PREPARATION

exchange application process

Overall it's a lot of work to arrange everything and it's important to keep track of all the different deadlines. At the uu it's very clear what you need to arrange. After your arrival at the University of Granada there will be a meeting in which they tell you about all the stuff you need to arrange in Spain. This was a lot and sometimes it was difficult to understand everything in Spanish. Luckily there are a lot of other exchange students who can help you.

counselling & support at Utrecht University

I think Utrecht University has helped me very well with all my questions and it was clear what i was supposed to arrange before departure.

academic preparation

I didn't prepare myself academically. The academic level is relatively low in Granada.

language preparation

I had Spanish classes at my high school and followed a language course in Spain one week before my classes at the University of Granada started. In the beginning it was hard to follow all my classes in Spanish but i think in the end the best lesson is to speak Spanish with local people or other Erasmus students. I would really recommend speaking Spanish at home when you live with other international students, even though it might be easier to speak English sometimes.

finances

Living in Spain isn't very expensive. I think you can compare it with The Netherlands, only going out for something to eat and the rent of a room can be very cheap compared to The Netherlands. When you order a beer or a 'tinto de verano' you will get a free tapa in most places.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD

study programme (content and organisational issues)

On the site of the university of Granada you can find the courses they offer. You have to choose the courses when you'll apply online at the university of Granada. When you'll arrive you can go to your classes to see if you made the right choices. After a week or so you'll have an appointment to officially choose your courses. So you can still change courses in the first week. In this first week it's very busy at the international office of the faculty so there won't be a lot of room for questions and you have to figure thing out yourself. If you really like to speak to someone most of the time it's necessary to make an appointment in advance.



academic quality of education activities
I think the academic quality wasn't that great. The study material was quite superficial. Most assignments were pragmatic and there weren't any strict rules with respect to APA for example. In a paper you simply had to describe what the teachers had said during the classes without it being necessary using scientific sources. The lectures were very interactive, a lot of students asked questions. Because the groups were quite small, teachers know most of their students by name.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
When you ask for help most of the time they are very willing to help you, but you should ask for this yourself. Sometimes you have to be patience when waiting for a respons. Moreover, it isn't always clear with whom you can contact concerning certain issues. My advice is to always contact with the international office of the faculty since they can help you most of the time and they respond quickly.
transfer of credits
The transfer of credits didn't took place yet. I heard this can take some time.

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
There were a lot of activities, especially in the first weeks. These are organised by, for example, the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) or Emycet. They organize trips to other cities, tours in Granada itself and parties. The university itself only organized information sessions.
accommodation
It wasn't hard to find a place in Granada. I send an email to someone who posted a room on the site Idealista and this woman told me her agency had a lot of rooms. I made an appointment with her and when I arrived in Granada she showed me some rooms from which I could pick. The're are a lot of facebook groups as well in which they offer rooms.
leisure & culture
I'm a big fan of the spanish culture. People live outside so the city is always alive. Going out to eat a tapa is something you can do every day. Moreover, the people are very relaxed.
suggestions/tips
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speak Spanish as much as you can - Participate in the activities (best way to meet new people) - Go out for free tapas!

CONCLUSIONS
would you recommend this university/destination abroad to others? please explain
I would recommend going to Granada since the Spanish culture is great and it's a good opportunity to learn a new language. Besides, it's a city full of students so there are a lot of opportunities to meet new people and participate in student activities. The university of Granada I wouldn't really recommend. The level was quite low and some courses were chaotic.
do you have any additional advice or comments?
<p>Try to enjoy your time abroad and don't stress too much about grades.</p> <p>Don't underestimate the time you need to arrange things and prepare yourself.</p>