



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 **published** (anonymously!) on the [UU study abroad destinations webpage](#) to inform 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*	
permission to publish contact details** <i>See end note for * and **</i>	<i>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: @ my weblog <input type="checkbox"/> yes: my Facebook account <input type="checkbox"/> yes: other (social) media <input type="checkbox"/> yes: or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> my contact details cannot be published on the UU webpage, but I do give the International Office permission to forward my e-mail address to individual students interested in my host university abroad: @
faculty/college	Geoscience
level	<input type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Urban and Economic Geography

destination city & country	Leuven, Belgium
how did you travel to your destination?	by train
name university abroad	KU Leuven
start date	28 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	05 / 02 / 2022 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION
exchange application process
The application is not difficult, but it does involve a very large amount of documentation and information to be prepared. In particular, there are many documents that need to be signed, so it is important to prepare them in advance and you are obliged to keep an eye on the progress of these signatures.
counselling & support at Utrecht University
Very enthusiastic help! Whether it's an exchange school or a choice of course, teachers can offer good advice. So when in doubt, please don't hesitate to send an email! Plus, the International Office is quick to respond to



emails!
academic preparation
I received the reading material for the first week before the course starts. It's mainly a few papers needed for urban anthropology classes, other than that I don't seem to have a lot of experience to share.
language preparation
Taught in English, no extra preparation required. In addition, I received an email to take an English test before I left. The test was about forty minutes long and was an adaptive test that did not require much advance preparation.
finances
Although there are no tuition fees to pay, the cost of living is still worth considering. Prices in Leuven are higher than in Utrecht, especially for food and household items.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD
study programme (content and organisational issues)
I have attended courses in urban anthropology, database management and research. Urban Anthropology is not part of the Faculty of Science, but exchange students are allowed to take a course from another faculty.
academic quality of education activities
Very high, well-structured course, advanced knowledge and high level of lecture by the teachers. The database management course was a bit more stressful, but the practice sessions helped me a lot to understand the course content.
counselling & support at receiving university abroad
The coordinator was very positive and enthusiastic in providing information and answering questions. However, at the start of semester, because of their overwhelming workload, the responses to emails are not always very timely.
transfer of credits
Unknown, not tried

STUDENT LIFE
welcome & orientation programme
I attended the Erasmus student welcome session and the teachers and student organisations provided very useful advice about academic life. It was also a great opportunity to meet other exchange students and, all in all, an event that should not be missed!
accommodation
Renting in Leuven has been the most painful experience I have had so far, with high prices and demand outstripping supply. If you want to exchange in Leuven, it is best to start applying for accommodation four or five months in advance.
leisure & culture
Leuven is a city of students, which means that other aspects are not as dynamic. During my exchange there happened to be an astronomy festival, which was quite interesting. But otherwise, for relaxation, a better option would be the museums in Brussels or Antwerp. But don't worry too much, you won't have much time to play anyway.
suggestions/tips



Living-wise, as I said before, make sure you start looking for accommodation in advance if you don't want to experience the nightmare of being displaced. Study-wise, you may need more time to prepare for finals, especially if the exams are close together, so it's best to start revising a month in advance.

CONCLUSIONS

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

I highly recommend KU Leuven, the classes I have taken there have been of very high quality. I have to admit that the courses can be more stressful, the exams are more difficult than at our school and more preparation time is needed, but I'm sure it's all worth it!

do you have any additional advice or comments?

no

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!

NOTE: 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.** ****Contact details will only be included if and where permission has been given.**