



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>optional; only if you allow students preparing for study abroad to contact you (directly)</i>
	my e-mail address <input 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: @
<i>See end note for * and **</i>	
faculty/college	Geosciences
level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> master's <input type="checkbox"/> PhD
name study programme	Global Sustainability Science

destination city & country	Dublin, Ireland
how did you travel to your destination?	by plane
name university abroad	Trinity College Dublin
start date	06 / 09 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)
end date	19 / 12 / 2021 (dd/mm/yyyy)

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

PREPARATION
exchange application process
I decided relatively last minute that I wanted to sign up and did not regret this choice. The application process is relatively straight forward. You only need to write a short motivation letter and get the necessary approvals. The different steps in the application process are explained well. I decided on Trinity, because it is a prestigious university and I had learnt a lot of good things about the university and living in Dublin in general. I must say, however, that the options to English-speaking students are limited, especially in the field of Geosciences.
counselling & support at Utrecht University



The responses from Utrecht University were always quick, although not always super helpful.
academic preparation
I would say you do not need to prepare for this, but you need to ensure that you have met all the necessary requirements at Utrecht University and completed all the mandatory courses.
language preparation
Since Ireland is an English-speaking country and all aspects related to the university are communicated in English, this was not really required.
finances
Going abroad is more expensive than staying in Utrecht, for sure. Especially, because living and housing expenses in Dublin are much higher than compared to Utrecht. The Grant gives a nice support, but does not suffice in any way.

STUDY ABROAD PERIOD	
study programme (content and organisational issues)	The study programme at Trinity did not align 100% with what I wanted to do, since the exchange is with the faculty of Geography. Hence, I had to take urban and human geography modules which are not at all my expertise. When trying to organise my courses in a way that would give me a minor, I ran into organisational issues, because the administration at Trinity College is horrendous. The replies are tardy and useless and registration to the courses is complicated to say the least. I would say, try to have a plan B and C just in case, because it may well be that your courses overlap in their timeslots etc. Also be prepared that the modules you take do not align perfectly with what you wished to do.
academic quality of education activities	The quality is indeed very good, as expected. The lecturers and the material are interesting and they have a lot of experience in their fields. The way of teaching is definitely more self dependent with many assigned readings and individual reports. Contrary to UU, there are less hand-ins and less group work. Some prefer that, some don't :)
counselling & support at receiving university abroad	My coordinator was also very helpful, replied fast to emails and was always willing and able to answer all my questions. In general, the professors were always helpful and nice.
transfer of credits	I cannot yet answer this question, as I am currently still waiting for my final results. I am also not sure whether my credits will be transferred with the grades or solely on a pass/fail basis. This is somewhat frustrating, since it has been a while and communication from the UU is unclear.

STUDENT LIFE	
welcome & orientation programme	There is a peer to peer mentor programme in which you are placed, with other students that are also doing Erasmus. This is quite nice, and I met many friends that way. The students can answer most questions and mine also organised nice hangouts so that we could all get to know each other. The orientation programme took place online, which was a pity and I missed some of it as a result. But Trinity is suppose to send the grades straight to the UU, however the UU wants you to deliver the grades yourself...
accommodation	I stayed in a student accomodation, which was very expensive but the only thing I could find, since i was also a



bit last minute. I recommend trying facebook pages maybe, I have heard some people get rooms for cheaper this way. In general, however, expect high prices.

leisure & culture

In terms of leisure and culture, Dublin has plenty of options: strolling around the city, visiting some museum and the famous library on campus, going to a rugby match, hiking alongside the coast, discover the millions of bars, take a tour of the Guinness Storehouse or Whiskey distillery etc... Options are endless, you won't get bored.

suggestions/tips

Join some of the sport clubs and societies at trinity! That's the easiest way to meet people and they organise some fun events! Eventbrite can also be good for finding tickets for club nights or other events. Also, I cannot recommend it more that you go on some hikes along the coast. Bray to Greystones is very beautiful.

CONCLUSIONS

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

Yes I would! I think Dublin is great for a large group of people with different interests. People are very friendly and I have met some amazing friends there! Trinity itself is beautiful and the professors are extremely knowledgable. Just walking on that campus alone, makes you feel prestigious.

do you have any additional advice or comments?

The Erasmus application procedures are tedious and confusing. Make sure to make a list of all the different kind of forms and stuff you need to get in order and check them regularly. You are responsible for sending everything in on time.

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.**