

## Report Form Exchange Period Abroad 2017-2018

To which foreign university did you go: University of Surrey  
Country: United Kingdom

- study period in: 1st semester
- start date study abroad: 1 October end date: 28 January
- period of classes: from 2 October until 15 December
- examination period: from 15 January until 26 January
- did you follow a language course: no

Courses completed at the host university:

1. Foundations of Company Law
2. Commercial Law
3. International Criminal Law
4. Tort Law

**Please give information about / describe the following aspects in your report (minimum two A4 pages, typed, in English):**

- study programme (including courses available for foreign students, content of the followed courses, level of study, would you recommend the courses to future students, way of examination, etc.)

As the teaching language was English, foreign students had access to all the courses. I had to follow courses of a certain level, being in my final year of university, thus, I had a list of courses from which I could have chosen. I chose Company and Commercial Law courses because I was planning to continue with the same subject for my masters. These 2 courses were only taken by final year students and the level of study was really high. The assessment were conducted in the form of written exams of 2 hours with essay questions. The other two courses I have followed, namely, Tort Law and International Criminal Law were assessed through a written assignment of 3.000 words each. The level of this courses was also available for students from the inferior study cycles and it was more relaxed. I would definitely recommend the first two courses as they are the ones I have enjoyed the most, since they are in my are of interest, however, the other two courses were really interesting as well and the teachers were very pleasant.

- language / language preparation  
The teaching language being English, same as the language in which I have studied for the past 3 years, I did not need any

language courses or preparation. The level of English of the teachers, even though some of them were foreigners, was very good, henceforth, I did not have any issues with the language. In addition, the university was offering a language center in which students who were not very confident with their language abilities could have taken part in and received support.

- finances and general matters (including estimated costs per month, if applicable residence permit, additional costs to host university, application procedure, etc.)

The UK is definitely more expensive than The Netherlands, the country of my sending university. Thus, my living costs have increased with approximately 25-30 % during my stay in the UK. The accommodation was around 500 euros and my monthly spending on groceries and other costs, such as going out or buying books, somewhere around 500 euros as well. I did not need any visa or residence permit, neither did I have to pay for an application procedure, as it was conducted by my sending university.

- preparation and contact with the faculty abroad (e.g. lecturers, fellow students, other exchange students)

Before arriving at the receiving university I have taken contact with a student from the university who helped me with some information. She was a third year student who was designated to help exchange students, thus I have contacted her in order to get to know how to arrive at the university.

- housing (rent, what kind of housing, recommended neighbourhoods, etc.)

During my exchange period I have decided to live in the University dorm, as it was inside the campus and was giving me easy access to everything. All the lecture halls were at a 5 minutes walk distance from the accommodation, fact that made my stay at this university very comfortable. The rooms were newly renovated, thus, the furniture was new and everything was very clean. The shared spaces, 2 toilets and one kitchen, shared between 5 people, were fully equipped and were being constantly cleaned by the university's staff. I was lucky to live in the new wing of the dorms, however, the rest of the rooms were also in a very good condition and the ambience in the dorms was very relaxed. I definitely recommend staying in the campus for the exchange students as it is very difficult to find accommodation in the city center for just half of the year, besides, the city is located at a 15-20 minutes walk from the campus. In addition, you also take contact with more people while living in the dorms, mostly first year students, as they are the ones who have access to this type of accommodation. Therefore, it is more advantageous to live in the campus.

- guidance / reception at host university (introduction programme, social events, study programme, guidance, social care and help from host university)

Before arriving at the host university, I have been in contact with the international office and with the secretary. They have helped me with all the necessary information and documents that needed to be concluded. Since I had arrived later with few days, I have missed the introduction week in which you meet the other exchange students. However, I have taken parts in other activities that took place later on. On the other hand, it was very difficult to get in contact with other fellow students and make new friends in class. As the courses were elective, the students were different in every class that I took. In addition, studying already at the host university for few years, they were already acquainted to each other, which made it hard for me to integrate.

- other (tips, suggestions, comments, opinions, etc.)

The structure of the courses and the teaching methods were very much like in the Netherlands. However, the passing grade in the UK is a 4 out of 10, fact that can release some of the stress of studying and allow you to enjoy more the exchange period.

The city of Guildford is located at 15 minutes walking from the campus and it offers various restaurants, bars and shopping centers. Moreover, the surrounding areas are well known for natural reservations considered to be of an outstanding beauty. I wish I had more time to be able to visit these parts, but I have spent most of my time in London, as it was at 30-40 minutes distance by train. However, if you enjoy nature and a calm environment this university is the perfect place. Thus, I recommend this university to someone who wants to enjoy London without having to pay the tremendous renting prices, but also to those who want a relaxing time surrounded by nature.