

To which foreign university did you go: University of East Anglia, Norwich  
Country: United Kingdom

Study period in 1<sup>st</sup> (autumn) semester  
Start date study abroad: 20 September end date: 19 January  
Period of classes: from until 9 October to 16 December  
Examination period: from N/A until 19 January

did you follow a language course: no

Courses completed at the host university:

1. Comparative Law
2. English Legal Process
3. English Legal Methods, Skills and Reasoning

## **Report**

I chose University of East Anglia [UEA] because I wanted something different. Meet new people and learn new things. From the reports I noticed that UEA is very social and after some research I noticed that the University scores fairly good in national university tests. The Law School is one of their best scoring schools with a Top 10 ranking.

## **Introduction**

The first five days were amazing! Internationals rule the campus. Meeting so many new people. My advice. Arrive a day before they start and just go to as much of the introduction events as possible. Everybody is new and want to make friends. Do not fear to speak to unknown people and do not stick with the same people all the time. After these five days the awkward part starts. The freshers arrive and the two weeks are filled with fresher events. You have to buy a wristband to go to these events and they sell out pretty fast. I chose not to buy one and try my luck. You can sneak in or crash some house parties.

## **Housing**

Ever wanted to become a Pharaoh? Well now you can. You can live in a pyramid! Yes look it up. The University has its own campus. Norfolk and Suffolk Terrace are the so called Ziggurats. Their location is amazing. One minute walk and you are in the bar. Or walk the other way for 1 minute and you are in the forest. You'll live with about 14 people on your floor. The pyramids are kind of known for their parties and first year students. Looking back on it I really liked the location, but partying with 18 year olds... Might want to go to Mary Chaplin Court (MCC). A university block just next to the city center. More mature people stay there. Apply as soon as you can to increase your chance of getting an university accommodation.

## **Study program**

The level of study is lower than I am used to in the Netherlands. Which was nice because it gives you time to travel and meet with your friends a lot. Both semesters have sufficient courses you can choose from. I chose the courses Media Law, Comparative Law and English Legal Process. I got allowed to the courses, but instead of Media Law they gave me Legal Methods. These courses were really good for

comparing the Anglo/Commonwealth and Continental Legal cultures. One of the reasons I chose UEA was to improve my (English) writing because all courses had essays for examination. You got some time to write these during your stay, say last two weeks. What you did not finish you could do during Christmas break or in January.

Comparative Law – In this course, you guessed it right, we compared a lot of legal systems around the world. We started with describing what comparative law is and why we have to compare law. Then we looked into Roman law and the history of German, French and English legal systems. The last half of the course we learned about the Jewish, Chinese, Japanese and Muslim systems. I really recommend this course. It gives you so much more perspective on different cultures in the world and the teacher is very good.

English Legal System – Basically this course was an introduction to criminal law with a little bit of civil. The content of the course was a lot more about the problems in the current judicial system and how to be a lawyer than I am used to in Groningen. Most classes I take we learn a lot about a part of law and then you can solve a case. Here I feel like I learned very little about the laws, but more about mootings, and legal writing. We had to do a mock trial for example.

Legal Methods, Skills and Reasoning – In this course you learned about legal interpretation, writing a summary and what an English case looks like. The professor was a real big fan of movies, so bring popcorn. If you are, like me, not a first year, I do not recommend this course.

### **Finance**

Expensive! Prepare to spend some money. Everything is more expensive. My rent on campus for example doubled. I spend about 600 euro per month in one of the cheapest accommodations. Other stuff is about 10-20% more expensive I think. Clothes are cheaper. Campus prices were alright. A pint was 2 pound 30 in bar, 8 cans of beer (500ml) in shop for 10 pounds. Traveling to Norwich is cheapest flying to one of the London budget airports. I chose Flybe to Southend Airport from Airport Eelde (Groningen). Cheap flight and cheap train ticket. Do mind that flying to Stansted will result in a train ride for about 30 pounds. On my way back I did not go by plane because they were really expensive during the December break. I got on a boat and slept there.

\* Tip: Go to the free pizza events.

### **Abroad office**

The contact with the UEA office was good. Everything was really clear. Be prepared to get a lot of information though. Sort your emails. They also organize some events.

### **Language**

I did not have to take any language preparation as I spoke English fairly good. If you are really insecure about your English, UEA offers language courses and they also have a language summer school. I do not know if exchange students are allowed to do this, but I cannot think of a reason you are not. You might also want to look into Oxford or Cambridge summer schools. One of my friends did that and he learned from zero to Robert De Niro in only one month.

Tips: Do not miss out the introduction events

There are a lot of societies and sports clubs . Go to the fairs and meet them. Check the website for all the

options.

I did not have to buy any books. I could borrow them from the library. Some courses have an online reader.

Good luck applying.