

Student experience report University of Exeter, UK, Fall 2019

Study Programme

I conducted my exchange programme in University of Exeter for one semester. Each course were worth 7.5 ECTS, thus I had to take four courses. We get to choose the courses we want, unfortunately it is on a first come first serve basis. When I arrived in Exeter, I was informed that I did not get one course that I initially picked. We also get to change courses within two weeks' time, which I ended up doing. Furthermore, upon arriving in Exeter there are several choices of courses available that was not listed on the website. The courses I ended up with was: *Equality and Diversity at Work*, *Introduction to Discrimination Law*, *Medical Ethics and Law Foundation*, *Family Law: Child Law*.

All the courses I took had no written examination; we are graded based on an essay that we get to write at home. The word count differs, but it averages on 3000 words for my courses. Unlike Groningen, the working group is not done once a week, it is usually only three times in one semester. Regarding the content of the courses, I found *Equality and Diversity at Work* to be the most interesting as it blends legal, psychological and business aspect together. I also recommend taking Introduction to Discrimination Law as it was interesting for me.

Language

The Language instruction was English.

Finance and other conditions

As I come from Indonesia, I needed a short-term student visa and it was not difficult to apply. Living cost is more expensive here than in Groningen, and the Erasmus Grant covered approximately 30% of your stay. I averaged on 750 pounds a month (including rent, groceries, eating out, leisure). There are no additional costs from the University. Tip: don't buy textbooks, try to find and borrow from the library or read online from Exeter's online library.

Preparation and contacts with the faculty aboard

The application process was not difficult and is explained thoroughly. Inquiries regarding courses were dealt with very responsively. However, applying accommodation provided by the University for exchange students (James Court) was very difficult, and the reply takes a very long time.

Housing

Most exchange students stayed in a private accommodation. I live in Exwick, which was quite far away, a 40 minutes bus ride to the University. I found my place in spareroom.co.uk, it has many options, but most of them are quite far from the University. The University provides a free shuttle bus service from and to St. Davids station, at a certain time, which I find helpful. There are two campus area: St. Lukes and Streatham. Law students' study in the Streatham area, thus be sure to find a housing near Streatham.

Guidance/ reception at host university

There is a Student Information Desk at the Forum, or by email to ask any questions regarding the University. The 'nestor' in here is called 'ELE'. There is also a student fresher's week to guide and give you a tour of the University at the first of the week. I did not attend the fresher's week and I did just fine. There are lots of societies in the University that you can join, numerous sports activities, and has great support and facilities for students with mental health issues.

Culture, free time and travelling

Exeter was a nice city to live in, and there were lots of great restaurants in the City Centre, and a wide variety of stores for shopping. An hour bus ride from Exeter is Exmouth, a city with really nice beach and hills. London is just 2.30 hours from Exeter by train, and the famous Stonehenge is also about two hours by train. Tip: Buy a Railcard for discounts on train if you are travelling often, and a Stage-Coach term student bus pass for unlimited bus ride.