



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Bachelor Forest and Nature Conservation
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	21/02/2022 until 23/07/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Italy
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Padova
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Università degli studi di Padova
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	different

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Because I wanted to experience living abroad and I wanted to go on an adventure and meet new people.

### What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

I wanted to go to southern Europe for the nice weather and had not really been to Italy before. Padova spoke to me because it isn't a very big city like Milan or Rome: you can go everywhere by bike. The university is also very well perceived.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

Padova is easily accessible by train. I would recommend booking the train well in advance though, because it will save you a lot of money (I booked it through omio.nl and this was cheaper than NS International).

## 4. University and studying

**Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?**

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
1	Bullying: beyond common sense (Psychology department)	6	Online course with video lectures and exercises final written exam.	5	Very interesting and easy.
2	Human sexuality (Psychology department)	6	The course consists of lectures and some practical exercises to learn about therapy. Multiple choice final exam.	4.5	Very very interesting. The teacher is not very good in English though, so an Italian student decided to translate. However, the course and the experiments are very interesting so I would say worth it.
3	Sustainable development policies (MOD. A) (Political science department)	6	Lectures and groupwork and final written exam.	3	For me this was a bit boring. All about European policies and quite long winded. The exam was not hard.
4	Project management and policy evaluation (MOD. B) (Political science department)	6	Lectures and groupwork and final written exam.	3	For me this was a bit boring. All about European policies and quite long winded. The exam was not hard.
5	Gender EU Politics and Globalisation (Political science department)	6	Lectures, but final product was a creative way of showing what we had learnt.	5	I really liked this course and the teacher was very chilled. In the end we got to creatively show our knowledge about the topic. Easy to pass, perfect Erasmus course.
6					

**How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)**

In general I noticed that the education is very theoretical. So it is mostly lectures with little interaction and not a lot of groupwork/exercises. This was for the course I took, so in my experience.

**What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)**

The lecturers are easily approachable and open for questions. I didn't have a lot of engagement with local students since there were a lot of Erasmus or international students in the courses I followed. However, the engagement started more nearing the end of the course. The lectures (and the Powerpoints they use) are more chaotic and less structured than what I was used to from home.

There is not one campus, so all the departments are spread through the city and the buildings are a lot older of course than the new WUR campus.

**What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)**

There is a mensa where you can eat for 5 euro's and you get a big meal. Laundry and sports I don't know.

## 5. Housing-travelling-living

**What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)**

You should really start looking for a room early on, there is a huge shortage in student housing. You can get a room through the university residence, but I would not count on it. Asking it several times can help. For private housing you can use: [housinganywhere.com](http://housinganywhere.com), [erasmusu.com](http://erasmusu.com), [bedstudent.com](http://bedstudent.com), and more.

**What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)**

Italian cuisine speaks for itself of course. You will drink a looooot of spritz and eat mostly Italian food because they don't sell a lot of other stuff in the supermarkets hahaha.

The country and the people I would say are a little bit more chaotic and expressive. But when you get to know Italians they are very warmhearted and hospitable.

**Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?**

I think it is very similar. Restaurants and bars are cheaper, but supermarkets a bit more expensive.

**Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)**

Trains are very good. Buses are less reliable. In the city everything is reachable by bike or the use of shared bikes/scooters (movibike or dott). Public transport is cheaper than in NL but not a huge difference.

## 6. Free time

**What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)**

There is a lot to see inside and around Padova. Inside: botanical garden, the squares and churches (but you will find out easily, the city isn't big). Outside: Garda lake, beach, mountains, Tuscany or city trips to: Venice, Verona, Vicenza, Treviso... It is all easily reachable from Padova.

**What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?**

The colli euganee hills.

**Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)**

Going out: Chiosco or pride village. Restaurants you will easily find out.

**7.Challenges & best moment abroad****What was a challenge you have experienced?**

**Sometimes missing home. Also my bike got stolen (you really should not buy a new bike and park in at the station, buy an old crappy second hand bike!!!) and I had some troubles with my flatmate's behaviour.**

**What was your best memory abroad?**

Meeting so many nice people and I loved how spontaneous everyone is, there is always something to do and people who are in for some random activity! <333

**8. Contact details (optional)**

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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