



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Food Safety
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	22/08/2022 until 21/12/2022
Country (exchange)	United States of America
City (exchange)	West Lafayette
University (exchange)	Purdue
Faculty (exchange)	Food Science

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Good experience to meet people from all over the world. Furthermore, it is easier to reflect on the way we do things in the Netherlands/at WUR. Great chance to get out of your comfort zone. Also good for your resume and a lot of fun.

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

The United States is far away compared to destinations within Europe, so more difficult to make a trip like this later in life, while Europe always remains in reach. Another reason is the language, it can improve your English skills and it is great you can socialize with the people from the country without the need to learn a completely new language.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Closest airports are Indianapolis (only national) and Chicago (international). From these two airports you can reserve a shuttle at different organisations that drives to and from Purdue. Otherwise it is quite difficult to reach (without a car).

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	Economic Geography Of World Food And Resources	6	Agriculture economics	3	Something different, difficulty very dependent on previous economics classes
2	Controversial Science And Media In The Pubic Sphere	6	How media influences people	3	Not very challenging, but a fun new (American) perspective on media
3	Wine Appreciation	6	Different wines from around the world	2	Lectures too long and not as fun as it sounds
4	Nutritional Sciences	2	In depth nutritional metabolism	4	A lot of details, quite challenging
5	Farm to Fork	2	The chain of foods, and how it changed/differs in the world	4	Only a few weeks, interesting and fun
6	Beginning Tennis	2	Tennis for beginners	5	A lot of fun

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

A lot of mandatory material, including attendance, homework, assignments and exams. Workload very dependent on the class and is more spread out over the weeks compared to that in the Netherlands. However, overall not too bad.

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?)

American lecturers and students are very approachable overall.

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

The big sport complex is available for all university students. There are also a lot of different clubs that offer a variety of different activities (sports, hobbies ect.) which you can freely join as a student.

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?)

All international student can sign up for dorms on the campus. Purdue also has co-op housing which you can contact yourself as a student, but these offer no guarantee on a room.

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

On campus students have a meal plan that means they can eat at the dining courts. 13 meals a week is recommended. Food is fine, not very healthy in general.

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

Students living in a dorm with a meal plan around 1000\$ each month (so this includes food). For co-op housing around 750\$ for living and food.

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

Closest airports are Indianapolis (only national) and Chicago (international). From these two airports you can reserve a shuttle at different organisations that drives to and from Purdue. Otherwise it is quite difficult to reach (without a car). Cost about 50 dollars for a single trip. Multiple free buses travel on the campus, and most buildings can be reached by simply walking.

6. Free time

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

Indiana itself is not very special. Chicago is the closest interesting city in the area. You can take the plane to many cool places in the US.

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

Nashville is a few hours south from Purdue. Nice place to go out.

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

The Neon Cactus and Harry's chocolate shop are the most interesting bars on or around campus.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Talking English with native speakers is very different to talking with people who also have English as their second language.

What was your best memory abroad?

Meeting a lot of new people and travelling to some cities in the US with them

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail	Jeroen.pasch@wur.nl	