



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Study programme WUR	BAT
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	15-8-2023 until 15-12-2023
Exchange destination: University	University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
Faculty	Agricultural consumer and economics
Country	America
City	Urbana- champaign

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Because I wanted to have an experience in a new culture and learn more about dairy farming in other countries especially in the US.

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

I chose the university because I wanted to go to a agricultural orientated school in an English speaking country.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

Fly there.

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	Applied linear algebra	6	Linear algebra with a focus on using it by hand	1	Worst course I ever took, only learned things because I read the books and did exercises by myself
2	Dairy herd management	6	The course learns you more about how dairy herd farms are managed in the USA and what factors dairy farmers should focus on to improve their herd average production and financial situation	5	Very practical course.
3	Introduction to sales	6	Learning about the practical parts of the sales process and applying them	3	Very interactive
4	Intermediate applied microeconomics	6	Learning more about micro economical theory and how to calculate supply and demand functions	4	
5	Project management	4	Learning how to manage a project and how to lead a team	3	In the end you did a group project
6					

What is it like to study there?

E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material.

When comparing it to the Dutch educational systems it is more like HBO, very practical lessons and a lot of homework. Exams are very well communicated and mostly multiple choice. For Dutch WUR students it is fairly easy to get good grades.

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?

There is a very large student body that has its one beautiful culture, watching sports games together of the college teams, joining clubs. Everything is very approachable.

What does the university offer students additionally?

E.g. catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?

Sporting, food/catering, laundry facilities and study facilities are all offered through the university.

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 can live in a lot of possible ways. I Lived in a fraternity which I set up by contacting them via email. Other exchange students live in dorms whit mandatory meal plans which is rather expensive, around 6000 per semester or in private rooms.

What is the culture of the country like?

E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?

Cuisine is very fat orientated which I personally really enjoyed. Manners are great, everyone is very approachable and talkative. Some parts of the country are a bit dangerous though.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?

Public transport at the university is free.

6. Expenses

Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

E.g. you can also indicate price differences (higher/lower/equal) in comparison to the Netherlands.

Ticket there: 800

Visa if applicable: 600

Vaccinations if applicable: 50

Insurances (extra, if applicable): 1200(mandatory health insurance)

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 4800 for 4 months including food.

Groceries: 20 euros per week

Public transport: 0

Restaurant/going out for dinner: 20 euros per week

Daytrips/sight-seeing:2000 total with traveling costs

Additional remarks regarding expenses?

7. Free time

What are must-sees in the area?

E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?

Just go to a large city in your weeks of vacation.

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

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?

Get a season ticket for the football team and other teams if possible.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

What challenges did you encounter and how did you overcome them?

I had no access to my phone throughout the exchange so I mainly emailed people

What is your best memory of your time abroad?

Going spear fishing with some people of my fraternity.

9. Contact details (optional)

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