



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	International Development Studies
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	01-10-2022 until 27-02-2023
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Italy
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Padova
<b>University (exchange)</b>	University of Padova
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	X

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I wanted to experience what it is like to live abroad, meet new people from different cultures and learn a new language.

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

I wanted to a country with good weather and where they speak a different language than Dutch or English. The University of Padova has many courses which are taught in English compared to other universities in Italy.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

You can reach Venezia - Mestre by Flixbus within 18 hours. From there you can take a train to Padova, which is only about 20-30 minutes.

## 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	Terrorism and Security in International History	9	History of terrorism from all over the world	1	Non-attending student, so I didn't have any lectures
2	Environment History of Global Cities	6	About environmental justice and climate change adaption	5	Very interesting course and great professor

3	History of International Relations	9	Basic history of international relations from all over the world	2	The lectures were quite boring, you can easily just read the slides at home. Also professor didn't speak English very well
4	Human Rights and Intercultural Dialogue	6	How can intercultural dialogue be just in the context of human rights	3	Low workload and interesting discussion in class
5	Italian Language Laboratory	3	Italian language level A1	4	Fun to learn a new language
6					

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

During one semester you will follow all your courses at the same time. In the end you will have an exam period of about 4 weeks. The academic level differs a lot between courses, same goes for workload and examination. You can either have written exams or oral exams.

**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 quite approachable, however be aware to call them by their last name which shows respect to the professors. Engagement with local students is a little bit harder, since local students often choose to have subjects in Italian.

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

I haven't make use of the services offered by the university. However, I know that the have cheap catering and sports facilities. The sports facilities are quite expensive.

## 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?)**

Finding housing in Padova is really, really difficult. So you must start searching as soon as possible, preferably from April or May! There is a possibility to live on campus, but people from outside of Europe will have a spot first, so there aren't many spots left. Also, many scammers are active on Facebook, so look out for that. Safe websites are bedstudent and housinganywhere.

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

Typical Italian culture with amazing food! Get your espresso in the morning for only 1 euro and drink it at the counter. Drink you Aperol Spritz for only 3 euro in the afternoon.

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

Single rooms in the centre costs approximately 550-700 euros  
Double rooms in the centre costs approximately 400 euros.

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

I would recommend to buy a second hand bike (you can easily sell it at the end of your stay). The city has many bike lanes, so it is safe to ride your bike. You can also take the tram from North to South, or take one of the many busses.

## 6. Free time

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

You must visit the Dolomites!! Other cities close by are Venezia, Bologna, Lago di Garda, Verona, Firenze, Rome, Napoli

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

The number one visit is a trip to the Dolomites

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

My favourite restaurant is Marechiaro. They serve really good pizza's and have the best inside garden and lovely people.

## 7. Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

The biggest challenge was finding accommodation.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

All the people I have met, several trips to the Dolomites and visiting Venezia in low season multiple times.

## 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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