



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Study programme WUR	Health & Society
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	22/09/2023 until 29/01/2024
Exchange destination: University	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
Faculty	Faculty of Economics and Management
Country	Czech Republic
City	Prague

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to experience living and studying in another country and city. I also thought it was nice to do something out of your comfort zone and meet new people.

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

I was curious about Prague as I always heard quite positive stories about the city. Also, I thought it was a really pretty city from what I had seen on pictures.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

Travelling to Prague by car was shorter than I expected and therefore really doable. I was lucky my parents wanted to bring me, but if you do not have this opportunity, the Flixbus or train could also be an option.

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	<i>Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies</i>	5	The course is mainly about developing countries and development economics.	3	The teacher was really nice which made the course more enjoyable, however, the course was more focussed on economics instead of poverty reduction than I expected beforehand.
2	<i>Food Security in Developing Countries</i>	5	The course cover subjects like food security and safety and talks about how to feed the increasing population in the future.	3	This course was quite varied as it offered lab assignments, but also an excursion to a sustainable farm. So it was nice it was not just lectures.
3	<i>Fundamentals of Biology</i>	6	This course is, like the name says, mainly about the fundamentals of Biology and covers a different topic every lecture.	1.5	I did not follow biology during high school, so that made this course a bit harder and less enjoyable for me. Also, the course only offered lectures which I thought were a bit boring.
4	<i>Psychology and Ethics in Business</i>	5	This course is about psychology and covers several subjects, like stages development (of a child), methods of personnel selection but also mindfulness.	4	The teacher made this course nice as she did not like the traditional way of teaching, and therefore made us go outside to do mindfulness together or play psychological mind games, which I thought was a nice change for once.
5	<i>Marketing Management</i>	5	A course about the basic principles of marketing management, for example the behaviour of buyers and consumers.	3	This was a block course, therefore you only follow it for a week and make a test right after. I thought this was pretty nice as you could finish this course quite quickly.
6	Human Resource Management	5	A course about Human resource management and the activities of an HR manager, like recruitment and selection.	3	This was also a block course, so quite nice to follow for the same reason.

What is it like to study there?

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

I thought the work load was actually quite comparable to the courses I follow in Wageningen, however, I feel like they are easier on you when grading your test, which makes it probably also easier to pass the courses in Prague.

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 teachers are quite approachable, however most of them are only reachable in real life as they mostly do not really respond to emails. I thought most of the teachers liked the fact that you followed their course as an Erasmus student.

What does the university offer students additionally?

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

The university offers a menza where you can order and eat food and even order cocktails, furthermore, I did not use any of their facilities so I do not really know more about them.

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?

There are dorms available for the students which you can sign up for, however I wanted to live somewhere else and closer to the centre of Prague.

What is the culture of the country like?

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

Czech people can be quite reserved in my experience, I feel like some of them are also not really speaking English so they are not really open to people outside the Czech Republic. However, this mostly counts for the older people. The local cuisine mainly consists of meat and potatoes, but there are a lot of really nice other options in Prague when you want to go for dinner. I think Prague offers really nice restaurants and cafés.

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 is managed quite well in Prague. As a student, you can buy a very cheap pass, and with this you can use all public transport in Prague. I think it was 15 euros to travel unlimitedly in Prague for three months.

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.

In general, the prices are lower, however if you for example go to restaurants in the city centre, it is not that cheap. Also, housing can be quite pricey if you are not in the dorms, but it is still less than in the big cities in the Netherlands.

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?

I think all the parks in Prague are really nice, especially Riegrovy Sady and its sunset view spot.

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

If you want to go on a day trip, it is nice to take the flibus (really cheap) to Karlovy Vary. Also, the viewpoint of Prokopské Vally is really pretty.

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?

Duplex has free student tickets every Wednesday and Thursday, so it is nice to go out there, as a lot of other Erasmus students also go there.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

The experience on itself can be already quite a challenge, but I do think it is really worth it. At first, I was quite overwhelmed, but once the introduction week started an you meet new friends an get to know the city, it is really nice.

What is your best memory of your time abroad?

I think in general, just having the opportunity to live in another country and also learn more about yourself at the same time. Therefore, if you read this and you are still doubting whether to go on Erasmus or not, I would say, just do it, it is really worth it.

9. Contact details (optional)

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