



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student information

<b>Study programme WU</b>	Bachelor Biology
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	14-02-2024 until 22-07-2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Università di Bologna
<b>Faculty</b>	Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Agro-alimentari
<b>Country</b>	Italia
<b>City</b>	Bologna

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

The opportunity to live abroad and experience a new city AND learn a new language.

### b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

The language.

### c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

The city attracted me when I once visited and people told me good things about it.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

Pretty accessible by bicycle. Roads are good, Italian drivers are safer than people say. Also trains are well organised.

## 4. University and studying

### a. 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	Cultural Anthropology	4	Introduction to cultural anthropology, Mead, Boas, etc. In relation to education.	4	Italian course, but teacher made effort to support me 😊
2	Apidology and Pollination	6	Everything about bees and their	5	Italian,

			function in agriculture		
3	Sustainable Water Management	6	Water management practices in agriculture. Mixed with practicals in analysis	4	A bit simple
4	Agricultural Policy Evaluation	3	Policy evaluation tools and introduction to big agricultural policies. Doing your own evaluation	5	
5	Inclusive Education and well-being	8	How can primary education be more inclusive. Over-all well being in Education	5	Rather vague, very fun. Too easy
6					

**b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain):**

yes

**c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain):**

yes

**d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

NO, Too easy

**e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

Yes

**f. What is it like to study there?**

*E.g. Study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material?*

Things are a bit more chaotic than in the Netherlands, planning wise. Academic level is lower. More lectures, less practicals or group work. Examination is mostly oral, this is nice and comfortable. Teachers are kind.

**g. What is the culture of the university?**

*E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with WU?*

Lecturers are really approachable and kind. Engagement with local students is more difficult, Italians like to stay in groups of Italians.

**h. What does the university offer students additionally?**

*E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?*

Not that I know of.

## 5. Housing-traveling-living

**a. What are the possibilities for housing?**

*E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?*

Finding housing is near impossible. It takes an age and scams are frequent. Prices are high.

**b. What is the culture like?**

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

Life is so much more vibrant, things happen randomly on the street. People on the street are kind and open. Cuisine is great. Drinks are great. Icecream is great. No major culture shocks.

**c. Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?**

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

There is a great bus subscription. I used the bike though.

## 6. Expenses

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

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	€500
Visa - if applicable	
Vaccinations - if applicable	
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	
Daytrips/sight-seeing	€700
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	€650
Grocery costs per month	€250
Public transport costs per month	€0
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	€200

**b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands:** higher

**c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

## 7. Free time

**a. What are must-sees in the area?**

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

Everything.

**b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?**

Via degli Dei hike

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

**a. Any challenges? How did you deal with them?**

Finding a room. Start early. Send 1000 messages.

**b. Best memory?**

Hiking with friends

## 9. Contact details

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Name &amp; email address (if yes)</b>	Boaz Goudsblom boaz.goudsblom@wur.nl	