



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student information

Study programme WU	BBC
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	17-1-24 until 28-5-24
Exchange destination: University	Universidad de Murcia
Faculty	Facultad de Economia
Country	Spain
City	Murcia

2. Motivation for exchange

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

Firstly, to have a study and living experience abroad. Secondly, learning a new language and culture has always been one of my interests.

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

As I mentioned above learning a new language was one of my goals. Therefore Spanish, is one the most used languages worldwide and can therefore also be helpful in the future. Besides this, the weather was also a big plus.

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

I wanted to try out a new, more unfamiliar city and since Murcia is a relatively big city, but not very known in the Netherlands this aligned with my preferences.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

There are two ways to travel to Murcia. Since I wanted to travel green I tried to go with busses and trains. However this will take you at least 30 hours and a lot changes to. The option I took is the plane to Alicante and a bus of around 30 minutes to Murcia afterwards

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
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1	Mathematics of Business II	4.5	Math course	2	I really missed the pre knowledge I assumed to have beforehand, since this is a first years course that surprised me
2	Financial economics	6	Focussed on (net) present values, portfolios and time value of money	4	Really well taught and enough material to train for the exam
3	Sociology of Business	4.5		3	Interesting but level of the classes were lower than the exam
4	World Economy	6	Comparing economies of different countries with different measurements	4	Good teachers. High level of classes which made it easier to study for the exam.
5	Operations Management	6	Operating activities across whole businesses	2	Interesting classes and also relatively easy. However the exam was different and very strictly judged.
6					

b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain): Not a lot, but that was also not the reason I went there. You have to be a little flexible when moving there.

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

d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain): Partly yes. Most courses were interesting. On the other hand, no, because the exams were very different compared to WUR, which is part of the reason I failed 2 courses as I also studied relatively good.

e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain): No, I wouldn't choose to follow the management operations course again.

f. What is it like to study there?

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

Very different than WUR. The level of classes is mostly easy although it varies across different courses. Workload is a little more than I was used too and the examination is also different. Studying for the exam was harder because the lesson material of activities and practice questions were only publishes without answers.

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 were very approachable and nice. The big difference was the amount of students per class, which was way less than WUR.

h. What does the university offer students additionally?

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

Very good and cheap catering. Sport facilities was harder to find.

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?

There are a lot of possibilities but I chose to use Idealista to find Spanish roommates. Rent rates do not differ much compared to the average in the Netherlands and is a bit more expensive than the average room in Wageningen I think.

b. What is the culture like?

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

Way more eating and drinking outside of home. Also very slow/relaxed way of living. Took me a while to get used to, but after a while I started to appreciate it and began to doubt the always find the super-efficient way of the Dutch culture.

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

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

Very cheap. Cards to have unlimited use of train and bus.

6. Expenses

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

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	200
Visa - if applicable	0
Vaccinations - if applicable	0
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	8 (obligatory for uni)
Daytrips/sight-seeing	Too much
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	360, student room around 12/14 m2
Grocery costs per month	150? (less than in NL)

Public transport costs per month	20? (for a lot of travelling)
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	100

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

lower except for room rent.

c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?

Eating out is almost as expensive as cooking at home. Going out is also very cheap, but because of that very tempting to spend a lot.

7. Free time

a. What are must-sees in the area?

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

Alicante → bus

Andalusia → bus

Morocco → plane

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

All the small restaurants in the city itself.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

Arriving alone without knowing anyone before university started. In the end that helped me a lot and I ended up really feeling at home knowing a lot of people including the restaurant and bar owners in my street.

b. Best memory?

The ESN Ibiza trip with all Erasmus students around Spain (and some from France. 2000 people in Ibiza going to clubs that opened specifically and only for us before the party season opened.

9. Contact details

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