



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Health & Society
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	18-07-2022 until 07-12-2022
Country (exchange)	South Africa
City (exchange)	Pretoria
University (exchange)	University of Pretoria
Faculty (exchange)	Humanities

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I always wanted to go abroad, and I still had to complete part of my minor so I saw this as a great opportunity to go abroad

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

To be honest, my first choice was Valencia. But South Africa sounded cool, was one of the farthest places and I saw that Pretoria had a relatively high chance to get selected.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Airplane

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	The shaping of a modern South Africa (GES220)	10	The development of South Africa through segregation and apartheid to democracy	5	Very interesting course
2	Industrial and Organizational Psychology (BDO 224)	8	This module focuses on actual and important aspects of safety and health management in organisations, as well as the nature and role of ergonomics therein. Safety and wellness issues such as stress and burnout, substance abuse, diseases, accidents and injuries as well as workplace bullying, violence, trauma and sexual harassment will be addressed. This course discusses the various personality and social identity theories as they exist within the meta-theory of psychology. The unconscious processes of personality, the trait and social identity theories of personality are examined thoroughly. To close off this module we have a look at diverse social identities within the workplace in a social and cultural context	2	
3	Food safety & Hygiene (VDS 354)	6	Part 1: General anatomy and morphology of bacteria, viruses and fungi. Basic nutritional requirements of micro-organisms and the effect of environmental factors on microbiological growth. Food decay, food poisoning and preservation of food by micro-organisms. Basic principles involved in disinfections, sterilization and control of microbes; techniques of microbial repression: sterilization by using heat, radiation, filtration, chemicals decimation of numbers. Part 2: Food safety approached from retail, commercial and institutional angles. Safety issues surrounding food. Principles of food safety and food hygiene; good manufacturing practices; HACCP and risk analysis; employee health, hygiene and safety; Consumer rights and protection; occupational health and safety; health and food safety legislation in South Africa	3	
4	Visual and Cultural studies (VKK 121)		This module presents an introduction into the ways in which images appear across media in contemporary visual culture from a specific African perspective within the global. This is done by means of exploring key modes, themes, genres, platforms and visual texts. Among the media and mediums that may be covered are photography, art, graphic design, advertising, film, documentaries, video, digital and social media.	3	

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

You usually take courses (modules) for 5 months, which is very different from Wageningen, where a period is either 4 or 8 weeks. For each course, I had 2 or 3 lectures per week, with one lecture lasting only 50 minutes. Additionally, there were tutorials, mostly once a week. For each course, there were 2 midterms and one final exam. The workload differed for each course. For example, History (GES220) had a really high workload and was quite hard. Industrial and Organizational Psychology on the other hand was relatively easy.

What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, and engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)

The lecturers were very approachable and nice. The university organizes a lot of events and the campus is very lively, which in my opinion really differs from WUR. It really feels like a little village on campus.

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

The university has so much to offer. They offer meals (lunch & dinner) for a very low price. There are also many sports that you can play for a very low price.

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?)

The accommodation was arranged by the University. During the application process there was an option to sign up for accommodation in one of their residences. Most international students were placed in Tuksdorp. Rent was around 1400 for 5 months.

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

The culture was very different from Dutch culture.

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

1400 for 5 months, so 280 each month

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

Most activities were done with Über. There was a train (the Gautrain) to Johannesburg which was relatively safe.

6. Free time

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

Voortrekkersmonument, Apartheidsmuseum in Joburg, Boeremark, Hennops hiking trail, Hazelwood, Hazel food market, The playground in Joburg, Union Buildings, Groenkloof

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

I went to Zimbabwe to the Victoria Falls which was very beautiful

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

Hazelwood area has a lot of nice bars. We went out to "The strip" a lot, but is a pretty dangerous place so be careful. The Summit is a very nice bar which is safer. I loved the Hillcrest swimming pool near Tuksdorp, very nice people.

7. Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Safety was definitely a challenge, but after a month or so I got used to it.

What was your best memory abroad?

Too many. I've done so many things, met so many people, and made new friends. It was truly one of the best experiences of my life.

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail	Suzanne Loedeman – suzanne.loedeman@wur.nl	