

**Experience report of the Erasmus+ program at
Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands**

Summer term February 2018 – July 2018



*Master Food Science and Engineering
University of Hohenheim*

The reason

During my master program at the University of Hohenheim I decided to go abroad for an exchange semester. I chose the Wageningen University and Research (WUR) in the Netherlands. This University has high reputations, offers an interesting and diverse study program and it was a really good addition to my study program in Germany.

During my stay, I attended in various courses, which were not offered in such a way at my home University. Especially the practical's and group work inspired me to apply for the WUR.

Furthermore, I aimed to study abroad to improve my English skills, get used to foreign cultures and people and also to gain experience far away from my family and friends.

The program

I attended the general food science master at WUR. The WUR offers various specialisations of master programs. I chose courses from the specialisation of "Food Quality and Design" and "Food Chemistry". During my stay, I earned 30 ECTS points and accredited 15 ECTS for my Transcript of Records.

Two of the modules, 4 weeks and 8 weeks consisted of project work in which the students worked close together with 8 others (Dutch as well as intercultural). The group work was a really nice experience and I learned a lot about different cultures during the work with international students from all over the world (China, Indonesia, Norway, South Africa).

Furthermore, all the modules consisted of lectures, practical work and writing reports.

The daily life

In the first week, before the University started, an introduction week (AID) offered the opportunity to become a part of a group of international students from the Erasmus+ program as well as new master students, who also started in February at the WUR were part of the group. The leader of each group were two Dutch students who study their master at WUR.

I met 10 new people from whole Europe and other parts of the world. With these students, I spend most of the time during my stay together. It felt like a second family.

During my whole stay in the Netherlands, the weather was really nice. Rain and cold wind was barely and when the summer began, the weather was hot and dry.

The Dutch people are super kind and friendly. When I went to the supermarket, stores, on the market or pubs and restaurants in Wageningen but also in other cities, I was warmly welcomed and they tried, if their English was not good, to help you.

I also learned to speak the most important words and sentences in Dutch during the grocery shopping or during ordering food and beer.

Conclusion

Overall I would recommend an Erasmus+ semester in Wageningen, but also at all the other Universities from the Erasmus+ program. It is a really nice experience and opportunity and you cannot only learn different things for your study, but also for yourself, your life and the social experience and intercultural communication.