Studying Archaeology Abroad

Inge Tinbergen, Exchange Coordinator

Discover the world at Leiden University
Exchange: Why?

Why?

• It’s a valuable experience
• It’s good for the development of your academic and language skills.
• It teaches you about other cultures.
• It teaches you about different systems of education.
• It is a plus when you’re trying to find a job.
Students experiences:

“The foremost reason was to expend my studyprogram with a course of early medieval archaeology and landscape research. The second to expand my view outside Leiden University. Every university has its own research foci and I wanted to step out of the bubble of our faculty to experience other points of view on archaeological research. The reason why I choose Newcastle University was because of their experiences with landscape archaeology.” F. vd Blink (from Leiden to Newcastle)

“To increase my learning abilities by experiencing college life and education at another university.” M. Cross (from Ireland to Leiden)

“I chose to study abroad because I want to widen my sight. I hope to know how archaeology is taught in western countries, and learn from it.” S. Fok (from China to Leiden)
Where to start: faculty vs university-wide

**Faculty exchange**

Managed by faculty’s international office
Open to students from faculty/programme only
Usually for your specific field of study
Inside Europe (Erasmus+)
Sometimes outside of Europe

**Contact:**
International coordinator of your own faculty or programme.

**University-wide exchange**

- Managed by central International Relations Office (IR) of Student and Educational Affairs (SEA)
- Generally open to all students
- Possible to study outside your field of study at different faculties
- Only outside of Europe
- ISEP programme

**Contact:**
International Relations Office
Student and Educational Affairs
Where can you find the exchange agreements

**Exchange agreements/ uitwisselingsprogramma’s.**

Search through all Leiden University’s exchange agreements.

https://www.leidenuniv.nl/soz/buitenland/search-exchange-agreements.html
When, Where?

When?
• Most students have more time in the BA, but it is entirely possible to go during the (R)MA.

Where?
• Look around and think it through. Reasons can be:
  - Location
  - Subject/research interest
  - Funding possibilities
Where? For Example:

University of Aarhus (Denmark)
Universität Bonn (Germany)
Universität Tubingen (Germany)
Zurich University (Switzerland)
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium)
University College London (United Kingdom)
Newcastle University (United Kingdom)

University of Cyprus (Cyprus)
Universita di Siena (Italy)
Universita di Foggia (Italy)
La Sapienza (Italy)

How?

**REMEMBER:** you have to be a detective (find out everything you possibly can beforehand) and you have to be flexible, because the experience will quite possibly not go exactly as you planned. Make sure you are mentally prepared for that!

**Part 1: Getting Approval**

- [http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/study-abroad/approval-and-application/approval-and-application.html](http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/study-abroad/approval-and-application/approval-and-application.html)

- A: talk to your study advisor/exchange coordinator
  
  **Inge Tinbergen, email: I.L.Tinbergen@arch.leidenuniv.nl**

- B: decide which university/universities you prefer

- C: check funding and application requirements (language for instance)

- D: examine the course catalogue of said university

- E: find which courses you would want to apply for

- F: write a proposal for the board of examiners (Examencommissie) **before December 1st**!

- G: wait for approval
Erasmus?

Check whether the university of your choice connected with Erasmus/other funding?

- [http://www.studenten.leidenuniv.nl/buitenland/search/](http://www.studenten.leidenuniv.nl/buitenland/search/)

Information for Archeology students:

What is STREAM?
- Student Exchange programme between Leiden University and 7 European Universities*, with the focus on conducting research.
- Transfer of academic credits.

Where?
- University of Cambridge (UK)
- Lund University (Sweden)
- University of Milan (Italy)
- University of Geneva (Switzerland)
- University of Zurich (Switzerland)
- Université Paris-Sud (France)
- Utrecht University
(* mobility between institutions located in the same country are not allowed within this framework)

For whom?
- Leiden University students registered in their 3rd, 4th or 5th year of study.
- Students who have been nominated by their Study Abroad / Exchange Coordinator.
- GPA of at least 3.2 (out of 4) / average grade: 7 or above
- Minimum English level: B2

Funding?
- Students who are selected may also be able to apply for an Erasmus Scholarship.

How?

**Part 2: reaching out**

contacting the university of your choice by contacting the university’s international officer

Make sure you find out if you have to apply yourself or if your home institution can do it for you.

Tip:

- Email the professors whose courses you want to take. That way you can make personal contact with them.
Part 3: Financial aid

- There are various ways of getting financial aid
  - [http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/study-abroad/funds/scholarships/](http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/study-abroad/funds/scholarships/)

- Erasmus+ grant

- Leiden University Fund ([http://www.luf.nl/en/students](http://www.luf.nl/en/students))

- OV allowance (for Dutch students only)

- LUSTRA+ grant

- Holland Scholarship

TIP: google your own name before application, internet might show you in a different light than you have shown in your application.

- Advantage of an official exchange (like Erasmus)
  - No extra tuition fees.
  - Funding is easier.
Important dates

**December 1st**
- Deadline proposal for Board of Examiners (prediscussed with exchange coordinator/study adviser)

**December 1st**
- Deadline application UniWide exchange (world wide exchange with selected universities)

**February 15th**
- Deadline application Erasmus+ exchange

**Jan-March 2019**
- Apply for funding
- Apply at exchange university (confer with exchange coordinator)
- UniWide students will have information sessions

**April 1st 2019**
- Deadline for application Holland Scholarship (excellent students)
- Mandatory pre-departure information session UniWide students
Health and Safety

It is very important that you go abroad well prepared! You are obliged, for example, to take out a good insurance, get the necessary vaccinations and bring along enough money.

These and other very useful tips are mentioned on the website

Before departure you need to attend a Health and Safety information session. The dates for these information sessions will be published on the website begin 2019
Entire Master abroad

• Not possible on exchange agreement
  ➔ You apply directly at the host university
  ➔ You pay tuition fees to host university
  ➔ Limited assistance from international office
  ➔ Start early! At least 1 year in advance
  ➔ Scholarships
  ➔ Diploma recognition by DUO after you return

At the infomarket: Fulbright, Studeren in Duitsland & www.Wilweg.nl
Worth the effort?

“I would highly recommend studying abroad because by the end of your study abroad you are more mature as a young adult and confident while travelling. You also increase your learning experience by adapting to a new college system that is different to your home university. Studying abroad in Leiden for the year was the best decision I have made so far in my life and I plan on going back to the Netherlands to complete a masters when I complete my undergrad. Again I would highly recommend every student to experience studying abroad if they have the opportunity as you change alot within a year.” M. Cross

“I would definitely recommend studying abroad to other students if they can afford it. Study abroad is an eye opening experience. I learnt more about Dutch culture and met new people!” S. Fok
Students say yes!

“It is wonderful to be in a different environment, both socially and professionally. [...]"

There is a very different study environment on British universities with a different type of pressure on students. [...]"

The MA-group was very small compared to Leiden (only 13 students) which made the group really close and supporting to each other. Next to this I also lived in a house with four other erasmus students from Germany, France and Spain with who I went on excursions to explore the city and surrounding area. ”

(F. vd Blink)
Links and contact

Contact information: I.L.Tinbergen@arch.leidenuniv.nl

Website Leiden University:

Website NUFFIC (organization for internationalization in education: https://www.wilweg.nl/

Scholarship websites:
https://www.wilweg.nl/financiering/beursopener
http://www.scholarshipportal.com/

What are studying/living costs per country:
https://www.vsfonds.nl/kosten-en-ervaringen-studeren-buitenland