Making your choice for a study abroad destination
Topics

1. Preferences & needs
2. Searching for courses
3. Costs and budget
4. Which destinations are safe?
5. Considerations in Corona time
6. Sustainable travel
Preferences and needs

Questions to ask yourself:
- Your reasons to study abroad?
- What type of atmosphere and environment do you prefer?
- Special requirements due to disability or illness?
Searching for courses

• Not all courses are open to exchange students → check entry requirements
• Check course requirements from your study programme at Leiden University
• Semester and exam dates can be different from those at Leiden
• Do you meet the language requirements?
• No guaranteed courses → be flexible
Costs and budget

• Cost of living can differ greatly → search for estimated costs
• Type of costs:
  • Housing
  • Travel
  • Visa
• Choose a destination that fits your budget
Country specific health and safety considerations

- Strict laws (rules on drugs and alcohol)
- Cultural differences
- Climate
- Risk of Tsunami/earthquakes
- Political climate (social unrest)
- Equal treatment of gender identities and sexual orientations (ILGA.org)
Which destinations are safe?

Check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs travel advice

• Leiden University does not allow travels to **orange** and **red** countries!
• Travel to **green** and **yellow** countries only (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
• Download the app
Current safety status destinations world wide
Considerations in Corona time

- Uncertain if study abroad can take place

- Always make two plans
  
  
  Study Abroad

  Stay at home

- Travelling and studying abroad is always at your own risk.
- Try to postpone incurring costs until shortly before departure
Sustainable travel

• Destinations within Europe or outside Europe

• Travelling to a European destination → travel by train or bus
  - greentickets app
  - www.nsinternational.nl
  - www.night-trains.com
  - www.flixbus.nl

• Traveling outside of Europe
  - Travel in multiple steps and make the journey part of your study abroad experience
  - If flying is the only option: consider carbon compensation either by donating money or reduce your carbon footprint at your destination.
  - Direct flights produce less CO2 than indirect flights

Miles that Matter: From the Hague to Kuala Lumpur by train!
Questions?

Q&A session will start now