



Faculty of Law, Maastricht University (The Netherlands)

Study Guide

1 Overall impression

Maastricht University is a well organized and very international university. The classes were very interesting and it was great to get the perspective of various students from all over the world during tutorials. I would strongly recommend this university

2 Making preparations

(e.g. administrative matters, finding information)

Everything was easy to find and I did not encounter any administrative issue when preparing for spending a year in Maastricht. I would however specify that students need their birth certificate to register to the city.

3 Contacts/Responsibilities

(e.g. important contact persons at the Partner University and Faculty)

Contacts are also easy to find, and the university's website is comprehensive. However, in case of issue, I would advise to go straight to the education desk in the Law faculty as people working there are really helpful.

4 Housing

I was very lucky as I had a friend from Switzerland who was leaving Maastricht and I simply rented her room. However, I have seen lots of people finding an accommodation on Facebook groups.

5 Arrival

I arrived just before the classes started and the process went very smoothly. I met some friends really quickly and we really helped each other when discovering the new system.

6 Telephone

(e.g. costs, carriers)

As I had to go back to Switzerland quite often, I decided to keep my Swiss SIM card with unlimited data and phone calls/texts all over Europe. It was really convenient. Based on my friends' experiences,

T-Mobile works pretty well if one wants to get a Dutch prepaid card. It is worth mentioning that phone costs remain quite high in the Netherlands.

7 Bank account

I did not open a Dutch bank account. I simply used my Revolut account throughout the whole year, and it went perfectly well. It is worth mentioning that some groceries shops only accept maestro cards. I always had both Maestro and MasterCard with me, just in case.

8 Transport

From Switzerland until Maastricht, I always used the same itinerary: I was taking the plane from Geneva to Brussels and then the train from Brussels to Maastricht. Overall, the duration of the trip is not that long and the train ticket is very cheap. To go to University or anywhere else in the city, I used my bike. To travel around the Netherlands, I used the train. Tickets are quite expensive but one can find good deals after a quick online research

9 General information about the Partner Faculty and student life

Maastricht University's classes might be quite demanding. It is essential to be serious when taking them, to be prepared for tutorials and read all necessary readings. Nevertheless, there remains a good amount of time to enjoy the student life. It is quite easy to meet new people as students often attend tutorials of approximately 15 people. Moreover, Maastricht University is very international and there thus many foreign students being in the same situation.

10 Teaching and studying at the Partner Faculty

(e.g. program structure, methodology, exams, etc.)

The program structure is very different than what I was used to in Switzerland. Students really have to be disciplined and to be up-to-date with all courses, as exams occur quite regularly. Moreover, professors really want students to be involved in debates and discussions and it is essential to keep an open mind and be critical about the subjects that are touched upon in class.

11 City

(e.g. cultural activities, sports, discounts, nightlife, must-sees, short trips, etc.)

What I particularly enjoyed in Maastricht is that it is very easy to travel to other cities around. Going to Brussels, Amsterdam, The Hague, Rotterdam, Aachen or other cities is really easy and I would advise it for sure. Running and biking over the city is also enjoyable.

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