



# **Faculty of Law, Maastricht University (The Netherlands)**

## **Study Guide**

### **1 Overall impression**

I had an amazing year, a great experience at uni and in the city.

### **2 Making preparations**

(e.g. administrative matters, finding information)

Nothing really to say, it was easy.

### **3 Contacts/Responsibilities**

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

No real contact person at Maastricht University we were really treated like any other Masters Student.

### **4 Housing**

It was very hard finding something that I liked - although I have to admit I am very perky. I would recommend in any case to start looking very early on. It is a student city, so the demand is very big. I wanted to live in the city center absolutely. However, the city and its surroundings are so small that even if you are a bit further away from the city center, everything is reachable very quickly, especially by bike.

### **5 Arrival**

Nothing special to say.

### **6 Telephone**

(e.g. costs, carriers)

I bought a lebara card that I would charge according to my needs. However, I think there are companies which offer cheap monthly subscriptions. That might be more convenient and cheap in the long run.

### **7 Bank account**

I opened a bank account at ING, which was fine because their student bank accounts were free. However, I started the procedure on the first week of classes, and they were already saturated, with all

the students wanting to open an account there. I therefore recommend to go early if possible and open the bank account as early as possible, and just in case withdraw Euros in advance, because having to withdraw Euros there, from my Swiss bank account, while my dutch bank account was being Processed, was very expensive. otherwise, ING works perfectly fine, and you can handle everything through an app which is very convenient.

## **8 Transport**

I took a flight from Geneva to Amsterdam then had to take 3 trains to Maastricht (because during the weekends there are fewer direct trains). It was of course a mistake. from then on, I only flew from Brussels Airport, because the train to get there was cheaper (Dutch trains are surprisingly expensive, although it is easy to find deals in shops or on the website), and shorter. I think there are also direct shuttles from the Airports of Köln and Düsseldorf to Maastricht. And there is a tiny airport in Maastricht as well but never tried it.

## **9 General information about the Partner Faculty and student life**

Student life is al there is, for Maastricht is literally only students.

## **10 Teaching and studying at the Partner Faculty**

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

Teaching was special there - 6 weeks of classes, usually two subjects per period of 6 weeks, and then a week of exams. We would have one ex-cathedra class per subject per week then we would have tutorials in very small groups. That forced us to work consistently in preparation of the exams, to participate during the tutorials, etc. I was very enriching, and I do think you learn better that way, although the pace is much higher and you really have to work all the time - although by the end we were less strict.

## **11 City**

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

The city is very nice, very small which I liked a lot, you get to places very quickly. There a surprisingly large choice and number of restaurants, bars, cafés, alternative places to study, which is super nice. Nightlife on the other hand is not too good, there are very few proper clubs - mostly bars that turn into clubs at nights - However there is an alternative nightlife, in squats administered by the city, and associations, that organize very interesting events, cultural, art fairs, etc, as well as very nice parties. Also short trips are very easy to organize - I would often go to Brussels because it was very close and cheap. Getting to other nice cities in the Netherlands (Utrecht, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, ...) takes a bit more time and trains are more expensive, but it's easy to find discounts, either in the official railway website itself, or in shops like HEMA or Kruidvart.

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