

The Final Days 😞

As much as my Erasmus semester was absolutely amazing, the one thing that most of us were unaware of was how depressing it would be to have to go our separate ways once the mobility was over. Everyone left on different days and I was actually one of the last people to leave since I had an exam on the 30th of January. This made the whole situation even worse because I had to say goodbye so many times and that was a constant reminder that my Erasmus had finally come to an end. I gained a lot during my exchange semester, such as life-long friends and developing myself both academically and personally. I will definitely want to go abroad again in the near future as this was a life-changing experience



Besides the sad goodbyes and farewells, January was packed with a lot of stressful administrative tasks as well as exams and assignments. Before leaving the Netherlands we were required to deregister from the City Hall, and it turned out that we actually needed to book an appointment for this of which most of us were unaware. Unfortunately, the next available appointment dates were in February so I now have to send the request by mail

which is basically what most people are doing since its actually pretty convenient. Secondly, as I mentioned earlier in one of my blog posts, during my semester I was renting my bicycle from Swapfiets and its important to know that you will need to cancel your subscription at least a month before your intended departure because they require a months' notice, failure to do so will probably result in you paying for an extra month in which you are no longer using the bike. On that note, I really miss having a bike, it was so much fun being able to cycle everywhere and this also helped me keep fit throughout my exchange, I really appreciate bicycles now.

As for the exams and assignments, these were pretty stressful but I'm hoping for the best. As I had mentioned before, Fontys does have resit opportunities if you do fail a course, but unlike METU you will have to wait until the next semester to do the retake. In my case, since I'm an exchange student and I'm no longer in the Netherlands, my retakes will basically be assignments which I will upload onto their system for grading, the downfall of this is that it may take a little longer to get back the final grades of all the subjects as compared to other universities. On a whole, my exchange semester in the Netherlands was even better than expected, I really enjoyed myself and this is something that I really recommend everyone to partake in. I now have a great base of knowledge concerning various cultures and I believe this will benefit me from a personal point of view as well as career wise. All the things that an Erasmus exchange promised to offer became a reality.