

**EXCHANGE REPORT****Name****Year and term for exchange**

Henrik Holte

2019/2020 Autumn

**Exchange university**

TU Delft

**Degree programme**

Architecture

## Exchange studies

### Before departure

I applied for exchange studies to grab one of the last chances I had to experience a new academic environment before graduating. I chose TU Delft due to its location and its connection to Europe. It is also a very international university where one easily can get connections across Europe. As the university is very international all the master courses are in English, which was important for me. Another reason for choosing TU Delft was that I did not want to move too far away from Stockholm. As I have studied and worked in both the UK and Scandinavia, I wanted to try central Europe.

### Upon arrival

I arrived one week before the school started. The university had many social activities prior to the start. However, the architectural faculty itself is very social so the 'official' activities is not necessarily needed to get a great start to your studies.

### Financials

I received a grant from the Erasmus organisation. In terms of groceries + eating and drinking out, it is significantly cheaper than Sweden.

### Accommodation

Housing can be very hard to find and I heard a few 'horror stories' where people were still looking for accommodation 4-5 weeks into the course. However, I was lucky and received help through DUWO and got a place quite easily. The accommodation was very basic, but it was alright for those 6 months. I paid around €490 per month so I would say that rent is generally lower than Stockholm. However, this can of course vary.

### University and studies

TU Delft is much larger than KTH and it feels like that too. It has many technical studies ranging from Aerospace Engineering to Industrial Design. I studied Architecture and worked from the Architecture and the Built Environment building, which is a small city on its own. The workload is on average heavier than at KTH. You will, in Architecture, do more courses at TU Delft than at KTH for the same amount of ECTS credits. The necessary 'average' workload is therefore heavier. You can of course work just as hard at KTH as well, however, from a student's perspective KTH gives you more freedom and self-control.

## **Courses**

I had to take a 'course package', so the selection process was fairly easy and was already approved by KTH prior to my exchange period. I had a design studio + a combined technical studio as well as two theoretical seminar courses. All together I received 31 ECTS. The workload was heavy at times, but absolutely doable if one is motivated. I was a part of a design studio called Urban Architecture, which was a new studio when I started. It was therefore a bit unorganized in the first couple of months, but after we received our own workspace etc. it became a great studio to be a part of. The studio consisted of about 50 % international students, so it was a very diverse studio. We went on several study-trips around the Netherlands and Belgium.

## **City and country**

TU Delft is located in Delft in the Netherlands. It is a very small historic city with a strong student presence. It is a nice environment, but can be 'boring'. It helps that Rotterdam is only 10 mins away by train and Amsterdam 45 mins away.

## **Leisure and social activities**

Went on trips around the Netherlands and Belgium with friends, mainly from Architecture. Spent time in Delft city centre, Rotterdam and Amsterdam. Always something to do.

## **Other recommendations and observations**

Great life, good school.



*View from accommodation in Delft*



*Study-trip to Ghent, Belgium*