

My Experience Abroad

My name is Brian Schreiber and I spent the spring semester of 2018 studying abroad at Radboud University in Nijmegen, Netherlands. That experience was one I will never forget and was probably the best six months of my life!

When I arrived in Nijmegen, I immediately noticed how different things were from the United States. I was shocked by how compact and close together everything was, as opposed to how spread out and spacious the United States was. I got to Nijmegen in January so it was insanely cold, with temperatures getting as low as 15 degrees Fahrenheit! That was a tough adjustment since I had never lived anywhere that cold. However, I was having so much fun in a new country that it didn't phase me that much. Nijmegen was a beautiful city with all sorts of interesting museums, parks, shops, and an amazing night life. When summer rolled around, I found myself on the beaches of Nijmegen almost daily. While enrolled at Radboud, I had the opportunity to travel to several other amazing cities through my classes and the university itself. I had the privilege to see Rotterdam, Berlin, Prague, Amsterdam, and other incredible places.

However, my experience was highlighted by the incredible friends I made during my time there. When I moved into my housing complex, Galgenveld, I quickly made friends with my next-door roommate Paul. Paul was from Bristol, United Kingdom, and he was extremely kind and welcoming from the first conversation. Paul was also on Erasmus at Radboud, except he had been in Nijmegen for the fall semester as well. He already had an established group of friends from the prior semester that were also Radboud international students. Paul was nice

enough to introduce me to/bring me into his friend group. The friend group was made up of students who came from countries all over the world including the following places: Canada, Italy, and Austria. That group of people ended up being who I spent most of time with, and we made such wonderful memories together. We went to mind blowing parties, traveled to amazing and beautiful places, and just got to know each other on a far deeper and personal level than I anticipated getting to know anyone over there. We all have a WhatsApp group chat that we still talk in almost daily to keep in contact with each other. We are planning to all try and all get together again someday. I love those people I met, and I wouldn't trade my time in Nijmegen for anything. My only regret about studying abroad was that I didn't go for the whole year!



