

SEP Report

1. Student Information

Faculty/Major	Faculty of Engineering (Mechanical)
Host University	Eindhoven University of Technology
NUS Semester and Year of Exchange (eg. AY14/15 Semester 1)	AY15/16 Semester 2

2. Study at Host University

Please provide information on the academics at your host university:

- Studying or learning culture at your host university. How were classes conducted?
- What did you like most or dislike most about the academics at your host University?
- Advice on module registration and module mapping

Similarly to NUS, classes are usually conducted in lectures and tutorials. The study culture in TU/e is different from NUS as the students are expected to do independent learning most of the time. Tutorials are independent learning session where you will do your tutorials or ask questions, so you don't have to do any tutorial at home. Some may not like the idea of not being spoonfed in this university but I actually learn more from the different style of learning in TU/e. Passing might be difficult in this school but retest is available.

Most of the Bachelor courses in TU/e are conducted in Dutch. It is no surprise that there are only limited modules the exchange students can take. However, TU/e would be offering Bachelor courses in English starting from AY2016/2017. If you are going to exchange in 2018, good for you.

Every student in TU/e is required to fulfil 30 ects per semester. 4 or 5 ects are usually given for each course. Since there are 2 quartiles in each semester, you will need to take 3 courses in each quartile. Therefore, you will need to find 6 courses in total, assuming that all the courses will grant you 5 ects.

If all is the same, the coordinators from TU/e will send you a document to choose your courses, which can be found in the attachment. These courses are all in English but they are not ALL the English courses offered in TU/e. If the list does not look appealing to you, you can find courses on your own [here](#).

The website has all the information you need for module mapping, such as:

1. Course Objective
2. Timetable (Lessons and Exam)
3. Main Lecturer

If you are interested to take the 'self-sourced' courses, email the professor in TU/e to check whether you are allowed to take the course or not (usually it's a yes). Keep the email and forward it to the coordinator from TU/e when it comes to filling in the Learning Agreement. The Learning Agreement is basically just a list for you to submit all the courses you intend to take during your exchange stint.

After finding out all the courses you intend to take, find out the coordinator in charge of your department and email them the list of courses and emails (if applicable).

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Please list the courses that you took during SEP. (Please take note that the list of modules available to exchange students at the host university are subject to change. This table merely serves as reference.)

Host University			NUS Equivalent		
Module code	Course title	ECTS Credit	Module code	Course title	Modular credit
4GB20	Robot Arm	5	ME3102	Mechanical Systems Design II	4
4AUB0	Powertrain and Vehicle Dynamics	5	ME4214	Vehicle Dynamics	4
6E8X0	Dynamic and process control	5	ME2142	Feedback Control Systems	4
4EM60	Advance discretization techniques	5	ME4291	Finite Element Analysis	4
STA40	Dutch for Beginner I	2	LAX1731	Department Exchange Module	3
STA41	Dutch for Beginner II	2	LAX1732	Department Exchange Module	3
4EM30	Scientific Computing for Mechanical Engineering	5	ME3661	Technical Elective	4

2. Accommodation

What kind of accommodation did you stay in during your exchange (eg. on campus / off campus)?

Would you recommend this accommodation to future outgoing students?

Do you have any other suggestions?

By the time it is your turn to go to TU/e for exchange, the student hostels in the campus would have been ready for you to move in! So I do not have any comments or opinions regarding the student hostels.

If not all, most of us stayed in the apartments nearby under a housing agent, Vestide, who is in collaboration with the school. The school will send you emails prior to your departure regarding the accommodation and all you have to do is just follow the instructions.

The rent in Eindhoven is relatively cheap. My rent was approximately €240 per month, including utilities and internet. There are 3 students living in one apartment and we share the living room, toilet and kitchen. My friends and I stayed near Strijp-S, which is quite a happening and nice area. We stayed in Marconilaan and 's Gravesandestraat, a nice garden (more like a field) is surrounded by the apartments, with bunnies and cats roaming around. When you are choosing your room, try to choose one on the ground floor as it usually comes with a backyard where you can park your bike, which is usually safer than parking right in front of your apartment.

Based on the conversation I had with my other friends staying in other areas, apparently the best area to stay is the one I have just mentioned because it is relatively close to school, city, market and

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supermarkets. Most importantly, it is just right next to a train station. It saves you the trouble of calling a cab to bring your heavy luggages around during moving in or out.

You can always take the school accommodation but I personally think staying in an apartment is more cosy since you have your own toilet and kitchen. It's a good experience if you want to have a taste of living as a local.

3. Activities during SEP

Were there any activities organized by school/student group/external organizations at your host university which you would like to recommend to other students?

The international student committee is COSMOS. They will organize a welcome party for you to introduce you to the committee and get to know more exchange students in the university. You can choose not to go but it gives you a good idea of what the school has, such as the gym and borrels (bars in different faculties).

Every home faculty has a study association. They can help you to buy textbook at a discounted rate. On top of that, they also organize activities such as outings and workshop trainings for students to participate. Of course, you have to pay a small fee to be a member (about 6 euros) and activities have their own charges. One of the perks of being a member is to be able to get 1 euro beer at the borrel every Thursday!

4. Cost of Living

Please provide an estimation of how much money you spent during your SEP?

Please list travel expenses separately.

I spent about SGD\$6000 during my SEP, accommodation, flight tickets and souvenirs included. I was managed to save a lot of money by cooking at home.

I spent another SGD\$2500 for travelling, including the 11 musicals and plays I have watched in London. Buses and flights are very cheap. If you know how to plan them properly, you can save a lot of money.

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5. Challenges

Did you face any challenging issues during your SEP stint? How did you overcome it/them?

Not really. Everything was pretty smooth for me. Thank you to NUS and TU/e for their support and help when I needed it!

But be very aware of your surroundings. Especially when you are travelling, watch your belongings all the time! There are so many scams in Europe and you really need to protect yourself by being vigilant. Always travel in pairs!

6. Overall SEP Experience

Please write one paragraph about your exchange experience and attach some photos that represent your exchange experience.

It was the best 6 months of my life.

7. Suggestions for future outgoing students

Please share any other suggestions for future outgoing students.

Refer to the guide I have created in <https://sites.google.com/site/exchangeguidetue/> if you want to know more about the tips I have for you!