

Final Report on your Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

Please write the report (max. 2 pages) in German or English and in complete sentences (no keywords).

The report will be posted on the website of the University of Lucerne and may also be viewable via internet search engines. A subsequent amendment or deletion of data (e.g. name) will not be possible after the report has been submitted!
Please send the report back in Word format only.

Mobility Program	SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe)
Home university	University of Oslo
Semester	Spring term 17
Field of study	Main subject? Law Study level? Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Sondre Hoelstad Olsen (sondreho@hotmail.com)

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	My stay in Switzerland has exceeded my expectations. I was very fond of the country before I arrived, and I'm happy I had the chance to live here. Living and studying abroad is definitely a good and important experience, and I think Lucerne and Switzerland was a good place to do so. Both Switzerland and Universität Luzern are very pleasant places to live and study, respectively.
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa	I come from Norway, a EEA country, so I didn't need a visa. However, I think that the immigration procedure is very frustrating. My relationship with the immigration authorities has been characterized by a lot of bureaucracy, and that the different agencies do not communicate well enough. This has led to a lot of misunderstandings for my part.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	I chose to find private accommodation for my stay in Lucerne. I'd heard that finding a place to live is very hard in Switzerland. However, I found a nice apartment pretty quickly. I used this website: http://stuwoluzern.ch/index.php/en/ . I sub rented the apartment from two students from the university who were also on exchange.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	I lived a 15 minutes walk from the university, so I mostly walked. But generally, the public transportation system in Switzerland is fantastic. It's no problem getting anywhere. It's very expensive, though.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic record	The university is very good at answering questions and guiding exchange students through the whole exchange process, both before and after arrival in Switzerland. When it comes to registration for courses and other technical issues, helpful information was given at several occasions.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	The university is located in the city centre, behind the railway station, and therefore very accessible. It's small, and a very cozy place to study.
German course at the University "German Short Course" visited? Content of course, use?	I took the course, and I liked it. I learned some things, but how much of a language one can learn during a week is obviously limited.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	The content of the lectures conformed with the learning requirements and taught us pretty much what we had to know for the exams. The amount was not too big, nor too small. The credits system is a little different from what I'm used to. So is the grade system.
Assistance at the university	As mentioned above, the university is very good at answering questions and guiding exchange students through the whole exchange process, both before and after arrival

<p>Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>in Switzerland. In addition, the university is very good at arranging social events where you can meet new people.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>When it comes to living costs, there is no doubt that Switzerland is a high cost country. However, I come from a very expensive country myself, so the difference wasn't that big for me, compared to other exchange students. Most of the courses on the university offered free readers online, so I didn't have to buy any study material. I did not open a Swiss bank account, so withdrawing money and paying invoices was a little expensive. And Switzerland sure is a cash dependent country.</p>
<p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Switzerland, and Lucerne in particular, sure has a lot of cultural facilities. To mention some things: Many festivals throughout the year, several ski resorts nearby, and a very lively nightlife. Not to mention movie theaters, museums and a historical and beautiful old town.</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>I'm not sure if anything is better or worse, but a lot of things sure are different. The University of Lucerne is a lot smaller, both in size, and number of students and faculties. The courses are smaller in Lucerne, so you have to take more of them here to reach a certain amount of credits. Also, the examination is different. I'm not used to oral exams. And at my home university, the written exams have more detailed and comprehensive questions, so we get to use certain auxiliaries to answer them.</p>
<p>Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>I was certain I was going on an exchange to Switzerland, and the University of Lucerne was the most ideal option for me regarding the arrangements with my home university.</p>
<p>Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> too short <input type="checkbox"/> too long <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> just right</p>