

International Relations Office

## Final Report on your Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

Please write the report (max. 2 pages) in complete sentences (no keywords).

The report will be posted on the website of the University of Lucerne and <u>may also be viewable via internet search engines.</u> 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)	□ PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	University of Pavia	
Semester	Fall-Spring 2017-2018	
Field of study	Main subject? Law	Study level? □ Bachelor ⊠ Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Nika Karobkina, nika-korobkina@mail.ru	

General impression	Very well organised university! Gentle people, wide variety of international law sub-
Please describe your stay in	jects, good organisation of classes, dedicated and well prepared professors. Warm
4-5 sentences	and friendly atmosphere in the university and during classes. Beautiful scenery from
	inside and outside the university, high quality and cleanness.
Entry/arrival in Switzerland	Visa:
Immigration formalities, visa,	I am from Belarus. My experience have shown that it is quite along process to get
health insurance	visa for a non-European citizen. It takes at least 3 month, there are many documents
	to prepare in the beginning and then you just have to wait.
	Permit of stay:
	It is a bit expensive around 270 Fr. But it is easy to get. There is just one appointment
	to take a photo and then the state permit arrives by post to your home address.
	Health insurance:
	For non-EU students there is a "Swiss care insurance". It is around 100 Fr. per
	month. In case of emergency, you have to pay yourself in the hospital and ask for the
	reimbursement afterwords. The refund is possible only for the expenses over 1000 Fr.
Searching for rooms/	During the first semester, I was in the student residence in Steinhofstrasse 15, 6005,
accommodation	Luzern. It is a very nice, new and modern accommodation. It is made of 5-rooms apart-
Experiences and useful addresses	ments with the kitchen and 2 bathrooms. You can reach the university in 20 minutes by
	walking or there is a bus station very close to the building. It is a very quiet and nice
	place; it is nice to go jogging nearby. The only disadvantage is that there are not many
	supermarkets nearby, there is always to walk or take the bus. Think about your accom-
	modation very much in advance. Already 4 months before your arrival it can happen
	that they have no rooms available, it gets full immediately.
	In the second semester, I moved to the other student residence in the Gerliswilstrasse
	10, 6020, Emmenbrücke. It is very similar to Steinhofstrasse, but a bit older. To go to

	the university you can take the train or bus. The train is very fast, it takes 8 minutes for the main station in Luzern. And in total from the door of your apartment to the university it will take 15 minutes, really fast and convenient. There also many not expensive supermarkets just few minutes of walk from the building, like Lidl and Aldi which I consider the cheapest once in Switzerland.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	The University is situated very close to the train station and it is very well accessible by bus and trains from the both of the student residences I described above.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, academic records	At the beginning of the semester when you are sure which courses you intend to take, it is important to register yourself for each course in the online system OLAT (you will be provided with a password by the university). After the registration, you will be able to access the information and materials used in each of your classes.  Be careful that there will be another registration for courses few weeks after the semester stars. You will be send a special form to fill in and it is very important because at the end of the semester you are obliged to take exams on each of the courses you insert in this form.  In the end of your stay, you will get a transcript of records, containing exams taken with the respective grades.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	The University's location is very nice, it is not only close to the train station, but it is very close to the old town and incredibly beautiful lake of Lucern.  The university building is not very big and it is very easy to find classrooms. There is a gym and other sports activities available free of charge for all students (for each sports class an online registration is needed 3 days before), a very good university canteen with accessible prices for students, a meditation room and a relaxation room (you can go any time and take a nap there, even the blanket is provided).
German course at the University "German Short Course" and/or A1 German Course visited? Content of course, use?	I advice you to attend this course. It is very useful to learn some basics of Swiss German to facilitate your stay in Luzern and It provides you with some useful information about Luzern and Switzerland in general.  I also advise you to attend a german course for beginners during the semester. It is very well organized and taught by two very good caring and dedicated teachers.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	The lectures are very well organized and provide the most important information needed to pass the exams, which can also be found on slides provided in class and on OLAT. There are also a lot of guest lectures that are really useful and excursions organized in the framework of the course in Luzern and other Swiss cities. For example with the course of Swiss law we have been to the Swiss Parliament and the Prison of Thorberg.
	Each course has a certain number of credits, which are used in Europe to represent the workload of a student during educational activities aimed at passing the exams.  During exams, students are assessed with the grades from 4 to 6. There are oral and written exams.
Assistance at the university International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students	I am so grateful to the International Relations Office for their assistance, dedication and care of each of the students individually. They are doing brilliant job, I hope that all of you will appreciate their dedication.

	From the very beginning of the semester, the International Relations Office organizes some events gathering all the international students together to enable the better unification and communication between the students. Welcome week is organized for this purposes, I strongly advice you to participate.
Budgeting	Living coasts are rather high in Luzern, as for me it is above 1000 Fr, but if you try
Living costs, study material,	hard it is possible to spend much less. The cheapest supermarkets in Luzern are:
money transfer	Lidl, Aldi, Denner. Cooking at home is the cheapest option, but the prices at the can-
	teen of the university are also affordable.
	All study material is available in the bookshop of the university at a special price for
	the students. Depending on the subject, a part or even all the material will be pro-
	vided through OLAT accessible online free of charge.

Living/ leisure	A lot of sports activities and trainings are provided in the university and these are very	
Meeting places, sports, culture	well organized. Outside the university you can go hiking to the mountains of Pilatus,	
	Rigi and others. In the summer time you can even swim in the lake in the specially or-	
	ganized locations.	
	There are lot's of wonderful places to visit in Luzern. I would advice to visit the Water	
	Tower of Luzern inside, the Bourbaki Panorama, the Glacier museum, the Museum of	
	Transport.	
Comparison	In comparison to my university, in the University of luzern there is better organisation	
What is better/ worse at the Univer-	of the classes, wide variety of the possible activities in class like guest lectures, ex-	
sity of Lucerne as compared to your	cursions, attendance of the conferences and exams rehearsals. As far as classes are	
home university?	not at all big around 20 people in class there is a very good interaction between stu-	
	dents and lecturers.	
	I found it a bit hard to face 5 exams in 3 days, but if you study hard from the very be-	
	ginning from the very first class it is mush easier. It was not that easy for me since in	
	my home university you can choose your examination days.	
Reasons	First of all, I am interested in the field of international law and the university of Luzern	
Why did you choose to complete an	provides a wide variety of subjects in this topic. Secondly, I was aiming to learn a bit	
exchange semester at the University	of German and to explore Swiss culture and traditions, enjoy the wonderful view of	
of Lucerne?	the Alps and the lake of Luzern every single day.	
Duration	□ too short □ too long □ <u>just right</u>	
Looking back, was the duration of		
your stay here:		