

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 <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 Wollongong, Australia	
Semester	spring term 17	
Field of study	Law Stu	idy level? ⊠ Bachelor □ Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Samantha- sambran95@gmail.com	

General impression	I have had the most amazing experience living and studying in Lucerne! The universi-	
Please describe your stay in 4-5	ty is very helpful and accommodating, with interesting subjects to choose from. By far	
sentences	the best part of this exchange has been the friendships that I have made. My	
	worldview has been changed completely and I will treasure the memories I have	
	made here forever.	
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland	Coming from Australia, the organization that is required is a lot of work and money.	
Immigration formalities, visa	You need to register at the migration office and with the uni and buy Swiss health	
	insurance and open a bank account – it is very tedious.	
Searching for rooms/ accommo-	I was so lucky in my application that I got accommodation with the Student Mentor	
dation	Foundation's residence at Steinhoff. It has such a good location, new furnishings, big	
Experiences and useful addresses	rooms and has such a fun atmosphere! There are sheep that graze right outside my	
	window (which can get very loud at times but is always funny) and I can see snow	
	capped mountains from sitting at my desk! Some other exchange students are locat-	
	ed at Emmenbrucke, which I think is the option that you get when you apply- but	
	definitely try to go to Steinhoff as it will save you money in travel and most of the law	
Dublic transportation	students are staying here.	
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university	I can walk to uni from Steinhoff – although it is about half an hour away on foot and can be hard work walking up the hill (especially with bags of groceries). There are	
buildings	also buses that you can take, and the university is located right next to the train/bus	
Sandings	station so it is easy to get around Switzerland.	
Prearrangements	The courses offered in English at Unilu are master courses – which are fine to take if	
Registration for courses, language	you're studying a bachelor like me. It was quite a bit of work to get subjects approved	
tests, academic records	at my home university of UOW but worth it.	
Information on the university	Unilu is one building – easy to get around and the building is nice and new. Amazing	
Location, size, infrastructure	view of the lake from the classroom window! Cafeteria is good and facilities are very	
	nice.	
German course at the University	The German short course was an awesome way to start off the experience in Switzer-	
"German Short Course" visited?	land and was how I met and became close to all my friends. It is a great way to get a	
Content of course, use?	taste of the language and was a very fun week filled with games and a lot of choco-	
	late.	
Studying at the university	I took Internet Law and Copyright Law – the professor was such a nice lady and was	
Content of lectures, credits,	very considerate of students. I would recommend her courses as assessments aren't	

assessments	as stressful.	
	I also took intro to Swiss law, which was a little dry but they take you on excursions to	
	Bern and a Swiss prison (with free lunch ;)) so it was worth it. Also, you get the	
	chance to visit the chapel bridge tower for the first lesson, in which we got free wine	
	and were all a bit tipsy when we were shown down to the torture chamber. Very fun!	
	By far the scariest but interesting classes were International Migration & Humanitarian	
	law. The professor was quite intimidating and the exams are oral so it isn't good in	
	that respect but such useful subjects that are challenging and interesting.	
Assistance at the university	I can't thank the university enough! All of the offices were so helpful, responding to	
Mobility Coordinator, International	questions very fast. It can be a bit of a hassle with needing to organize paperwork but	
Relations Office, student advisors,	once that is over they are great. They also host a lot of fun events- which almost	
mentors, contact with other students	always include free food/wine so everyone was always happy to attend ☺	
Budgeting Living costs, study material,	Well as you probably have figured if you come from Australia the exchange rate sucks. You have to pay a lot more than everyone else. I would say though that you	
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money transfer	get what you pay for – Switzerland is clean, safe and efficient. Groceries don't cost	
	that much when you're just shopping for one- probably spend about 30-40CHF per	
	week. Rent at Steinhoff is 660CHF a month. I didn't need to buy any study material as	
	all content is posted online- much cheaper than home!	
	I opened a Swiss bank account with UBS on arrival and used that, as transaction fees	
	are high. No Australian money cards allow you to load Swiss Francs onto them so	
11-2	that is why I did this. It worked fine for me.	
Living/ leisure	The university offers free sports, which are awesome! I did yoga, dancing and volley-	
Meeting places, sports, culture	ball but there were so many other options. There is also an event called Volley night,	
	which I highly recommend- basically you get into teams and play in a big sporting hall	
	(while intoxicated) it was so much fun.	
	On weekends (and weekdays because student accommodation is awesome) we	
	would generally just hang out at Steinhoff. The common areas are big and good for	
	gatherings. There is quite a bit of nightlife in such a small town I think but we rarely	
O	made it out as we enjoyed group dinners instead.	
Comparison	Unilu is smaller so it has more time for its students than UOW. I love the grounds and	
What is better/ worse at the Univer-	atmosphere of UOW though. But Unilu is really close to the lake so it's great to go sit	
sity of Lucerne as compared to your	in the sun after class. It was great to come here for a semester for something differ-	
home university?	ent.	
Reasons	I chose Unilu because of the location in the middle of Europe. I have travelled heaps	
Why did you choose to complete an	throughout the semester, skied a lot too, which has been awesome, and I will be	
exchange semester at the University	using Lucerne as a base for anther couple of months of travel. Lucerne is a beautiful	
of Lucerne?	city with lots to do and I have loved my time here.	
Duration	□ too short □ too long ☑ just right	
Looking back, was the duration of		
your stay here:		