

Final Report on your Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

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

Mobility Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe) <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy
Semester	Spring term 2018
Field of study	Languages, business and communication <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Patrizia- patri01@hotmail.it

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	My study in Switzerland became the most incredible experience of my life up until now. Lucerne is a beautiful city and the University of Lucerne is a very stimulating environment. I have met so many people from other countries and cultures and I enjoyed many activities like hiking, travelling and swimming, since Lucerne is full of beautiful natural sceneries and is located in the very center of Europe.
Entry/arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa, health insurance	The immigration formalities was not so tedious. If you stay in Switzerland over three months, you need to get a temporary residents permit. All students from Europe like me have to register with the immigration office, but these steps were easy since students were guided by the university.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	When I applied for the University of Lucerne, I also applied for the accommodation. The university allotted a room in Emmbrücke (Gerliswilstrasse, 10 - 6020) and it takes about an hour on foot and ten minutes by train, I lived with four girls and I had become very good friend with some of them.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	They are very accessible, since the university is near to the station and the station is near to the accommodation. A disadvantage for a student could be the cost for travelling around the Switzerland and not only.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, academic records	I had a pre-semester German course but you need to register in advance. Regarding courses, before the semester starts students can register for courses through the university website called OLAT, but you will receive detailed instructions on how to do so.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	The University of Lucerne is located right between Lucerne Hauptbahnhof and the lake. Since the lake is nearby the university, students used to have lunch by the lake on sunny days, but the university canteen serves good quality food and they sell it to the most favourable price you will find in Switzerland. Inside the university, there is a big library and specific rooms for sport classes, some of them are free. The Luzern University is the smallest public university in Switzerland. It has only one building but that doesn't mean Luzern University is bad. On the contrary, it is the well organized and efficient.
German course at the University "German Short Course" and/or A1 German Course visited? Content of course, use?	I attended the German course for beginners not only to practice my German skills, but above all to meet some people right at the start and create my first impression on the university. I got basic information about the German language for everyday necessities and situations.

<p>Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>I took five courses (from different departments, four in English and just one in German) whose contents mostly corresponded to that of my home university. In particular, they were all about political economy, economics and marketing. Switzerland uses credits of the same "value" as Italy do so all I needed to do was pick out courses that amounted to 15 credits and then they got transferred straight to my home university's system. If you have the possibility I would recommend mixing courses taught in English and in German. You do need to fill out a learning agreement, which has to be signed by your home university and by the University of Luzern.</p>
<p>Assistance at the university International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>All of them are very helpful and kind. I didn't think to find such nice people. Do not be afraid to contact them, they provide good service for all your trouble and doubts.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>Living in Switzerland and especially Luzern is expensive. Food and living are costly, some expenses in general and for travel as well. But It depends on how to spend your time. If you travel a lot, eat out and visit city in every week, it could cost too much. Otherwise, it costs around 1000 CHF per month, including the rent payment. Study Material is also dependent on class. In case of my class, I did not need to buy any text, I made copies at university since they provide also the printing service with special prices.</p>
<p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>University's sports facilities are excellent and, as a student, you can sign up for sport classes provided by the university. Most of these activities are free and attending them, it is a good way to meet new people. Since there are many beautiful mountains, you can go hiking. You can take a ferry and enjoy the scenery around the lake or visit museums, other structures and nice cities in Switzerland. Many events take place in the beginning and during the semester and there are many nice bars, nightclubs for young people.</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>University of Luzern is definitely a better option of social and cultural studies, despite the fact that is a very small university. It has both, advantages and disadvantages. There are many small classes where all students can be involve through presentations and discussions. For an Italian university like my home university, it is a little difficult to achieve it because there are too many students and a different system; it means they don't have discussions or presentations frequently. Furthermore, The way courses are arranged in credits gives students the opportunity to attend a range of various courses, but at the same time don't give you as a student a chance to get in depth knowledge and understanding about a subject. However, the scenery and the organization compensate all these little differences compared to my University.</p>
<p>Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>Nowadays, it is necessary to gain an experience abroad, not only to practice a language or for a more skills on your personal curriculum, but to broaden your minds and experience new ways to look at the words and cultures. I needed to prove myself.</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>