

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe) <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	Julius-Maximilians University of Wuerzburg
Semester	Fall term 17
Field of study	Main subject? Political Science and Sociology Study level? <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Maike Rothwinkler maike.rothwinkler@stud-mail.uni-wuerzburg.de

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	My stay in Lucerne at the University was the best semester during my studies. The organization was great and without much stress I started in Switzerland, where I visited very popular scholars and learned a lot about my subject and broadened my horizon. Our group of foreign students grew together, with the help of our university, which organized right from the beginning great events for us. That made it easy to come in contact with the others and to build friendships. For me it was the perfect balance between challenging studies and a lot of fun in our free time.
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa	For me as an European citizen it was a very uncommon feeling to get registered, but the people who were responsible for the registration were very nice and it happened without any difficulties.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	Before my stay, the searching for a room was the easiest part: I just had to register at the JuWo and had to show interest for renting a room, which was offered already in the information package from the university of Lucerne. I registered quickly – and got my room.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	The public transportation in Switzerland is usually very expensive for students, especially if you have a long way from your home to your university. But, because I lived in a building which was part of the university organization, my room was quite central in Lucerne. Because of that I had the cheapest monthly card available or sometimes I could even rent a bike.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	The registration for my courses took place at the beginning of my stay in Lucerne and was accompanied by my person of contact at my faculty. That was very helpful and with her advice, it was easy to figure out how to register via OLAT.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	The location of the University building in Lucerne is great! It's at the lakeside and you can spend your break time in the sun at the riverside or lakeside, what we often did in fall when the weather was still great. That's really a big advantage and makes it even more nice to go to university every day! The University of Lucerne is smaller than my home university but, that gave me a comfy feeling and especially in a new city that was great because you soon found everything familiar.
German course at the University "German Short Course" visited? Content of course, use?	I didn't visit a German course at the University of Lucerne, because German is my mother tongue.
Studying at the university	My lectures at the university of Lucerne were one of the most interesting during my

<p>Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>whole studies. At the university of Lucerne are often visiting scholars, which made the program even broader and I had the chance to hear some really in their subjects famous scientists. The credit system in Switzerland is a little bit different from the one in my home country and the grades are built differently too. I'm now waiting for my assessments but I'm not worried that my home university won't accept my grades from Switzerland.</p>
<p>Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>The International Office did a great job during my time in Switzerland. They were always there when I had questions. They also helped when there were problems with our accommodation in the beginning etc. We had a few Swiss students, who were our direct contact there also for questions, or tricks how to save money, where to eat, what to see and stud like that. They really spend a lot of their time with us and one even became a really good friends. It was more difficult to get in contact with other Swiss students for example in lectures, but after a while, they were very nice and open-minded.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>Before I came to Switzerland, the University gave me a list with how much money a student approx. needs for a living in Lucerne. This list especially helped me in the beginning to overview my budgeting. Of course, Switzerland is expensive and this is something one has to bear in mind, especially when you want to travel around the country, but I think you can have a good overview with the list and the money is worth spending.</p>
<p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Most of the exchange students lived in one building together, so the common meeting place was in one of the flats to cook or to celebrate together. That was very practical for all of us. The sports program from the university was huge. I tried some kind of body workout and it was great to counterbalance the hours in the university library. I also really appreciated the art museums in Lucerne, especially the one called "Sammlung Rosengart".</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>I think the way of living in Lucerne is far more agreeable than in my home city. The nature around Lucerne is stunning and you are more relaxed in this beautiful city. Studying is far better here under these beautiful circumstances.</p>
<p>Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>For me as a master student it was important that the content of lectures suit to my main topic of studies during my master's program. The University of Lucerne suited in perfectly. And above that I wanted to have an insight in a country like Switzerland, which is multi-lingual and multicultural.</p>
<p>Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> too short <input type="checkbox"/> too long <input type="checkbox"/> just right</p>