

Final Report on Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

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

Mobility program	PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	Ewha Womans University
Field of study	Cultural Studies
Semester	Spring term 2014
Name und E-Mail (optional)	Soyeon Kim / soyeonkim911@gmail.com

<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>I would say my life in Lucerne is the golden age of my life. I have met a lot of good friends and enjoyed activities, which is strongly recommended to do in Switzerland like hiking, traveling and swimming in the lake with swans. Inside Swiss I was happy since Lucerne city is so beautiful that every day I walked from my dormitory to the university (the walk takes about an hour) and there are so many attractive cities beside Lucerne like Lausanne, Zurich, Bern, Basel and St.Gallen. Outside Swiss I was also happy because swiss is located in the very center of the Europe and it makes easy to travel around other countries. So I would strongly recommend University of Lucerne to people who like beautiful natural sceneries and traveling.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>I prepared to get visa three months before arrival in Switzerland. After getting visa and arrival, I went to the communal office and the migration office. These steps were quite easy since students were guided by the university.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>For me there was no problem regarding accommodation. When I applied for the university of Lucerne I also applied for the accommodation. There are two accommodations respectively in Emmenbrucke and Steinhofstrasse. I lived in Emmenbrucke and it takes about an hour on foot and 10 minutes by train. Here is the address; Gerliswilstrasse 10 6020 Emmenbrucke Switexerland</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Beside the university there is Lucerne Hauptbahnhof and right behind the accommodation (in Emmenbrucke) there is also a train station. From the accommodation to the university it is only one station and takes around 7 minutes. Also there is a number 2 bus heading for Lucerne haupbahnhof.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>Before applying for the university I had to take a TOEFL to test English availability but there was no required German test. Regarding courses, before the semester starts students can register for courses through the university website called OLAT.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>University of Lucerne is located right between Lucerne Haupbahnhof and the lake. Since lake is nearby the university, students used to have lunch by the lake. Inside university there is a library where students can study, a mensa and classrooms for sports class. There are quite many sports classes including rowing and some of them are free. Personally I signed up for fencing class for a month and I really liked it.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>Before a semester starts there is 'German for Begginers'. From this German class, I got basic information about the German language and it was a very good opportunity to meet other exchange students. (Basically it was the first opportunity to meet whole other students.)</p> <p>The textbook I received was really helpful especially when I went to buy groceries. Since all the information about products are written in German, Italian and French (no English!) I used to look up the textbook to get basic German words needed to shop-</p>

	ping.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	I took 'Women and Children's Rights' and 'Fundamental issues in cross-cultural understanding.' The former was from the faculty of Law and I had to hand in a final paper to get credits. The latter was from the faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and I had to write and submit notes for texts. For other law courses, I heard, there are oral tests and written texts.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	I haven't met student advisors but students who needed learning agreement (they are usually Erasmus students) had to meet and talk about it. If I needed any help I contacted with the Mobility office and teachers there were really kind and helpful. I have met my mentor twice and the student organization used to organize meeting and parties for exchange students introducing Swiss food and Swiss culture. Regarding contact with other students, there was a facebook page so students used to post their plans for weekends and invite others.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	As I arrived Swiss I went to bank (Credit Suisse) and opened a student account so that my parents can send me money. (There was no fee for opening a student account.) For living costs, every month I had to pay insurance and rental fee for accommodation. Since the cost of living in swiss is really high, I cooked my myself most of the time and ate out a few times.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	As I said students can sign up for the sports classes provided by the university. And since there are many beautiful mountains around Lucerne like mountain Rigi and Pilatus, I would recommend to go hiking. Also there is Lucerne lake and people can take a ferry and enjoy the scenery.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?	I liked that in the University of Lucerne I could enjoy priceless nature scenery. From the university I could see mountain Rigi and swim in the Lucerne lake in hot summer. The inconvenient part for me was that there are not many places where I can enjoy shopping. But beautiful nature can compensate that!