

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).

Mobility Program	PARTNERSHIP
Home university	University of Sao Paulo (USP)
Semester	Spring Term 2015 and Fall Term 2014
Field of study	Law, Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Thais Tozzini Ribeiro, tha.tozzini@gmail.com

<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>I had a very pleasant stay in Lucerne. The university staff gave a lot of support and made a lot of special events to integrate the exchange students. The fact of having a small number of exchange students was nice because everyone got in touch with each other and remained close. I met really amazing people and got to see some great places around Switzerland. An awesome experience.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>The visa procedure in Brazil takes about three months. So it is important to apply in advance. Also is important to be aware that the process to get a residence permit takes approximately 2 months (or even more).</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>My Home University offered me a spot to live in the Emmenbrucke residence. I have no experience in searching for a place.</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Transportation in Switzerland is expensive. However, it is possible to buy a card called Half Fare, that gives you half price in all kind of transports around Switzerland (excluding the night buses.) This card can be made for any period of time and costs around 180 CHF for the period of one year. The university is really close to the main train station in Lucerne. If you are leaving in the Emmenbrucke residence, I advice to get a monthly pass, that entitles you to do as many trips as you want in that zone during the period of one month. Having a bike is also a good option, since it is only 20 minute bike from Emmenbrucke to the University.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>I had no problems in registering for courses or exams. The University events explain the procedure very well.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>The University location is very good, since it is near the lake and the train station. The infrastructure is also good. The library is big and has some study rooms. There is also some computers available for the students to use. However, there are slow and a bit old. The Mensa is a bit small and can be really full during lunch time. In the basement, there is a room for sports class, changing rooms with shower, a religious room and a chill-out room.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German Short Course“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>The German Course at the University is a good opportunity to learn a little bit of german and meet the new exchange students. However, it is too short for you to achieve any further learning of german. In the University, there are no other german courses for beginners.</p>

Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	The work load for each course is adequate and also corresponds directly with the number of credits you get.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	I always felt really supported by the Student advisors and by the Mobility Office. The mentors programme is a really nice way to integrate the exchange students with the other students in the university and also to learn a little about the swiss culture.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	Living in Switzerland is extremely expensive. My average monthly costs were of about 1200 CHF (including the rent and mandatory health insurance). The study material is sold in the University shop and is affordable. Usually every subject uses one reader and the costs of it are around 20 -30 CHF for each one. About money transfers, be aware that, at least in the Post Finance Bank, your account is only active if you give them a copy of your residence permit (in the case of you not being from the EU). Before that, is impossible to receive any money. I strongly advice not to open an account on this bank.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	The University, together with the Hochschule, offers sports class for free for the students. For more details, check the university website. The Roadhouse and the Black Sheep are nice clubs where usually you don't have to pay an entrance to get in. Both are also really close to the train station. If you like cinema, live music and art, the Neubad is a really nice place to go.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?	I loved to have Guest Lectures and Block Courses, something that do not exist in my Home University. However, I prefer the method of examination in my Home University, where you have at least two grades to evaluate you in each course.
Reasons For what reasons are you aiming for a mobility period at the University of Lucerne?	I really wanted to have an exchange year abroad to get in touch with a different culture, way of living and university educational methods. And the University of Lucerne offered my all that.
Duration If you look back, was the duration of your stay for mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> to short <input type="checkbox"/> to long <input checked="" type="radio"/> precisely

