

## 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).

<b>Mobility program</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP</b>
<b>Home university</b>	University of Calgary
<b>Field of study</b>	Law
<b>Semester</b>	Fall term 2013
<b>Name und E-Mail</b> (optional)	Leah Volkers, leahvolks@gmail.com

<b>General impression</b> Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	Lucerne was great. Beautiful city, and great location. I couldn't believe how close the mountains were to my own back door. I could even go for a hike in the morning and make it back for an evening class. I would have stayed longer if I could have.
<b>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland</b> Immigration formalities, visa	The system is a bit duplicitous. I checked in with migration, only to be told to go to the city office first. The instructions from the University of Lucerne said to go to the migration office first, so this was frustrating.
<b>Searching for rooms/ accommodation</b> Experiences and useful addresses	Found a great apartment that I shared with two swiss people. They were great and I think we will stay friends for a long time. Used the site wgzimmer. Would be good if there was a way to access all the postings near the bookstore on campus online.
<b>Public transportation</b> Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	University is right by the train station, great access. Also an easy walk from my flat.
<b>Prearrangements</b> Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	Courses were easy enough to register for, although everything is in german, which is hard when you are registering for English courses.
<b>Information on university</b> Location, size, infrastructure	I liked that it was a small university. It was frustrating that the bookstore was open on such limited hours, and everytime we went the books weren't in stock. Would be nice if there was longer opening hours, and more books available at the beginning of the semester.
<b>German course at the university</b> „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage	I was expecting a much more intensive german language course. The course initially was set over 5 days, but then it turned out it was only 4. The content could have been taught in 2 days. Would do it again, but wish there was maybe a separation of groups between those who truly want to learn german, and those who just want a very basic introduction.
<b>Studying at the university</b> Content of lectures, credits, assessments	Lectures were good. There were lots of courses to choose from. If courses are going to be made mandatory for attendance students should be told before hand, especially exchange students. Would be nice if students could write exams before Christmas instead of in January in Canada. Makes January very hard because we have to write papers and prepare finals while also starting all our new classes at home. Stressful and heavy workload.
<b>Assistance at the university</b> Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	Everyone was very helpful!
<b>Budgeting</b> Living costs, study material, money transfer	Its expensive, but not prohibitively so. It is really only eating out that is very costly. Didn't find it hard to survive in CH. No problems with budgeting.

<p><b>Living/ leisure</b> Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Would be great if there was better gym access for students. There is very little leisure at the university, and the cost of attending nearby facilities is quite expensive. Would have liked to do more.</p>
<p><b>Comparison</b> What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?</p>	<p>Home university: longer bookstore hours, free access to gym, better food on campus. UniLu: great location, easy to access, small class sizes are great</p>