

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
Home university	Ewha Womans University
Field of study	Political Science
Semester	Fall term 2013
Name und E-Mail (optional)	

<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>My stay in Switzerland, especially in Luzern was more than awesome. Living and studying in an environment surrounded by the beautiful Alps and the lake are not ordinary experiences. I feel grateful for having lived here, travelling to all kinds of places not only within Switzerland, but also outside and making such pleasant memories will different kinds of people from all over the world.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>Frankly, I had a problem getting the visa from the Swiss Embassy in Korea. I had to call both the Korean and the Swiss embassies a few times and make sure that everything was being taken care of. After the arrival in Switzerland, it took quite a while to get everything done, but you don't need to worry much so long as you hand in the appropriate papers at the right time.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>The university recommended the residence house in Emmenbrucke that I didn't have much to do to find a place to stay.</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Switzerland is quite notorious for its expensive transportation fees. However, I bought monthly passes, the Gleis 7 (free of charge between 7 pm and 5 am) and the half card (getting all tickets for half the price), which definitely reduced my transportation expenditures to a great deal.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>The registration for the courses is all done via OLAT. The amount of time you have for registering is about a month, so you would have plenty of time to look for the courses and then register. Plus, the website provides all the course materials during the semester. I only took the courses offered in English thus didn't have any trouble language wise.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>At first, it felt a little bit strange studying in UNILU in that everything was done in one single building because my home university has such a huge campus. However, once I got used to it, it was certainly easier to move around in between classes. The location can't be better. It's situated right next to the train station that you wouldn't have any trouble finding it.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>The German course in the beginning was certainly helpful in getting to know the basics such as the numbers and greetings. I didn't try to learn German in depth during the stay, but the content learned during the short course was quite useful.</p>
<p>Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>The content of the lectures was certainly satisfactory. Compared to the lectures back home, most of them dealt with specific topics. The biggest class for me was that only comprised of 20 students, meaning that I had a lot of chances to discuss with the peers and the professor. All of the classes had either group or individual presentations as a requirement along with some papers. These were the basic requirements for grading. Seminar papers were only optional, which offered two additional ECTS</p>

	credits.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	The office and the advisors in charge of coordinating and settling down administrative matters were all very kind and pleased to help me.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	Living costs in Switzerland were certainly demanding. However, there are ways to save the budget by for example, not dining out as often. There absolutely was no expenditure in preparing the study materials because all of them were provided online. I made a bank account at one of the banks and there was no problem with money transfer from there on.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	UNILU offers a great variety of sports programs free of charge to its students. Not only that, it feels wonderful to run or walk by the lake. The city itself is quite small, but it has and offers everything that you need.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?	The pros of the UNILU compared to Ewha are its small class sizes, in-depth topics, free sports activities and etc. Yet, the cons are the lack of variety of books in the library, absence of a computer lab and a lack of extracurricular activities such as clubs. However, despite these pros and cons, I can't say that one's better than the other; the two universities were just starkly different that it was such a valuable experience to study in these two different universities.