

## 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>	Singapore Management University
<b>Field of study</b>	Law
<b>Semester</b>	Fall term 2013
<b>Name und E-Mail</b> (optional)	

<p><b>General impression</b> Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>I had a very enjoyable semester at the University of Lucerne that exceeded my own expectations. Due to the large intake of international students, it is an enriching experience immersing oneself in the mixed bag of nationalities and getting to know other cultures better.</p> <p>However, as I took the English classes, there were not many local Swiss students in the class. This was a shame as I was looking forward to meeting more Swiss friends. However, the few that I met were very friendly.</p>
<p><b>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland</b> Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>No visa required for Singaporeans.</p>
<p><b>Searching for rooms/ accommodation</b> Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>Very simple and efficient process applying for accommodations through the school. Initially wanted accommodations at the Student Mentor (Steinhofstrasse), as recommended by friends who stayed there previously, but was given the ones at Gerliswilstrasse instead. Enjoyed my time there very much so I have no complaints about that.</p>
<p><b>Public transportation</b> Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>The university building was very convenient and accessible, just next to the main train station. Staying at Emmenbrücke, this meant one train stop. But due to the frequency of trains, this was not a problem at all.</p> <p>Alternatively, the buses took slightly longer but were also very regular.</p>
<p><b>Prearrangements</b> Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>Very efficient.</p> <p>Strange process registering for courses through, would have been good to have received some sort of confirmation upon registering.</p>
<p><b>Information on university</b> Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>The location of the university cannot be better. Being located next to Lake Lucerne, it is a treat to be able to enjoy the view of the lake while studying at some spots in the library. It is also very conveniently accessible due to its close proximity to the main train and bus station.</p> <p>However, due to the limited space the eating areas can get pretty crowded during mealtimes.</p>
<p><b>German course at the university</b> „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>A very useful course. Apart from picking up some German basics, it was a great platform to meet fellow international students and get to know them better through the activities organized.</p>
<p><b>Studying at the university</b> Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>Content of the lectures were very interesting with a focus mostly on international law.</p>
<p><b>Assistance at the university</b> Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>The Mobility Office was very efficient, being very prompt in their communications. I believe we were assigned with local students as buddies. However, it was unfortunately that we did not have a chance to meet with them.</p>

<p><b>Budgeting</b> Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>Living costs are higher than most European countries, perhaps only second to the Scandinavian countries. However, it is affordable if meals are generally cooked at home.</p> <p>The study materials were easily obtained in the early weeks of school through the bookshop.</p> <p>Setting up a local bank account may be problematic in the early part of the stay due to the need for the residence permit at most banks. However, I was able to set up my bank account without one at CreditSuisse, where they also had an account option with no maintenance fees for the first year.</p>
<p><b>Living/ leisure</b> Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Staying at the residence at Emmenbrücke was a thoroughly enjoyable experience, with the majority of residents there being friendly international students.</p> <p>As I was there in the Fall, I was unable to do some outdoor sport that I enjoyed, like tennis. However, many of my friends enjoyed the yoga and dance lessons by the school.</p>
<p><b>Comparison</b> What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?</p>	<p>The location is better.</p> <p>The facilities are not as good due to the lack of land space, however, the available facilities were exceedingly clean and high tech.</p>