

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	The University of Calgary
Field of study	Law
Semester	Fall term 2014
Name und E-Mail (optional)	Taylor Davis

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	My stay in Lucerne has been excellent. I've met many great people, and had many great experiences. Switzerland itself is a beautiful country and it is very central Europe which allows to travel to other countries fairly cheaply.
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa	It can take up to 3 months to get your VISA so it is best to apply early.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	The University of Lucerne provided residence for all exchange students. The process for securing residence was very easy. The residence itself was also very nice. There are individual rooms in the flats that share a common kitchen and two bathrooms.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	Transportation is expensive, but is less so if you get the half price fare card, and a zone card between Lucerne and Emmenbruecke. The train travels directly between the university and the residence and is very convenient
Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	Registration in courses is possible before coming to Lucerne, but it is not difficult to change your courses after you arrive. It is important to remember to register for exams however.
Information on university Location, size, infrastructure	The University is a fair size but the law department consists of only a small portion of it. Regardless there are still a fair amount of courses available.
German course at the university „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage	This course was very helpful for learning some basic words and phrases. People in Lucerne can generally speak English very well but in some of the surrounding areas very few people speak English so it is helpful to know some German
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	The lectures are generally well taught, but the course load is not too stressful.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	The Mobility office and mentors have been able to answer any questions that I have had.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	Living in Switzerland is significantly more expensive than living in Canada. However the study material actually costs less, and if you buy food from the grocery store it is comparable in price, but other leisure activities are generally very expensive.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	There are a number of different sports offered by the University for students, however the weight gym is only open on certain days.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?	In Canada, law school is a post undergraduate degree, so the workload is generally more and the expectations are generally higher than that at University of Lucerne. Living in Lucerne however enables you to travel easily throughout Europe and experience many cultures to an extent not available in Canada