

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	Ewha Womens University
Field of study	Humanities and Social Science
Semester	Spring term 2014
Name und E-Mail (optional)	

<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>My first exchange student experience in Luzern University was just awesome itself. Everyone I met in Luzern from all around the world was great for me to learn new cultures. Everyone from Luzern, also, was very nice to me to adapt to my new life. Other than people, Luzern was perfect geographically and the climate was good, too. I totally am happy with my one semester abroad in Luzern.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>I had to get a student visa to stay in Luzern. For South Korean students, it is possible to register in Korea at Switzerland embassy. However, since it takes 6 to 8 weeks, it is important to get ready fast. Since I did not recognize that, I had to receive my visa in Madrid in between traveling, even though I registered it in Korea.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>University of Luzern made a reservation for me for accommodation before I went to Switzerland. Every contact was ready and payment was done before the start of semester so everything was clear. My accommodation was in Emmebrücke, Gerliswilstrasse 10. Even though it takes about 25 minutes by bus, it only takes 7 minutes by train and the train station is literally 2 minutes walk away so it is actually very good location. One bad thing is that it doesn't have lift for people so living in 5th floor was a bit hard. However, it is totally bearable and lift can be used for luggage so in that way, it is fine. Shops are very nearby (Lidl, migros, Emmen center).</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Accessibility to the building I had class was very good. I only had class on one building, which was the one right next to the lake and the main station. By train, on its side doors, it is really close so there was no problem of going by train from anywhere. Moreover, bus station is close by too.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>Before going to Switzerland, I received that there will be free German course for students who cannot speak German at all. I registered and the course was very helpful. Course registration for university was open for a long time and it was not at all competitive. I had hard time finding English spoken course in bachelors though and some sites were only in German so I had to use Google translator.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>University of Luzern has various buildings around the city. The main building I used for one semester was the one in between lake and main station. However, it was confusing because it had Hochschule sign on the building, not Luzern University. In all, its 4story building and has basement, too. The building and classrooms were big and clean and had electronic devices to use in class.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>Previous to the start of semester, there was a free intense German course for beginners. It lasted for 4days and it had general things to learn. Other than only German language itself, it was possible to learn cultures, too. Plus, field trips around the town and to the museum were very fun and helpful. There were different levels so it was easy for us to adjust. However, after the semester started, there was only German</p>

	language course from level B2 so if I wanted to study, I had to pay extra and find separate language school.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	I was surprised that there were various types of courses. Some were regular ones and some were block seminars. For block seminars, it is only done twice a month, or even only two days in whole semester. In this case, mostly the ECTS credits are smaller than 3. I took English spoken courses and it was mostly okay to understand. Some courses for both bachelors and masters were a little bit hard for me though.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	There was mobility office that was really open and always welcoming exchange students to ask questions. There were student mentors, too. We were able to contact them whenever we have questions or problems. For exchange students to make conversations together, there was a Facebook group to contact to each others for inform some plans.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	As soon as I arrived, I opened a bank account from Post Finance. I transferred money to that account and used a debit card from that account. It was convenient because Post Finance was basically everywhere around Switzerland including ground floor of our building and basement of main station. When I traveled around Europe, it is possible to withdrawal Euros from the machine without any additional fee before I leave Switzerland, from machine. I mostly used Lidl, Migros, Coop for shopping but mostly Lidl because it is the cheapest. There is an Asian shop nearby Kasernen Platz too, called Shanghai. However, I didn't it a lot outside, mostly cooked, because the cost to eat outside is very expensive.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	It is awesome experience to walk by the lakeside when the whether is good. Moreover, if you walk farther down by the lakeside, direction to back of the building of our University, there is a big grass park where we can chill. University sports courses are very nice to listen too. It was understandable even though some were entirely in German.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?	Key word for the advantage of Luzern University is location. First of all, Switzerland Luzern was a great location opportunity for me since I have traveled around Europe a lot. It is easy to go to other countries through trains or budget flights. Plus, University itself is in the center of the town so every other attractions in the town was mostly walk able. Compared to more than one hour I spent on bus to go to University back in Korea, it only took maximum 15 minutes from my residence to go to my University.