

## Final Report on your Study Exchange at the University of Lucerne

Please write the report (max. 2 pages) in German or English and in complete sentences (no keywords).

<b>Mobility Program</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP</b> (outside Europe)
<b>Home university</b>	The John Marshall Law School
<b>Semester</b>	Fall term 2015
<b>Field of study</b>	Please mention the subject here <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master
<b>Name and E-Mail</b> (optional)	Kesia Hollins : khollin@law.jmls.edu

<b>General impression</b> Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	Very welcoming and helpful administration. Beautiful country and great environment to study courses
<b>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland</b> Immigration formalities, visa	Student Extended Stay VISA
<b>Searching for rooms/ accommodation</b> Experiences and useful addresses	Fortunately, in my case I was connected with the advisor from the Student Mentor Foundation who helped me right away. I was placed in the Steinhofstrasse accommodation, which was fantastic and right in the heart of Eichhof on a hill. Also, the address was useful as the three times during the semester when I received incoming mail from abroad, I got it with no troubles.
<b>Public transportation</b> Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	SBB and the Lucerne bus system are quite expensive, but the Halftax card makes train routes to other cantons and towns in Switzerland very reasonable and accessible. There is also a monthly SBB card for Lucerne bus and train routes where travel is unlimited. Also, the University is only a twenty-minute walk from the Steinhofstrasse student housing, so walking was definitely a better option with a great view. Great travel tip: If you have class trips planned to Bern, or flights to and from Zurich, please always check the SBB Supersaver a week in advance to get a great deal on a ticket.
<b>Prearrangements</b> Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	Course registration was straightforward. However, the OLAT system initially was difficult to figure out, but once I figured out how to translate the site into English it was easier to navigate and find my class materials. The academic record system was accommodating and the 5 courses that I completed are able to transfer to my home university.
<b>Information on university</b> Location, size, infrastructure	The location is wonderful. Lucerne is in the center of Switzerland, and students are surrounded by the beauty of the mountains, the sea, the main Lucerne KKL center. Also, the main Bahnhof station and Post office is directly next to the university, providing all of a traveler's most convenient needs. The infrastructure of the University is quite intimate. It allows for a large amount of students to walk safely to and from classes, bibliotek, and mensa. However, most law students are used to libraries they can access at least 17 hours, 7AM-11PM, longer during finals. As well as the accessibility of the mensa. The food was very impressive☺, but the hours were inconsistent with a lot of the international block courses. However, the vending machines did offer quick alternatives as well as the Coop market at the Bahnhof.
<b>German course at the university</b> „German Short Course“ visited? Content of course, usage	This was one of my favorite courses. It was definitely worth the week we spent to get those of us who are used to the High German spoken in Germany, used to the Schwiez deutsch.
<b>Studying at the university</b>	The lectures overall were very interesting and covered a breadth of international legal

Content of lectures, credits, assessments	concepts. I especially enjoyed the enthusiasm and wide range of topics covered in Int'l Environmental Law.
<b>Assistance at the university</b> Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	The student advisors were very helpful and accommodating. They were very responsive via email. Also, the mobility office did their best and accommodated the students with non-refundable return trips when it came to early examinations. However, it is advisable for students planning round-trip flights to double-check with University of Lucerne's mobility officer before doing so.
<b>Budgeting</b> Living costs, study material, money transfer	Better to shop for groceries and other items at Aldi, Lidel, rather than Coop or Migro to save money here in Lucerne. Public Transportation is very reasonable, best to get the Halftax or the 25 and under free-train card for rides after 10 pm. The books were reasonably priced. Money transfer did cost according to your own bank's fees. Some banks have affiliates in Switzerland so the rate is lower.
<b>Living/ leisure</b> Meeting places, sports, culture	The University sports are a great way to meet people and stay fit! The hotels along the lake offer a great ambience for dining out or meeting for drinks, much better than actual clubs. Also, taking a day trip to another Swiss canton is always a great way to explore more of Swiss culture, and to see more beautiful landscapes, mountains, and seas.
<b>Comparison</b> What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?	The availability of the campus facilities such as the Mensa and Bibliotech were lacking. At home, law students take great security in being able to access a quiet place to study for extended hours and a place to eat once there's time for a study break. The architecture and technologically forward way of learning at Lucerne, was inspiring and motivating.
<b>Reasons</b> For what reasons are you aiming for a mobility period at the University of Lucerne?	I was hoping for an experience to participate in lectures under professors who were passionate about International Human Rights, Trade, Arbitration, and Environmental Laws. Also, to collaborate with students from all over the world, especially the Swiss students on these same subjects. These objectives were definitely accomplished and more. I would have opted to stay for an entire year if given the opportunity.
<b>Duration</b> If you look back, was the duration of your stay for mobility	X <input type="checkbox"/> to short <input type="checkbox"/> to long <input type="checkbox"/> precisely