

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).

Mobility Program	SEMP/ERASMUS
Home university	University of Copenhagen
Semester	Spring Term 2015
Field of study	Law, Master
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<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>I had a great semester in Switzerland. The country itself is very interesting even though I was coming from a very similar European country – Denmark. The university had a great variety of courses and the relationships you build with other students will definitely be of great value in the future.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>Coming from a European country there were less formalities than for students coming from overseas. You had to register at the communal office and the immigration office, and furthermore it was a requirement to take out personal liability insurance. The University was however very helpful in guiding you through this process.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>I was given a room through Stuwu, which is a landlord that the University has an agreement with, so it was fairly easy to get a room. The rent was very fair, since renting accommodation in Switzerland can be very expensive.</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Public transportation in Switzerland is well organized and very efficient. I bought I monthly pass for the city of Luzern and it worked without any problems. I would highly recommend getting a “Halbtax”/Half fare card. Even though I thought it would not make sense economically, you tend to travel more than anticipated, and the half fare card save you a lot of money.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>I did not need to have a language proficiency test before coming. The university was very helpful with the registration for courses, which happens within the first weeks of the semester.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>Luzern is a city with approximately 75000 inhabitants. It is a very beautiful city, and I would highly recommend studying here, since the environment is amazing. The infrastructure is very organized and it is easy to get around. Luzern is situated in the centre of Switzerland, so it is very easy if you want to travel around Europe or just Switzerland itself.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German Short Course“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>I did the German “short course” in the beginning of the semester. I wouldn’t say it was very useful, since it was just a quick brush up course, and my level wasn’t greatly improved. However it was a great way of meeting the other exchange students. Also one should notice, that “Swiss German” is rather difficult to understand due to the dialect, even for people who are native in German.</p>
<p>Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>The lectures were very interesting, although they are only credited with 4-6 ECTS each. I am used to 10 ECTS courses, so some of the courses were somewhat superficial, and you wished that you could have gone more into detail with certain topics. Also it seemed as if the level of teaching was at times rather easy, where my home university would require more from the students. But in overall it was satisfying.</p>
<p>Assistance at the university</p>	<p>The mobility office was great at helping and assisting if you needed help as well as</p>

<p>Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>the student advisors. Mentors were very active and engaging, which was nice since it could be difficult approaching Swiss students at times. The majority of my time was spent with other exchange students, although I did meet some Swiss students. In general I would say that the atmosphere between the students was very positive.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>Living costs were expensive, but coming from Denmark I was somewhat used to it. Certain products are very expensive, like meat for example. Study materials were cheap, and often consisted of “readers” made by the university. I spent roughly 200 CHF on reading materials, where I would normally spend 700 CHF. Money transfer can be done in different ways. I set up a student account with UBS, which is free. And then transferred a monthly amount. This is a great way to save money, since the exchange rates are not always in your favor if using a credit card from your home country.</p>
<p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Luzern in general is a very beautiful city, and it also offers a lot of cultural experiences. There are a great number of bars and restaurants in the city of Luzern, and the University offers a number of activities through the university sports. I would recommend going on a lot of hikes, and tours in the mountains, since this is a great way to experience the nature and It also seemed like an activity favored by many students. Also there are many possibilities for winter sports such as skiing.</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>The University of Luzern is a great place, and the facilities are very good. The number of students is limited, and therefore it seems as if the conditions are very good compared to larger universities. The only difference that bothered me was the fact that the level of teaching seems easier than at my home university. I would say however, that this was only the case for English classes. Fellow students who took classes in German said, that the level was slightly higher. I think the reason why they take it “easy” on you in the English speaking classes, comes from the fact that they don’t want to have anybody not being able to follow the lectures due to limited proficiency in English.</p>
<p>Reasons For what reasons are you aiming for a mobility period at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>I think Switzerland is an interesting country and therefore I wanted to live here for a short period. Also the University offers a number of interesting courses, and a large amount of courses in English, which is rather unique compared to some of the other universities in Switzerland (e.g. Fribourg, Geneva, Zurich).</p>
<p>Duration If you look back, was the duration of your stay for mobility</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> to short <input type="checkbox"/> to long <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> precisely</p>