

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	ERASMUS
Home university	Masaryk University, Brno
Field of study	International Relations, European studies (at the UNILU: Politics)
Semester	Spring term 2014
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<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>The University of Lucerne and also the Office of International Relations provided valuable information before arrival and also during study period. At the beginning of my studies it was difficult to understand how the school email and the OLAT work, but the guides were available and easily accessible, which was very helpful. School and student organizations held meetings of students and teachers, which helped a friendly atmosphere and allow to get to know other students. I recommend this university to every exchange student.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>I was asked to register at the Immigration office, but with all formalities helped the International relations office in the host university. I didn't need a visa, because my home country is a member of Schengen area.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>I recommend to search for rooms in advance. It is difficult to find a shared flat in Lucerne, when you don't know where to look for. One option is to live in students houses which are offered by University. This option was expensive for me, therefore I found shared flat on my own. These web addresses can be useful: http://www.wgzimmer.ch/wgzimmer.html , http://www.tutti.ch/luzern/immobilien/wg-zimmer</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>I didn't live in the city center, I traveled every day by train around 10 minutes. I had monthly ticket which costs around 50 CHF. But students who live in the city usually use just bike. The train and bus station next to the university building, therefore it is really easy to travel to school from every part of the city and vice versa.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>Students receive the information about registration in advance. There is no problem to register for courses, usually there is less registered students in one lecture than is the capacity of it. No language tests are needed, everybody needs to know her/his level of language knowledge.</p>
<p>Information on university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>University building is small, but really nice and new. There is canteen, cafeteria and machines with food in every floor inside the building. There you can find also nice and big library. Very nice is the rest room-where you can relax and meditation room. This is something really special. Students have possibilities to print and scan documents on every floor. Orientation in the building is easy, every floor has A and B sector. School building is next to the river and KKI building, it is really nice to have lunch or coffee at the lake, just a few meters from the university.</p>
<p>German course at the university „German for Beginners“ visited? Content of course, usage</p>	<p>I visited intensive German course, which was organized one week before the semester has started. It was useful, it helped me with better orientation in the city and university building. It was good introduction to Swiss life and Lucerne traditions. I met a lot of other exchange students and had good introduction to the German language basics. I recommend this course to every exchange student, it is good opportunity to</p>

	get to know the city, school and other students as well.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	Depends on the field of study. The problem could be with English subjects at undergraduate level of study- there are only a few available.
Assistance at the university Student advisors, Mobility Office, mentors, contact with other students	Student advisors and persons from Mobility Office were very helpful with every administrative problems and they were willing to help with every kind of problem. Courses are usually attended just by a few students, therefore it was easy to get to know each other.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	Living costs in Luzern: rental costs: 450-700 CHF per month, food: 200-300 CHF, leisure time: 100-150 CHF. Study material: Students usually pay nothing, every text is scanned on OLAT or available in the library. Money transfer: depends on the bank.
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	Very good university sport choices- most of the lectures are for free and students can visit them every week. School organized some culture activities for exchange students such as guided tour in KKL (Culture museum next to the university building). I recommend to participate in offered trips.
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne compared to your home university?	University of Lucerne is relatively small, with 3 faculties (in compares with my home university which has 9). The contact between teachers and students is more personal, classes are usually small (just around 10 students), and students are well-prepared and willing to participate in every lecture.