



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 inside Europe)
Home university	Ghent University (UGent), Belgium
Semester	Fall term 2016
Field of study	Communication Sciences (Kommunikationswissenschaften), Bachelor
Name and E-Mail (optional)	

<p>General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences</p>	<p>I really enjoyed my stay here in Luzern, Switzerland. I arrived in September and the weather was still extremely good and was able to do a lot of hikes in the mountains. When I came back in January after the holidays to say another 3-4 weeks, it was snowing which was really nice. So I experienced different seasons here. I'm very thankful for this opportunity to spend a semester abroad and didn't regret it one moment and am happy I chose Switzerland. It was also so great to meet all these new people and learn so much about each other. I hope we keep in touch and have reunions in the future.</p>
<p>Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa</p>	<p>It was handy that the University of Lucerne gave us a checklist with formalities we had to take care of. For me it didn't involve much apart from going to the immigration office and asking for a residence permit. It would've been better though, if we were better informed of the costs for that.</p>
<p>Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses</p>	<p>It was very nice that there was accommodation offered. The accommodation and rooms are modern en very neat.</p>
<p>Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings</p>	<p>Public transportation is very accessible from the university as well as from the accommodation in Steinhofstrasse.</p>
<p>Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records</p>	<p>Registration for the courses has been extremely difficult for me and to have and have my learning agreement approved in time. It took me 5 weeks to finally set my courses. You really have to look which courses are Pro-, Haupt- or Masterseminars and which fit your level. You also have to be careful if you want English courses, that there might not be ones for your study field.</p>
<p>Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure</p>	<p>The University itself is very neat and has a very nice building. The location is also well situated next to the train station and in the centre of the city, in the neighborhood of food stores etc.</p>
<p>German course at the university "German Short Course" visited? Content of course, use?</p>	<p>I'm glad I did the German Course, it helped me fresh up my German. On the other hand, it is just 4-5 days and so a little bit too short if you really want to learn German, so than it is advised to take an extra course during the semester.</p>
<p>Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>The way of teaching and the credit points given for a lecture are totally different from my home university. It was interesting though to be studying in a different system.</p>
<p>Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>The mobility coordinator, was very helpful. You could always e-mail her or go to the office if you had a problem or a question. It is also nice that there was a student advisor who knew more about your study field. The contact with other students went also pretty well, but depended from class to class. Some Swiss students were more</p>

	social and helpful than others.
Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer	<p>I have never done a money transfer to a Swiss bank, because in the beginning the bank who was advised by the university and accommodation office rejected me, since I was not staying for longer than 6 months. Only a 1-2 months later, I discovered another bank that was useful for students. I made an account, but after some problems with e-banking which I wanted to use and knowing they might charge you some money for the transfer, I didn't transfer some money, because it was already to late in the semester and didn't make sense for me anymore.</p> <p>Study material was very cheap. For my study I almost didn't have to buy stuff at all. Most of the materials are on the OLAT (learning platform).</p> <p>Living costs are quite expensive here. Rent for the accommodation is very expensive. For food shopping, it's best that you compare the stores a little bit if you don't want to pay too much.</p>
Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture	<p>It was so good that there were sports organized by the university and Hochschule and that most of them were for free. Although, it was not really a place to meet local students, but rather to go yourself or with friends you already knew.</p> <p>The university also organized some events like a tour in the KKL or something and that was very nice.</p>
Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?	<p>I feel that in my home university the focus is more theoretical than in the university of Luzern. The university of Luzern is also smaller, so class is in smaller groups which makes it more compulsory to pay attention.</p>
Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?	<p>I chose Luzern mainly because it is in Switzerland and I really came here for the nature and surroundings. When I was looking at the courses and saw it was a different teaching and study system than at home, I was curious and wanted to experience that. Another aspect that convinced me was that I wanted to practice my German again some more.</p>
Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:	<input type="checkbox"/> too short <input type="checkbox"/> too long <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> just right