

<p>Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments</p>	<p>The courses and colloquia I attended were of a very high academic quality, especially when related to sociological systems theory (which was my personal focus in the semester). Attendance was compulsory in all my courses, and many lecturers asked for regular written reactions to the literature treated. I especially liked the library, which has a very nice working atmosphere, convenient rules and a high variety of literature on sociology, political science and ethnology.</p>
<p>Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>The IRO was very supportive within the first weeks of my stay and helped preparing all the paper work, even if not related to the University itself. I didn't really get in touch with student advisors but found a very nice group of friends within the international students through excursions, events, and my accommodation quickly.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p> <p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>Living in Switzerland is obviously quite expensive compared to other countries, but it is still possible to have a nice time without spending too much money. The rent for a room will at least be around 500€ per month, food is expensive especially when bought in restaurants etc., but there are some cheaper supermarkets such as Lidl, Aldi and Denner. Cultural events are rather expensive, too, but there is also a variety of free events at places as Neubad etc. Generally, the cultural activities in Lucerne were much more diverse than I expected for a city with less than 100.000 inhabitants. The University offers a great variety of sports classes, many of them are free. The mountains around Lucerne also offer lots of possibilities to do outdoor sports. Transport and travelling is very expensive, but Lucerne offers a lot to discover, so that wasn't really a problem for me. I have a bank account usable in any country without extra costs, so I didn't have to open a Swiss bank account, and also most of the transfers could be made in cash via post offices. Printing is the cheapest in the University. One unexpected problem was that my support of the German government (BAFÖG) was much less than the amount I do normally get in Germany, because the SEMP-money is counted as a scholarship and was thus subtracted of my entitlement. Another problem related to BAFÖG is that semester dates are different in Lucerne, so the time between the semesters (in my case from January to April) is too long to get any support in that time.</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>The focus and topics of sociology in Lucerne met my personal interests better than at my home university, but this is probably not generalizable. Personally, I also liked the smaller size of the University of Lucerne, whereas at my home university I like the fact that attendance is left to the responsibility of students.</p>
<p>Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>From the possibilities offered for exchange semesters, Lucerne met my personal interests best as interesting courses were offered and it is located in the mountains.</p>
<p>Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> too short <input type="checkbox"/> too long <input type="checkbox"/> just right</p>