

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).

The report will be posted on the website of the University of Lucerne and may also be viewable via internet search engines. A subsequent amendment or deletion of data (e.g. name) will not be possible after the report has been submitted!
Please send the report back in Word format only.

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| Mobility Program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe) <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe) |
| Home university | Leuphana University Lüneburg (Germany) |
| Semester | Fall term 2017 |
| Field of study | Main subject? Political Economics Study level? <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master |
| Name and E-Mail (optional) | Mats Kahl |

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| General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences | The semester at University of Lucerne was a wonderful experience. The economics faculty is rather young and small which enables good contact to the academic staff. I enjoyed studying in the beautiful city of Lucerne with all the opportunities for extracurricular activity. |
| Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa | The arrival and registration in Switzerland was not a big deal since I am from Europe. The registration in town is not a pleasant thing to do and it is a long-lasting process. The International Office of the University of Lucerne gives great support. |
| Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses | I stayed at the Student Mentors Foundation in Steinhofstrasse. The contact was made via the International Office of the University. The accommodation is quite new and in good condition. It is a 25 minutes' walk to the University which is in the center of the city. |
| Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings | I didn't use public transportation within Lucerne. Intercity trains to Bern or Zürich are rather expensive. If one books more than one week ahead one may obtain a "Sparbillet", thus a cheaper ticket. Traveling is great fun in Switzerland and highly recommended. |
| Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records | The registration for courses is not too difficult. The faculty offices and the academic staff give great support. The International Office is the best address to get general support. |
| Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure | The University of Lucerne is rather small and placed in a very modern building next to the lake of Lucerne. Latest technology is fitted in all rooms. Especially the rooms with windows are bright and friendly. |
| German course at the University "German Short Course" visited? Content of course, use? | Since my mother tongue is German I did not attend any German course. |
| Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments | The level of studying is about the same as in Germany. Small class-size enables an intensive learning experience. The academic staff is highly proficient in their subject matter and keen to help and communicate. However, the assessment criteria in many subjects remain puzzling and vague. |
| Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students | The International Office of the University Lucerne does a great job. The staff gives amazing support with all formalities and beyond. Events organized by the International Office are highly recommended. All academic staff gives great support and everyone is open for questions. |

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| | The contact to other students is easily made. I stayed in an international living community which was a wonderful experience. Contact to students from Switzerland can be made in class and also in other activities offered by the University, such as the University Orchestra, which can be highly recommended. |
| Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer | Living costs in Switzerland are comparatively high. Studying material can be acquired in the University shop. The library is very modern, and the staff helps one to find whatever is searched for. Money transfers are not a big deal in Switzerland. |
| Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture | Lucerne and the nature around pose plenty of opportunities for leisure activity. Hiking is a "must do" in Switzerland. It is great fun to participate in the University Orchestra. The gym "One" in town can be recommended. Zürich and Bern can be reached via train within one hour. It pays off to rent a car to visit all the beautiful spots in Switzerland. |
| Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university? | Both, the University of Lucerne as well as the Leuphana University Lüneburg are excellent places to study. The academic staff is highly proficient in both places. For me, the organization around the courses and the evaluation criteria appear to be clearer at my home University. Both Universities have modern buildings and are located in beautiful cities. |
| Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne? | The University of Lucerne is a small University and has a young economic faculty. I decided to complete my exchange semester at the University of Lucerne to enjoy small classes and the intensive studying experience. Also, the livability played an important role, hence the city of Lucerne. |
| 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 |