

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.

Mobility Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEMP (Erasmus inside Europe) <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNERSHIP (outside Europe)
Home university	Vilnius University
Semester	(Fall term 16 or spring term 17 or both?)
Field of study	Main subject? Political Science Study level? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bachelor <input type="checkbox"/> Master
Name and E-Mail (optional)	Simona Juskaite: jsimona96@gmail.com

General impression Please describe your stay in 4-5 sentences	A well-organized University, nice and helpful people. That would be the first impressions. The team from the IRO is extremely friendly and willing to help. They always provide with the needed information. The city is very beautiful, calm and clean everywhere.
Entry/ arrival in Switzerland Immigration formalities, visa	I didn't need visa, so there were less formalities. You are provided with all the documents that are needed to register yourself in the Stadt Luzern, so you just have to go there with all those forms to their office and register. It does not take long. Also, health insurance can be provided by them, yet if you have EHC or private insurance, just fill the documents and you will not need a Swiss insurance.
Searching for rooms/ accommodation Experiences and useful addresses	There are several websites in which one can find useful advertisements of the rooms to rent. Though the university provides accommodation, you can always ask the IRO to help you with private accommodation by sending links to those webpages. It helped me a lot.
Public transportation Train, bus, accessibility of university buildings	I haven't used public transport a lot as my apartment was close to the university. Yet there are possibilities to rent a bike for a limited time for a cheap price. The university is in the city center, so there were no problems to access it from different parts of the city. Hence, trains and busses are clean and always on time.
Prearrangements Registration for courses, language tests, academic records	I personally had some difficulties with registration to the courses because of the system errors. The system is quite difficult to understand and use yet manageable.
Information on the university Location, size, infrastructure	Everything was clear from the beginning – there were special tours in the university and the city, there are a lot of signs that help find the needed room. Even though the building is big, it is clear and has a lot of spaces for studying, eating and leisure.
German course at the University "German Short Course" visited? Content of course, use?	I entered the German language course provided by the university and was extremely happy to have such a possibility. The teacher Florian was friendly and helpful, provided us with the subjects that were in our interests. Yet there should be more classes for different levels, as there were people with different knowledge and we have to divide one class into two parts so A1 level could work separately from A2.
Studying at the university Content of lectures, credits, assessments	The credit system is completely different from my home university and it was hard to collect all the required credits. If you need to receive 30ECTS, you have to sign up for 7-8 different subjects as they usually give 4ECTS. It was a bit of a pressure to have so many different courses as you have to be ready for all of the seminars every week.

<p>Assistance at the university Mobility Coordinator, International Relations Office, student advisors, mentors, contact with other students</p>	<p>I think the IRO and the mentors made the best possible job – we had an opportunity to be met at the airport when we first arrived, it helped a lot as you have to go from another city to Luzern. It was a huge relief. Also, there were a lot of events for exchange students, excursions that were extremely interesting and highly appreciated by us. The contact with the IRO workers was always warm and friendly, you always feel welcome in their office.</p>
<p>Budgeting Living costs, study material, money transfer</p>	<p>Living costs are high, especially comparing to other countries, yet the University provides scholarship for 5 months, that helps a lot as you usually have to pay for your apartment for 5 months even though you may stay there only for 4 months. The scholarship is definitely not enough for the living, so one should take care (s)he has additional money during the stay.</p>
<p>Living/ leisure Meeting places, sports, culture</p>	<p>The university provided sport courses which was the most exciting thing for me – you could try and join a wide spectrum of different activities and it was free of charge. There are a lot of restaurants and cafes where you can meet or study, yet while it is warm it is an amazing opportunity to spend time besides the lake as there are many spots for that. Culture – the KKL is right in front of university and it is an amazing opportunity to visit such a famous concert hall.</p>
<p>Comparison What is better/ worse at the University of Lucerne as compared to your home university?</p>	<p>The only worse thing in the UNILU would be the credit-system, everything else is more or less good at both universities. I would like to have an opportunity to study less subjects which would provide more credits, so the work could be more concentrated.</p>
<p>Reasons Why did you choose to complete an exchange semester at the University of Lucerne?</p>	<p>For me it was mostly because of the country and nature – I wanted to go to the country where I could go to the mountains and learn the German language. It worked better than I could have thought.</p>
<p>Duration Looking back, was the duration of your stay here:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> too short <input type="checkbox"/> too long <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> just right</p>