

## Student Exchange Evaluation

Every student loves to hear of other's exchange experiences. These forms are very useful when selecting your exchange destination.

Please include as much information as possible. Feel free to use additional pages, enclose photos, links to blogs/ videos etc.

### 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:     Luo Zhong Chen    

Degree:     Marketing    

Name of Exchange University:     University of Oslo    

Country:     Oslo, Norway    

Year of exchange:     3     Language of instruction:     English    

List courses taken abroad:

- Buddhism in the contemporary world
- Web television
- Theology and social media

### 2. EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

How would you rate your overall exchange experience on a scale of 1 to 10?

Poor Excellent

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. FINANCES

Total cost:     9,000 AUD     Room:     3,200 AUD    

Airfare to host institution:     1,500 AUD     Holidays/travel expenses:     1,000 AUD    

Other:     3,300 AUD



Did you spend more than you expected? What was more/ less expensive than you expected?

No, not really. The food was more expensive than I imagined, transport fee was really expensive too.

What was the best way of accessing money during your exchange programme?

Cash.

Do you have any advice about finances, budgeting or the cheapest way of living/travelling?

- Travel with Norwegian Airline and book / plan early
- Keep money in different locations for safety

#### 4. ARRIVAL

Was there an airport pickup/ buddy service available?

No.

#### 5. ORIENTATION

What was Orientation like? Was it useful? Were there social activities?

As it was raining on the day of orientation, many activities were cancelled but it was still fun to interact with other international students.

#### 6. ACADEMICS

What differences did you find between the UWA system and the system at your host university?

Contact hours: More

Homework: less

Course (lectures, tests, etc.): about the same

Workload (heavier/ lighter) and assessment (harder or easier): harder as group work and class participation grades ~~are~~ <sup>were</sup> not calculated into the final grades.

Final exam was 100% of the grades and we only had three days to complete a 4000 word essay.

## 7. FACILITIES

What were the library/ Wi-Fi/ email facilities like at your host institution?

Quite similar but we did not need to pay for printing as there was money credited inside.

## 8. SOCIAL

What kinds of social events were there? Was it easy to meet people?

Not many social events, but there were some events in the university available for international students to participate.

## 9. ACCOMMODATION

Was on campus housing available? What were the rooms like? Were you on a meal plan or did you cook your own food? Are the residences close to the university?

Please add any additional information that you think be of interest with regard to housing.

Yes, I stayed at Kingsja student village which was 6-7 stops away. The rooms were quite comfortable and modern. We shared the kitchen between 8 people. I always cooked my own meal. Having unlimited internet was a big plus.

## 10. PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

What was the most difficult aspect of planning your exchange?

- ① transportation
- ② finance.

What advice do you have for future exchange students?

Always plan ahead of time and be flexible with places you want to visit. Keep a multi-currency card with you.

What are the 5 most important things to take with you when you go to your host university?

1. Rice cooker

2. wireless router + mole european adaptor
3. laptop
4. Cabin-sized luggage for easy traveling around Europe.
5. First-aid kit.

## 11. General impressions

What were the most rewarding aspects of biggest disappointments of your exchange experience? How has your perspective changed as a result of your exchange experience?

Remember that students are interested in reading about both good and bad experiences.

Oslo is an expensive city to live at so it would be good to bring more instant food with you from home while you are there. Bring more cash with you as I relied on that the most while I was there. Probably the cleanest public transport you can find in Europe.

Be open to making new friends and hear what they have to say about the city. The professors in university are patient and always willing to share with students.