

General Information			
Host Country	Australia		
Host School	RMIT		
Program start & end dates	July 17- November 6		
Program of Study	Interior Design		
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> UMAP exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
General Evaluation			
In a couple of sentences, summarize and explain your general evaluation of your experience.	My experience was wonderful. I learn a lot, I met many amazing people, and witnessed incredible scenery and architecture. My time on exchange really broadened my understanding of myself and the world.		
Arrival			
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	It was very easy.		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	I took a flight from Vancouver to Melbourne with only one layover, totalling 21 hours. It was the most ideal option I found out, as other exchange students informed me that I took them 30-40 hours to arrive in Melbourne		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	Very easy. I had all my documents printed and ready upon request and at no point was I asked to present them.		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	I was fortunate to have had the best landlord ever: she picked me up from the airport		
Orientation and Assistance			
How satisfied were you with the assistance available to at your host school? Were there people and resources available for you for support?	I was relatively satisfied. There were usually people available, however, the school didn't exactly have a student services area or office where you can ask a question. It was mostly done online. This made things slightly confusing when I wanted to ask short simple questions.		
What help did you receive from the international staff or office?	In reference to the answer given above, all the help was provided online as I could not find where to communicate with them directly. They helped me with ensure I was in the correct classes that corresponded with class back home.		
How was new student orientation at the host university? What did they do?	They held a big orientation meeting in the lecture hall for all the exchange students, consisting of maybe 300 students. This included welcome gifts, information about the school, a how-to guide on being on exchange, information about the city, and ice breaker games.		
Housing & Daily Life			
Describe your accommodation in your host country. Were you pleased with this choice or what would you have done differently?	I believe I had the best possible accommodation possible. I found a house on facebook that was in a prime location, relatively close to my school, very aesthetic and spacious, had a cute backyard, completely furnished, and already had all the necessary appliances (washer, dryer, dishwasher, microwave, toaster, bbq, etc.). I found 2 other girls who were also on exchange to be roommates with, who were very fun. On top of that, I had the best landlords who looked after us like parents away from home.		

When could you move into housing and how long were you allowed to stay?	I was able to move in the day I arrived and I arranged it with my landlords to end our lease on Dec 5 so that the 2 girls and I could spend our remaining time of our exchange travelling.
What kinds of services and facilities were nearby where you lived (shop, cafe gym, parks, pharmacy, stations...)	The Royal Botanical Gardens (free access), gym, the river with a beautiful walking path, a main train station that connects to all train lines, shopping, good night life, cafe, bus directly in front of my house
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	I cooked every so often, my roommates and I would also cook together, occasionally ate out to try new places, ordered delivery. Food was quite expensive in Melbourne but the variety was amazing.
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	I lived comfortably close. By transit, it took me 20-30 min. By biking it took about 15 min.
Academics & Course Registration	
Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	Registration was the most confusing thing I had ever experienced. You are required to ballot for your classes and the description of what you will learn in these classes were very unclear. Furthermore, the information session that you are expected to attend and then ballot for your classes at was at the same time as my exchange orientation so that added more confusion. Also, they offered very obscure classes that had very little or nothing to do with interior design, despite only being for interior design students. Easy to say I was not satisfied.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	There is no point in trying to find a class that would be the equivalent to KPU's classes because their program is extremely theoretical and conceptual that the courses wont match. Therefore, find a class that you find interesting.
What tips to you have for finding the courses and course syllabuses/ outlines?	There was no option to find the classes online. Despite being extremely organized and thorough with my research, the information can only be given to you a week before you start classes.
Academics & Course Registration (cont'd)	
How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Not very satisfied. They mostly focused on conceptual design/ thinking in which they didn't want to see functional, practical designs. I don't feel like I learned a lot while at the host university.
How did the style of teaching, and workload compare to Canada? Was it more independent or group learning?	The teaching style was a lot more laid back and the expectations were a lot lower than at WSD. The workload was also significantly less. The studio class has more group work but the other classes were all independent.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad? Are there particular courses would you recommend?	I took 3 courses. I have no courses to recommend.
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	It was decent. From what I could tell, they had everything and new equipment, however, I never needed to use any of it with the classes I took.
Cost	

