

General Information			
Host Country	Australia		
Host School	Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)		
Program start & end dates	February 24th. & June 23rd.		
Program of Study	Bachelor of Industrial Design (Honours)		
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
General Evaluation			
In a couple of sentences, summarize and explain your general evaluation of your experience.	Australia has distinctive architecture, open spaces, and offers complimentary activities within a free tram zone. Numerous cafes offer unique desserts and beverages.		
Arrival			
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	Obtaining all the necessary travel documents was straightforward. The student visa process took less than a week to complete.		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	I took two flights: Vancouver to San Francisco and then on to Melbourne. I would not change any part of the journey.		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	The entrance was smooth without any surprises.		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	I purchased an airport shuttle service that took less than an hour, costing around 20 AUD. I recommend students to register for RMIT's free pick-up service.		
Orientation and Assistance			
How satisfied were you with the orientation and student assistance available to at your host school?	Orientation was beneficial for meeting with new students from diverse countries.		
What help did you receive from the international staff or office?	Obtaining a student card and familiarizing myself with campus layout.		
Orientation and Assistance (cont'd)			
How was new student orientation at the host university? How did it suit your needs?	It was helpful in getting to know the campus better, and it also provided free food and snacks.		
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your exchange site? Were there people and resources available for you to talk to about what you were experiencing?	Australia has similar culture aspects to Canada. The staff members on campus assisted in navigating the way to the orientation and register for a student card.		
Housing & Daily Life			
Describe your accommodation in	I picked the most affordable accommodation. I made most of my		

your host country.	friendships in that accommodation.
When could you move into housing and how long were you allowed to stay?	I checked in on the day of my arrival in Australia and stayed until the end of June.
What kinds of services and facilities were nearby where you lived (shop, cafe gym, parks, pharmacy, stations...)	There were numerous unique cafes and parks close to my accommodation. Both the Queen Victoria Market and Melbourne Central Mall were conveniently located for shopping essentials. And there were several Chemist Warehouse (Pharmacy) near.
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	I purchased ingredients from the Queen Victoria Market for meat and Coles for the cheapest deal. Alternatively, there is a wide variety of restaurants in city.
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	My accommodation was a 15-minutes walk away from my campus.
<b>Academics &amp; Course Registration</b>	
Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	The most assistance for registration process was provided in Canada.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	Make sure to carefully read course descriptions and select the specific course you wish to enroll in. Then, choose courses based on their available time slots, because RMIT offers various courses with overlapping schedules.
What tips do you have for finding the courses and course syllabuses/outlines?	Searching courses through “Electives Search” was the easiest approach.
<b>Academics &amp; Course Registration (cont’d)</b>	
How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Although my course was self-guided learning class, I was satisfied with the opportunity to take electives that were not offered at KPU.
How did the style of teaching, and workload compare to Canada? Was it more independent or group learning?	RMIT University prefers independence in learning. However, the workload was lighter than KPU.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad? Are there particular courses would you recommend?	I enrolled in 3 courses in total but 1 with double credits. I would suggest choosing electives that the students are interested in and unavailable at KPU.
If applicable, what impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	It may take a while to understand the accents.

What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	The campus has unique study rooms, fast internet, and a huge library. RMIT university has three workspaces with machines, but you need a permission from professors to access.
<b>Cost</b>	
Books and Supplies/per term:	Approx. 50 CAD
Flight:	1985.06 CAD – one-way b/c I planned to visit Korea after.
Accommodation/per month:	880 AUD
Meals/per month:	Approx. 1100 AUD
Local transportation/per month:	0
Health insurance/per term:	322 AUD
Communication (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	0 – I did not buy a sim-card, but there is a student discount for it.
Travel documents (Passport, Study permit, visa, etc.)	630 AUD
Vaccinations:	0
Personal spending (entertainment and extra travel) – per term	Approx. 200 AUD
Were there unexpected costs you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than expected?	0
<b>Extra-Curricular &amp; Social Activities</b>	
What type of organized activities were available to you? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future students?	RMIT offers various student clubs that run outdoor activities. I recommend joining clubs before school begins.
Did you travel outside the host location? If so, where do you recommend?	No, I stayed in the city.
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer? Did you require special permits to do this?	The student visa comes with work limitations. RMIT helps in finding a part-time job or a volunteering opportunity.
<b>Health and Safety</b>	
Describe any health/safety concerns or issues you had during your experience.	No issues: the streets felt safe as many street food vendors remained open late at night.
What helped you keep safe and healthy? Did you access any health care supports and if so how was the experience?	I maintain a workout routine throughout the semester.
<b>Personal and Cultural Connections</b>	
How successful were you at	I did not have the opportunity to meet Australians, but I did interact

making friends with local (not international) people and students?	with a few students from New Zealand.
How did you find it adjusting to the culture of your host site?	The transition was not significant, because Australia shares a similar culture with Canada.
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	-
What part(s) of the culture did you most appreciate?	Australia features various graffiti artworks that represents diverse aspects of their culture.
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	Friendly and helpful.
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	Convenient, because RMIT offers an assistance program for students with disabilities.
As far as you could tell, for students who are visible minorities in your host country?	Convenient, because Australia is diversity country which has a wide range of food and service.
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	Convenient, because Australia is one of the most LGBT-friendly counties.

**Overall**

What are <b>five</b> important things other students should know before going to your host country/region?
1. Prepare for various weather conditions (raincoats, umbrella, and summer clothes)
2. Consider getting a motion sickness patch, especially for the long flight.
3. Prepare a simple medicine kit (Advil, bandage, etc.) for unexpected illness.
4. Consider exchanging some currency (cash), as it can help saving money.
5. Aware that the sound of tram can be quiet loud and annoying.
What are <b>ten</b> important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency?
1. Register for a free airport-to-city pick-up service provided by RMIT.
2. Check student discounts provided by RMIT (food, sim-cards, towel, etc.)
3. Obtain a student card as soon as possible, as you need it for accessing campus buildings.
4. Participate in orientation to learn and familiarize yourself with new circumstances.
5. Find school clubs online and consider joining them, as they often start hosting new events before Club Day.
6. Free Tram Zone is the most convenient transportation if you are staying near city.

7. Queens Victory Market hosts free night markets and events.	
8. Check the exchange rates to maximize benefits.	
9. Make sure you obtain a map during the orientation day, as the buildings are spread out.	
10. Stay connected with the RUSU community, which introduces many events and offers free breakfasts and lunches.	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Meeting new friends who share similar interests and perspectives was rewarding experience.
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	Managing finances was initially challenging until I began working as a part-time job.
How has your perspective changed as a result of your study abroad experience?	I gained confidence in initiating conversations and connecting with new people.
What else do you want to add about your study abroad experience?	For me, studying abroad offered a refreshing break from routine, providing a gap for self-reflection and personal growth.

**Below is a space to share any photos (this is optional and may be shared on our website).**

In-Campus



Streets near Campus



Flinders Street Station

