

Post Study Abroad Evaluation

THE BASICS				
Your Name	[REDACTED]			
Your Program of Study/Year	Fashion Design, 4 th Year			
Host Country	Australia			
Host School/Agency	RMIT			
Participation Dates	Feb 2012-June 2012			
Type of Study Abroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Practicum	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Section 1				
GENERAL EVALUATION				
Please rate your overall exchange experience on a scale of 1 to 10 (one being poor and 10 being exceptional)			10	
In a couple of sentences, explain why you rated your experience the way you did.	It was an amazing school and overall experience. I am a much better person because of it			
Section 2				
ARRIVAL				
How difficult was it for you to obtain your travel documents (visa, etc.)? *Always verify immigration regulations with the consulate or embassy of your host country*	My visa was SO easy to get. I applied online and got it the next day. It was expensive though. It was electronically attached to my passport so I didn't need any paperwork when going through Aus customs			
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you change any part of those arrangements?	I flew there stopping in LA then onto Melbourne			
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	Very easy, but I was extremely tired			
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	My ticket was \$1800, it was a 2.5hour flight to LA then a lay over then the flight to Melbourne was 15 hours			
Section 3				
ORIENTATION AND ASSISTANCE				

How satisfied were you with the orientation and assistance available to at your host school/agency.	It was good. There was a large exchange orientation where I met a lot of friends. It was very informative and helpful.
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your impression of the international staff or office?	I didn't really need any additional help
What was the orientation like at your partner university, if there was one? How well did it suit your needs?	See Above
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your exchange site? Were there people you could talk to about what you were experiencing?	The culture of Aus is similar to Canada so it was pretty comfortable plus meeting other exchange students in the orientation provided people to talk to who were going through something similar.
How receptive were the local people in providing assistance?	Aussies are the most assisting of people haha but many people that live there are from different places from around the world so it's a comfortable atmosphere

Section 4

HOUSING

Describe your accommodation arrangements.	I stayed in student style housing called RMIT Village
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	I could have moved in early January but I didn't until a couple weeks before my start date Feb 28
How comfortable were you with your accommodation?	It was expensive and wasn't that comfortable, I wouldn't recommend it
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	The apt had a small kitchen so I bought groceries and mostly made meals at home. The food is pretty expensive over there along with everything else
How close was your accommodation to where you had to study?	My place was only a few blocks outside of the downtown core. It as inbetween the two campuses I needed to go to. It was an ok location I think I would have been happier right downtown.

Section 5

COURSE REGISTRATION

Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What	It was pretty complicated. For such a good institution I was surprised but the orientation took care of helping everyone
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assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	
How successful were you in registering for classes? What advice would you offer to another exchange student about how to register at your host institution?	The courses I initially looked at I didn't end up taking. There is little info available online so I would just wait and talk to the heads of the departments as to what courses they recommend.
How many courses did you take per semester? What course load would you recommend for future students? What particular courses would you recommend to other students?	I took 3 courses which was ample. It kept me busy but also left time to do other things outside of school. I would recommend the same.

Section 6

ACADEMICS

How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	The textile program was amazing. I would highly recommend it.
How did the style of teaching compare with that in Canada? How did the workload compare to what you would expect in Canada?	The style of teaching was quite similar to Kwantlen. It is an exceptional school for fashion and textiles
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	3
What impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	none
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	Their facilities surpassed Kwantlen. They were amazing.

Section 7

COSTS

Books and Supplies – per term	500? My courses were supply heavy
Flight	1800
Accommodation – per month	100
Meals – per month	400
Local transportation – per	60

month	
Health insurance – per term	Included in school
Communications (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	50
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	500?
Vaccinations	0
Personal Spending (eg. entertainment and extra travel) – per term	1000
What unexpected costs did you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than you expected?	

Section 8

EXTRA-CURRICULAR/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

How satisfied were you with the out-of-class opportunities at your host site?	Very good they had an array of clubs to join
What organized activities (clubs, sports, etc.) were available to you while in your host country? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future students?	I joined a surf club which was so much fun
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer. Did you require special permits to do this?	Working was included in the visa but I did not work
What do you recommend other visiting students see or do on their weekends or holidays?	Everything they can

Section 9

SAFETY AND HEALTH

Describe any safety concerns you had during your experience.	
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Section 10

PERSONAL AND CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

What was it like making friends? How successful were	I made a great group of friends at the orientation
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you at making friends with local (i.e., not international) people?	
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your host site?	Quite easy
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	
What parts of the culture did you most appreciate?	The history
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	Very well
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	The trams are not suitable for someone in a wheelchair that was an ongoing issue in Melbourne other than that good I would think
For students who are visible minorities in your host country?	There are people from around the world there, there is also a large asian, Italian, greek and Indian population
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	

Section 11

TAKING STOCK

What are the 5 most important things one should take with them when going to your host country or region?

1 Money

2 As little clothes and other things as possible

3 Supplies for courses- scissors, (for fashion)..

4 Empty suitcases

5 a good computer

What are the 10 most important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency:

1 Do everything you can while you are there

2 travel, travel, travel

3 don't have a boyfriend

4 be prepared to feel sad sometimes

5 try all the food you can

6 be prepared to spend a lot of money

7 have fun!	
8	
9	
10	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Learning to be more independent
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	Missing home
As a result of your study abroad experience, how has your perspective changed?	
What else do you want to say about your study abroad experience?	