

Post Study Abroad Evaluation

THE BASICS			
Your Name	[REDACTED]		
Your Program of Study/Year	Social Practice/ Community development/ 2011		
Host Country	New Zealand		
Host School/Agency	Unitec		
Participation Dates	March 6, 2011-July 6, 2011		
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" 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			10
In a couple of sentences, explain why you rated your experience the way you did.	Unitec was extremely accommodating and had an amazing student services and offered many outdoor activities that we could join. The people are very welcoming and everyone is willing to help you.		
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*	It took 3 weeks to receive my student visa.		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you change any part of those arrangements?	I just got a transit bus to my campus and it was easy.		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	It was fine there were no problems		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	I travelled on my dads airmiles and it took approximately 15 hours to get to Auckland. I brought approximately 10,000 Canadian dollars with me to live off of.		
Section 3			
ORIENTATION AND ASSISTANCE			

How satisfied were you with the orientation and assistance available to at your host school/agency.	Orientation was amazing they even had a traditional Maori dance for us at orientation.
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your impression of the international staff or office?	It was welcoming, friendly and organized.
What was the orientation like at your partner university, if there was one? How well did it suit your needs?	Orientation was amazing they even had a traditional Maori dance for us at orientation
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?	They are very relaxed and I found out that you have to flag the bus in order for them to stop. You cannot just stand there as they will drive right past you.
How receptive were the local people in providing assistance?	Very receptive and friendly

Section 4

HOUSING

Describe your accommodation arrangements.	I lived on campus. There were some cockroaches but we just bought some spray.
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	I moved in a week before and stayed a week after
How comfortable were you with your accommodation?	Very comfortable
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	I cooked for myself or shopped at Countdown which is a 10 min walk. There is also a Thai and Indian restaurant 10 min away
How close was your accommodation to where you had to study?	On campus

Section 5

COURSE REGISTRATION

Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What	It was straight forward and not too time consuming
---	--

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?	I got into all my classes
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?	4 classes per semester. I loved the community development course.

Section 6

ACADEMICS

How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	I loved their perspectives on society.
How did the style of teaching compare with that in Canada? How did the workload compare to what you would expect in Canada?	It is more open ended learning with no exams just papers and presentations.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	4
What impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	No language barrier
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	Very good

Section 7

COSTS

Books and Supplies – per term	No books
Flight	Air miles
Accommodation – per month	1,000
Meals – per month	500
Local transportation – per	50

month	
Health insurance – per term	Included with Unitec
Communications (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	180
Vaccinations	na
Personal Spending (eg. entertainment and extra travel) – per term	4,000
What unexpected costs did you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than you expected?	Milk was more expensive and make up

Section 8

EXTRA-CURRICULAR/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

How satisfied were you with the out-of-class opportunities at your host site?	That was the best part! The Unitec student association is well organized and always has something for you to sign up for and is affordable.
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?	White water rafting, hiking, sailing, snorkeling, black water rafting,
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer. Did you require special permits to do this?	
What do you recommend other visiting students see or do on their weekends or holidays?	Join the usu and participate in all the fun activities the school offers

Section 9

SAFETY AND HEALTH

Describe any safety concerns you had during your experience.	na
--	----

Section 10

PERSONAL AND CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

What was it like making friends? How successful were	Easy as everyone is very friendly
--	-----------------------------------

you at making friends with local (i.e., not international) people?	
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your host site?	Easy and relaxing
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	
What parts of the culture did you most appreciate?	Their respect for their families
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	With respect
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	easy
For students who are visible minorities in your host country?	Easy as there are many minorities there
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	Easy they are extremely accepting. I had 2 transsexuals in my class

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 A backpack

2 a winter jacket

3 running shoes

4 a lap top

5

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

1
Get a bank account there

2 don't pack too much

3 be open minded to their customs

4 be adventurous

5 participate in your school activities

6

7	
8	
9	
10	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Meeting life long friends Different styles of education/ Maori culture
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	Home sickness for a week
As a result of your study abroad experience, how has your perspective changed?	I am more adventurous now 😊
What else do you want to say about your study abroad experience?	It was the BEST experience I have had! "You miss 100% of the chances you don't take" I am glad I finally took that chance.