

Study Abroad Evaluation

General Information	
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Host Country	Australia
Host School/Agency	Edith Cowan University
Participation Dates	Feb - May 2014
Your Program of Study	Graphic Design
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Other
General Evaluation	
In a couple of sentences, summarize why you rated your experience the way you did	Amazing weather. Experiencing the Australian culture. Nature. Traveling ^{within} throughout the country is cheap!
Arrival	
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	visa — super easy. Took one day online. — <u>expensive</u> .
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	Flew 20 hrs. Not as bad as it sounds.
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	EASY.
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	Five hours from Sydney to Perth, cost ~\$150.00 - 200
Orientation and Assistance	
How satisfied were you with the orientation and student assistance available to at your host school?	Great — really satisfied.
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your evaluation of your host schools international staff or office?	Great — they communicated efficiently to me & helped w/ any inquiries
Orientation and Assistance (cont'd)	
How was new student	

orientation at the host university? How did it suit your needs?	Good — learned about the culture. ^{Get a baby kangaroo.}
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?	I definitely experienced culture shock when I first arrived — I had never lived on my own before, and being in a place with no close friends or fam was a challenge that I overcame when I discovered the more about the city.
Housing	
Describe your accommodation in your host country.	5 bedroom dorm.
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	Two — three weeks before and one month after end of class.
How comfortable were you with your accommodation?	My room itself was fine — room mates were a mixed bag but that's to be expected!
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	Groceries! Did my own cooking! Food at restaurants is <u>expensive</u> .
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	2 mins away — ft student village is on campus.
Academics & Course Registration	
Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	Straightforward — but you have to really search for classes specific to your practice as they don't display them all in one place.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	Do it early or in case of any hiccups.
What course load would you recommend for future students? Are there particular courses would you recommend?	Take third year courses if u going into graphic design!
Academics & Course Registration (cont'd)	
How satisfied were you with the	

amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Knowledge is really good - level of difficulty very different from Canadian standards.
How did the style of teaching compare to Canada? How did the workload compare to Canada?	Very good style & pace, more specialized/specialized to the different areas of design. workload
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	4
If applicable, what impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	0
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	Good but no wifi in dorm rooms, its ethernet cable.
Cost	
Books and Supplies/per term:	100
Flight:	2100 to Sydney, 200 to PEth from Sydney.
Accommodation/per month:	\$50.00 total
Meals/per month:	\$150
Local transportation/per month:	\$30
Health insurance/per term:	\$250 (?)
Communication (internet, phone, etc.) - per term	\$35 per month
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	\$500 for visa.
Vaccinations:	\$175
Personal spending (entertainment and extra travel) - per term	\$3000 - 3500
Were there unexpected costs you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than expected?	Food & going out
Extra-Curricular & Social Activities	
How satisfied were you with the out-of-class opportunities available at your host site?	Good but never participated. Amazing gym classes at ECU gym facility.
What type of organized activities were available to you? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future	sports teams, political participation, student guild.

students?	
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer? Did you require special permits to do this?	You need a work visa (no one wants to hire exchange students though)
Health and Safety	
Did you feel safe in your host country?	Yes.
Describe any safety concerns you had during your experience.	Nothing serious, the guys are more forward though in a party atmosphere.
Personal and Cultural Connections	
How successful were you at making friends with local (not international) people and students?	Decently successful, I travelled there with 3 girls also from GDNA so I had a good base. Met one local and a bunch of international kids in the student village.
How did you find it adjusting to the culture of your host site?	A steady process of learning to balance full independence with a completely new culture in a different country.
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	Some degree of racism, or lack of knowledge about my country from other people.
What part(s) of the culture did you most appreciate?	Coffee. Social. Appreciation for sto taking the time to slow down.
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	Good overall. Staff/teachers were very interested in our culture.
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	Accessible and for handicapped students.
As far as you could tell, for students who are visible minorities in your host country?	Easy, but more difficult to meet locals. ^(some) (some)
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	Not easy. Homosexuality is not embraced in Perth.
Overall	
What are five important things other students should know before going to your host country/region?	

1.	Bars close at midnight.
2.	Amazing coffee
3.	Retail stores close at 5
4.	Food is expensive
5.	Sushi is extremely expensive.
What are ten important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency?	
1.	Take 3rd year classes
2.	Live a res by the pool
3.	visit all the neighbourhoods
4.	Bike around south peak
5.	Learn to cook!
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Being independent! Traveling to South East Asia
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	Culture shock!
How has your perspective changed as a result of your study abroad experience?	I feel more perceptive of the world & have a better sense of self.
What else do you want to add out your study abroad experience?	9/10!