



Student Exchange Program

International Student Services

Exchange Final Report

Student Information

Faculty at UVic	<u>Social science</u>
Major/Minor	<u>Major of economics and minor in business</u>
Host University	<u>Griffith university</u>
Host Country	<u>Australia</u>
Dates of Exchange	<u>Feb 2019- June 2019</u>

Overall Exchange Experience

Please Rate your Overall Exchange Experience

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

What was the most rewarding part of your exchange experience? Please outline any highlights.

Being able to continue my education in another country and not pay ridiculous international student fees

What was the greatest challenge during your exchange?

Figuring out the city you're in. figuring things out like transport and the way work is done.

Travel

Cost of air travel	<u>Used air miles, but equated to approx. \$1,200</u>
Cost of ground transportation (ex. monthly bus pass)	<u>Around \$20-30 a month to take the tram, depending on how much you use it and if you use it for things outside of school</u>
Did host university representatives meet you at the airport?	<u>Just the car service</u>

Is there easy transportation between the airport and university?

Somewhat. It's a single train but takes over 2 hours

Orientation

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival?

Yes

How easy was it to find the info you needed to know upon arrival?

Relatively easy. Most things were mentioned in the facebook group.

What assistance did you receive from your host institution upon arrival?

They helped set up meetings with other exchange students and offered programs to help us get involved with the school and to meet people

Accommodation

Is on-campus accommodation available? Yes

If yes, did you live on campus? No

Would you recommend this to future students? Yes

If you lived off-campus, how did you find housing?

Through the realestate website for Australia

Approximately how much money would you budget per month for living, including accommodation and meals?

Around \$1,000. Including rent, food, and transport.

Language Programs

Is there a language program available either before or during the semester?

Not applicable

Is there an additional cost for the language training?

Not applicable

Academics

Was it possible for you to get all the courses that you wanted?

Yes

Please describe the course registration process

On the home page for Griffith, they let you know when registration is open and then they give you step by step instructions on how to register. It also shows you what a preview of your time table will be before you register.

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university

Teachers and administrators are very straightforward with instructions and approachable if you have questions. Things are posted online as well as discussed in class.

What do you feel is the greatest academic benefit you have gained personally from your exchange?

Griffith offers so many more options for degrees than UVIC, this allowed me to look at alternate paths for careers and education. Also by taking other classes that interest me that UVIC doesn't offer, allowed me to further my knowledge and education.

Personal and Cultural Connections

How easy was it to adjust to the local culture? What (if any) cultural differences did you find particularly challenging? What parts of the culture did you most appreciate?

Australia and Canada are essentially the same place. People are friendly and the language is the same. There are small differences that don't really matter (like walking on the left side of the sidewalk), they are things you pick up quite easily.

What kinds of cultural, athletic and social activities were available for students at your host institution?

There are an abundance of clubs and sports teams. Every Wednesday there is like a market place where food and things are sold as well as clubs put their booths on display.