



# Student Exchange Program

International Student Services

## Exchange Final Report

### Student Information

Faculty at UVic Social Sciences  
Major/Minor Major in Anthropology and Environmental Studies. Minor in Professional Writing  
Host University James Cook University  
Host Country Australia  
Dates of Exchange July 23, 2018 – November 16, 2018

### 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.

Getting to travel to one of my dream destinations and meeting new friends from all over the world were some of the most rewarding parts of my exchange experience.

What was the greatest challenge during your exchange?

Focusing on schooling and budgeting was difficult for me while I was there.

### Travel

Cost of air travel \$2572  
Cost of ground transportation (ex. monthly bus pass) Bike cost \$120  
Bus cost roughly \$20 per month  
Uber cost \$10 per month  
Did host university representatives meet you at the airport? No

Is there easy transportation between the airport and university? It was a 15-minute car ride away.

## Orientation

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival?

Yes, from July 16<sup>th</sup>-July 20<sup>th</sup> there was an orientation week set up, as well as a two-day "Unistart" course.

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

It was very easy. The Student Centre answered any questions that were not covered in the orientation session or the booklet provided.

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

Everything I needed to know was covered in the orientation session.

## Accommodation

Is on-campus accommodation available? Yes

If yes, did you live on campus? No

Would you recommend this to future students? \_\_\_\_\_

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

I enjoyed living off campus because it was a five-minute bike ride away from school, but it costed less than living on campus and I could cook what I wanted to. My roommates were also students who became good friends.

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

\$1000 (\$700 for rent, \$200 for food, \$100 for miscellaneous/bills)

## Language Programs

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

I am not sure

Is there an additional cost for the language training?

## Academics

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

No, some courses that I wanted to take had timetable clashes.

Please describe the course registration process

It was all online and it was fairly easy, but it was a little tedious because all courses had to be pre-approved both by UVic and by James Cook and there was a waiting period.

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university

Most of my classes were great with the teachers offering extra help if needed and teaching with passion and some were okay, having our class taught through conference video and the teacher being less accessible.

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

I feel that I have learned a lot over my exchange when it comes with learning to not procrastinate and prioritizing school.

## 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?

I found that Australia and Canada have a very similar culture, although I appreciated their humour and love for nature.

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

Once a week there was a new culture being celebrated with food to be shared or performances during lunchtime. There were also options to travel with a group on the weekend and/or many places to volunteer at.