

Victoria Abroad Evaluation Form

PLEASE TYPE THIS EVALUATION FORM & EMAIL IT TO VICTORIA ABROAD AS A WORD DOCUMENT

A: Student Information

VUW degree(s)	Commerce
Major(s)	Management
Exchange Institution	Copenhagen Business School
VUW Tri & Year of Exchange	Tri 1, 2016

B: Finances

Please detail your basic costs in New Zealand dollars. This will help future students plan their own budgets. (Enter your number rounded to the nearest dollar.)

Books	\$200-300
Accommodation	\$5000-8,000
Return Airfare	\$1500
Local Transportation	Quite expensive but good... Maybe \$3 on average a day. I had a bike.
Meals	Up to you... I maybe spent \$10-\$15 a day
Visa	\$500
Health & Insurance	\$300
Personal Spending	Up to individual
Communications (phone, etc.)	\$20 a month
Other fees (specify)	Travel
What unexpected costs did you encounter? What items were more or less than expected?	Have to pay to enter nightclubs which is different to Wellington, around \$5-\$10. Had to buy a transportation card a lot like a snapper card, \$5 for card then had to top up. Traveling costs

How did your financial expenses compare to what you originally expected to spend?

I obviously underestimated. Copenhagen is regarded as an expensive city but if you are smart you can get by on a reasonable budget.

By what means did you maintain your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, foreign bank account, travelers checks, etc)?

I had a UK debit card which I had acquired in the past. I tried to spend cash from atm rather than paying by card to save slightly on exchange and bank charges.

What financial advice would you give students attending the same university as you?

Try to cook you own meals rather than eating out. However the university has a large cafeteria which offers a range of foods buffet style at a very cheap price!

Get a bike, quite a high initial cost, but can sell at the end of your time there and save a lot on transport.

What was the average cost of a can of coke or coffee in your host country?

A coke was around 20dkk, which is about \$4...

C: Visas & Insurance **Please note this information is recommended by VUW students & current at the time of their exchange. For all up-to-date visa information you must check with the embassy/consulate of your host university.*

Did you have to apply for a visa? If so, was it difficult? What was the process, how long did it take and how much did it cost?

Yes and it was difficult and not a very clear process.

Apply online, then you must go up to Auckland to get your biometric data taken. A hassle but essential.

Get onto it straight away as can take some time.

Do you have any advice for future students when applying for visas to your host country?

Apply early.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance? Or a particular insurance they recommended? If Yes, what was it and how much did it cost?

No.

What insurance company did you use and would you recommend it to future students?

In Denmark, when you get your residents card, this entitles you to free healthcare while in Denmark.

D: Academics at Host University

Which courses did you take while on exchange? Please rate the difficulty of each course (1-5, 1 = Very Easy & 5 = Extremely Difficult) and leave any comments you may have.

Course Title	Language of Instruction	VUW course equivalent or elective	VUW points/credits value	Rating (1-5)	Comments
VUW Trimester 1/YEAR					
Language of Negotiations	English	Elective	15	3	Really interesting aspect into negotiations and frameworks to use
Conflict Management and negotiations	English	Elective	15	3	Another negotiation focused class than made you apply negotiation tools to actual situations at the end of each class.
Visual	English	Mgmt 300	15	4	Very different to

Communications					anything Ive done in the past. More attention on how we perceive images and how people react as a result.
International Management	English	Mark 300	15	2	Standard mgmt class
VUW Trimester 2/YEAR					

Course Registration/Enrolment

Please describe the registration process at your host university. What kind of help was available?

The university had a team a lot like VicOE who assist you the whole way. A range of courses available to view online.

How successful were you in registering/enrolling for classes you wanted? What advice would you offer to next year's exchange students about registration at your host university?

Very successful. If your classes clash just change one around, less stressful than running between campuses.

Do you have any advice for future students when choosing and applying for courses?

See above.

Academic Experience

How did your academic experience differ from your time spend at Victoria? Did the academic experience meet your expectations?

I found it a lot easier. No tutorials or assignments throughout the semester. Just one end of semester exam which was either a sit down open book exam or a take home exam.

How did the style of teaching at your host university compare with that at VUW? How did the workload compare to what you would expect at VUW?

Similar teaching style to Vic. No assignments through the semester though.

What would you recommend as an appropriate course load for other VUW students visiting your partner university? What specific courses would you recommend to visiting VUW students? Why?

I did 4 and that was the norm. I recommend doing one or both of the negotiation classes. Really interesting and useful, nothing similar at Vic.

What advice would you give VUW students about succeeding academically at your host university?

Do your readings and stay organized.

What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, and internet access at your host university?

Very impressive!

If you went to a country where English is not the native language, how did you prepare for this? Were there any intensive language courses provided by the host university?

Literally everyone in Copenhagen speaks English, so no need to worry.

E: Accommodation

What form of accommodation did you stay in?

A dorm.

What were the pros and cons of this form of accommodation?

Great way to meet people . Fun. A lot like a first year hall.

Obviously don't get on with everyone.

What accommodation would you recommend to future students?

Any of the dorms. I stayed in Kathrine Kollegiet (KK).

How early can you move into accommodation?

2 weeks before university starts.

What options were available for meal plans or cooking facilities? How satisfied were you with the food?

Very small kitchen and have to cook meals your self if you don't want to eat out... The university had lunch facilities which were really nice and cheap.

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Do you have any tips of advice for future students when applying for accommodation?

I applied 12 hours late and initially missed out. APPLY THE MINUTE ACCOMODATION OPENS ONLINE.

F: Personal & Cultural Connections

What was it like making friends? How successful were you at making friends with local (i.e., not international) students?

Easy to make friends at university with the other exchange students. I joined the university rugby team and met a lot of locals which was great.

What was it like to adjust to the culture of your exchange country/university?

Not hard at all. I think the Danes and New Zealanders are similar.

How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?

With respect. Personally everyone though I was Danish so it was a good talking point when they discovered I wasn't. They like New Zealanders.

As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner

university? For students who are visible minorities in your host country? For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?

Denmark is a very liberal and open society so very easily I think. All the facilities are modified for disabled individuals.

Did you face any issues regarding discrimination in your host country? What were they, and what advice would you give to future students?

None.

G: Extra-curricular/Social Activities

What organized activities (clubs, sports, etc.) were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

I joined the CBS Rugby team. This was a fantastic decision as the guys were really welcoming and became good friends.

What do you recommend other visiting students see or do on their weekends or holidays?

Travel as much as you can obviously. A lot to see... Went to the obvious attractions then less obvious ones e.g. Lithuania. All flights are under 3 hours.

What opportunities were there for students to work on-campus? Off-campus?

I think there were. My friend worked in a café.

What volunteer or internship opportunities were there for students?

There appeared to be a few although I didn't partake myself.

5 things to take to your host country or region

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| 1 | Warm clothes. |
| 2 | Clothing representing NZ. E.g. I took an AB's jersey. |

5 pieces of useful advice would tell a VUW student going to your host university

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| 1 | It was snowing when I first arrived to be prepared for that. At the end it was beautiful weather. |
| 2 | Bikes are a cheap means of transport and every street has dedicated bike lanes... |
| 3 | It is expensive initially but you will learn to adjust. |
| 4 | You get a university buddy to pick you up from the airport etc, so they are a very good resource to have. |
| 5 | You're going to make a lot of new friends so enjoy and make the most of it. |

Top 5 Things to do

What are your 'Top 5 Things To Do' future VUW students at your host university or city/country?

1	Join a club
2	Buy a bike and explore.
3	Get accommodation in a dorm/hall of residents.
4	Try make local Danish friends
5	Travel and have fun.

H: Personal Experience

Please write one paragraph about your exchange experience. Plus, don't forget to submit some photos to the exchange office!!

My exchange to CBS was really the best experience of my life. The work was very reasonable and manageable but more importantly in my opinion I had a lot of experience that I would have missed out on if I stayed in New Zealand. In my group of friends I had three Americans from Boston/New York, a German, two from Madrid who I got to visit, as well as a Russian. It's great to travel if you haven't been away from New Zealand before as well as learning how to adjust to a different culture and how to manage yourself in an unfamiliar environment. I highly recommend an exchange and to change up your normal routine.