

Student Evaluation Form

A. Student Information

Degree(s) enrolled in at VUW	BCA
Major(s)	International business and Management
Exchange Institution	Singapore Management University
VUW Trimester(s) and Year of Exchange	2009 tri 2 and 2010 tri 1

B. Finances

Please provide an estimate on how much you spent on your exchange (in your host country's currency).

Flight/Transportation	\$2000
Visa application	\$100
University Related Fees (books, student services, etc.)	\$200
Accommodation	\$4000
Food	\$1500
Living costs	\$1000
Trips/Traveling	\$1000

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

More than expected but reasonably ok.

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

Credit Card,

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

Try save up more than expected because no matter how much you budget, you WILL spend more than you expect even if you plan it out perfectly.

C. Academics

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	Rating (1-5)	Comments
CHIN 201	3	Super fun and learn a lot in this class

Please submit your completed Evaluation form, photos and Consent form to the Exchange Office via email (exchangestudents@vuw.ac.nz).

MGKT 101	4	More difficult than I thought but learnt a great deal and great teacher.
COMM120	3	Great environment to improve communicative skills, I enjoyed a lot.
COMM215	3	Based on social networking to improve productivity within business areas which I found very interesting.
MGMT 205	5	Most difficult course overseas, but the most rewarding, learnt more than I hoped.
OBHR 212	4	Based on communication and group work which I found helped me open up more

How did you find the teachers at your exchange university?

Teachers were all very serious about their teaching and wanted every student to speak up in class while maintaining a fun environment but overall were really good to learn from and motivating.

How did your academic experience differ from your time spend at Victoria?

The level of education in SMU was very difficult and I feel a lot harder than Victoria and they focused a lot on communication within smaller classes which create leaders rather than lectures with 300 plus people where people can easily get distracted, all students there were expected to speak up in lectures or else they will not get the points in class to pass which I thought was a good way to allow students to express how they feel about whatever was being taught.

How did your academic experiences differ from what you expected?

The academic level was harder than expected but was good because I had a lot of friends that helped me through all this.

D. Accommodation

What form of accommodation did you stay in?

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1st tri- private hostel 2nd tri- Student Hostel

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

Pros, made friends easier and easy access to town

Cons, if you wanted to study, its hard when there are students there all the time.

What accommodation would you recommend to future students?

Definitely Student hostel

F. Culture

What were some of the hardest cultural differences you faced while abroad?

Singaporean language.

How would you recommend students to prepare for these differences?

Prepare to come with an open mind and try to communicate with locals as these are the people you want to be involved with throughout your exchange because that's what makes a exchange worth while, learning about the culture you are going to live in.

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

No discrimination, if you try talking to them normally they will accept, or try get involved with club activities because they allow you to immerse yourself into what they do hence will be an easy way to gain local friends through interest.

G. Personal Response

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

My exchange was easily the best experience of my life hands down, I'm glad I stayed one full year because this allowed me to really immerse myself within the locals and really became I feel a local myself. I really feel I will go return to work there because my love for the country is too much!

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