



IT University Travel Report

Dear Student, this is a template – the aim is to inspire other students who may wish to follow in your footsteps. You are free to give your report the shape you want and to go beyond the questions, as long as you cover the information asked for below. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not. Remember that the report will be made available on the intranet.

Host University: Hawaii Pacific University

Study Programme at IT University :

Global Business Informatics

Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad:

Study Abroad

Courses studied abroad:

1. Intercultural Communication
2. The Sustainability Challenge,
3. Information Tools for Business,
4. Foundations of Info Systems
5. Global Distribution and Supply
Chain Marketing

Exchange Period: semester (autumn/spring)Fall year 2022

If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here: krep@itu.dk

Your stay abroad

What was it like to study at [the university] (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?

I would highly recommend Hawaii Pacific University. HPU is a very international university with a lot of students from around the world. The professors were aware of the many international students and were helpful and understanding to the fact that many of us were not used to this type of study and learning environment. The academic level was lower than the Danish universities and with different types of learning methods. You had smaller classes, they took attendance, it was required that you were active in classes, you had several quizzes every week, and assignment and presentation every week. Meaning, you have more workload, but the academic level is lower. The workload was spread across the entire semester, and you did not have a final exam that counted for everything. You had a final exam, however, that counted for 25% of your grade and for the remaining you had throughout the semester been gaining points. The social life was great and the University has several events and social activities that invite for mingling and most importantly learning about the Hawaiian culture. I was happy with my choice of courses, especially the course "The Sustainability Challenge" I gained so much new and interesting knowledge about sustainability and climate change issues.

What was your initial motivation for going abroad and did your stay meet your expectations?

My motivation for going abroad was to mature myself and try to study in a new environment and with other learning techniques. I wanted to challenge myself, I wanted to see and explore the world, and meet new people from around the world. It diffidently met my expectations and I would recommend going abroad to Hawaii. Especially if you love being active, going on hikes and go surfing.

Please describe what you got out of your stay, both personally and academically, and how do you expect it to contribute to your further studies?

The stay matured me a lot personally. I was forced to be open-minded and outgoing from the second I landed since it was unknown territory for me. I think it is very healthy to place yourself outside of your comfort-zone which it was for me. I learned a lot about other cultures, what they value and how to perceive people that does not share the same norms, values, and belief as you do. This is especially relevant for the IT industry that we are in. Academically it was healthy for me to try a new way to study. You had presentations every week, and assignments and quizzes that had to be done in order to pass the course. This is very different from universities here in Denmark, where it is very much up to you how much effort you want to put in before the actual exam. All the planning and arranging behind the stay was also a very educational and long process, that required a lot of effort and time. I think it is healthy to set you mind up for something and fulfill it to the end.

Arranging your stay

Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:

I arranged the stay myself, as a free-mover, but with help from EDU. I would highly recommend reaching out to them in terms of getting accepted to the university. They will be your way into the university and they will also tell you everything that needs to be done, before you can take-off. These things include, housing, finding relevant courses that ITU needs to approve, getting your visa and applying for scholarships. Any questions regarding that, they will be there to guide and help you.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?

EDU – reach out to them and arrange the stay through them.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

Become a member of Facebook groups with all international students coming (EDU can help you). For accommodation I looked for apartment I could rent in Waikiki, which I heard from other student that had been in Hawaii, that Waikiki was the best place to stay. Then I also became a member of a group with international students that were also studying abroad at HPU, where people were posting about housing opportunities. Often people had found an apartment and needed 2-3 roomies. I ended up getting in contact with a Norwegian girl that was looking for 8 roomies for a house in Diamond Head (close to Waikiki). I got the spot and ended up sharing a room with another danish girl, and 8 other Norwegian girls living in the house too. It is a matter of luck and effort to find a place to stay. Hawaii is very expensive, so you should be prepared to pay at least 7000 DKK a month in rent. And do not pay anything before you have seen the actual apartment, either wait until you arrive and have the first few days at a hotel or hostel, or facetime the landlord for you to see the apartment before.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

I calculated my expenses to be at least 177.000 DKK. Hawaii is very expensive and you should expect to use a lot of money on food and housing too. You also want to travel to the other island, which you should leave money for. Here is my overview:

Udgifter		Beløb i valuta	Beløb i DKK	Beløb omregnet til DKK	DKK for hele perioden
Flybilletter	Engangsudgift		7.482,00	0,00	7.482,00
Transport til og fra lufthavn	Engangsudgift	100,00		609,76	609,76
Undervisningsafgift	Engangsudgift	7.000,00		42.682,93	42.682,93
Andre gebyrer forbundet med studiet	Engangsudgift	530,00		3.231,71	3.231,71
Visum	Engangsudgift		4.500,00	0,00	4.500,00
Læge gebyr	Engangsudgift	0,00	500,00	0,00	500,00
Bolig i Danmark	pr. måned		6.500,00	0,00	32.500,00
Bolig i udlandet	pr. måned	750,00		4.573,17	22.865,85
Bøger, andre fees	Engangsudgift	2.720,00		16.585,37	16.585,37
Leveomkostninger	pr. måned	850,00		5.182,93	25.914,63
Obligatorisk forsikring	Engangsudgift		1.900,00	0,00	1.900,00
Rejseforsikring	Engangsudgift		5.147,00	0,00	5.147,00
Oplevelser/Kulturelle formål/Studietur	pr. måned	450,00		2.743,90	13.719,51
Andet/diverse/uforudsete udgifter	Engangsudgift	0,00		0,00	0,00
Udgifter i alt					177.638,76

Indtægter		Beløb i valuta	Beløb i DKK	Beløb omregnet til DKK	DKK for hele perioden
Udlandstipendie	Engangsendtægt		42.682,00	0,00	42.682,00
Udlandstudielån	Engangsendtægt			0,00	0,00
SU	pr. måned		5.300,00	0,00	26.500,00
Opsparing	Engangsendtægt		15.000,00	0,00	15.000,00
Legater(ingen modtaget endnu)	Engangsendtægt		0,00	0,00	0,00
Lejeindtægter for bolig i Danmark	pr. måned		6.500,00	0,00	32.500,00
Indtægter i alt					116.682,00

Difference					-60.956,76
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Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?

Hawaii is very expensive so I would highly recommend being in good time applying for scholarships and apply many!! I would recommend applying for at least ITU Travel Pool, Lemvig Müller fonden and Salling Fonden.

Recommendations for other students:

It is worth the time and effort to go abroad. Although it can seem like a lot of work in the beginning, take one thing at a time and ask anyone for help if there are doubts. It is worth it in the end.