



IT University Travel Report

Host university: Queensland University of Technology

Study Programme at IT University: Global Business Informatics

Exchange agreement or Free mover: Free mover

Courses studied abroad: BSB108 Business Environment, DSB100 Fundamentals of Data Science, MGB130 Managing People, MGB235 Monitoring and Managing Operational Performance

Period studying abroad: semester (autumn/spring) Autumn year 2023

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

Your stay abroad

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

Taking courses at the university was different from back home. To pass the exams you had to deliver assignments that would sometimes count to 50 %, so if you did well in the first few assignments, you could focus on other things more towards the end of the semester.

Regarding social life, there were not many activities on campus, but it was possible to find them elsewhere. I was part of a Danish messenger chat counting to +100 Danes, which gave me a good starting point. This was through EDU's (the organization that helped me plan my trip) Facebook group connecting free movers. Additionally, at my student accommodation, there were social activities.

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

It was important to head out into the world alone and see how I would manage settling into a completely new environment without having family and friends nearby. This was challenging in the first few weeks, but as I got to know the place, where to buy food, where I would sleep and have a recurring group of friends, it became more natural, and I started to thrive. A big part of successfully adapting to my new home was also due to the similar culture between Australia and Denmark. It just made things easier, that people were able to communicate in a known way and that infrastructure lived up to Western standards.

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?

My biggest takeaway from my exchange on a personal note, is that if you are kind and open towards other people, they will open their homes and hearts to you. This will result in opportunities that you would not stumble upon otherwise. Furthermore, it pays off to be thorough when preparing for a big thing such as a study abroad. Having sorted everything out back home both practically and mentally will make it easier for you to be present and enjoy everything you experience, while you experience it.

On the academic side, I was confirmed that the levels at Danish universities are higher, and especially ITU is good at linking theory to practice and to a higher extent promoting innovation in the assignments. At QUT it is more rigid what you write about, and the lecturers are less engaging. I only participated in lectures in the course Fundamentals of Data Science, as the lecturers in the other courses were too boring- Additionally, a lot of Australians have full-time jobs next to their studies, so it is common to only attend tutorials/workshops and exams.

Arranging your stay

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

In Australia, the demand for a place to live is high, so I arranged where to live before I arrived. This was more expensive but way easier, and in the course of only 4 months, it sometimes makes sense to go with convenience over saving money. Also, arranging my stay was made with the help of EDU, so if you want to know more about the process, have a chat with them or check out their website.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?
EDU and my tutors who had been abroad.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

I got a recommendation from an ITU student who went abroad the year before me.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

It was expensive, and I had hoped to get more grants, but I found it difficult on my bachelor as the pool of grants was more limited. From what I heard from others; it was pretty much the same. It seems like it is more obtainable when you are a master's student.

Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?

I got Lemvig Müller Fonden (10.000 kr), Vilhelm Pedersen og Hustru (8.000 kr, physical letter application) and ITU Travel Pool (2.500 kr).

Recommendations for other students:

Don't hold back from writing me an email if you have further questions or want to grab a coffee ;)