



IT University Travel Report

Host university: Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

Study Programme at IT University: Digital Innovation & Management (DIM)

Exchange agreement or Free mover: Exchange agreement

Courses studied abroad: 1) Enterprise Systems Lifecycle Management, 2) Organising and Leading Projects, 3) Consulting and Change Management, & 4) Health, Safety and Environment Leadership and Management

Period studying abroad: semester (autumn/spring) autumn year 2025

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

Your stay abroad

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

Overall, studying at the host university was a very positive experience. I chose four courses with a good mix of individual and group work, as well as both written and oral exams, which suited my learning style well. I combined familiar courses with more experimental ones, such as HSE, which allowed me to explore new academic interests. I appreciated the flexibility to adjust my course selection during the first weeks and was happy with the final choices.

The academic level was appropriate, and the lecturers were supportive and flexible, which made it possible to balance studies with travel and outdoor experiences. Socially, most students were international, and I primarily built Australian connections through university sports activities such as football and volleyball rather than through coursework.

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

My initial motivation for going abroad was to improve my English communication skills, as I aim to work in an international environment in the future. I was also motivated by the opportunity to study in a new and different learning environment, broaden my international perspective, and collaborate with students from other cultures. Additionally, the exchange was a chance to step away from everyday life in Denmark and experience living abroad for an extended period of time, which allowed me to reflect on potential future work and life abroad.

Overall, the stay fully met my expectations. Studying at a new university in a different cultural and climatic context was a refreshing experience. I improved my English skills, met many welcoming Australian people, and gained insight into a warm, relaxed, and open culture. Experiencing Australia's unique nature and wildlife further

enriched the stay. Overall, going abroad was a very positive decision, and I would highly recommend it to other students.

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?

On a personal level, the exchange stay allowed me to step into a new and inspiring environment, which supported both personal and academic development. Living abroad strengthened my ability to adapt to new settings, establish a daily routine in an unfamiliar context, and engage confidently with new people and experiences.

Academically, the stay introduced me to new and interesting courses and improved my English communication skills. Studying in an international environment enhanced my ability to work across cultures and approach academic topics from different perspectives.

Overall, the exchange has increased my motivation and enthusiasm as I return to complete my degree, particularly in relation to my upcoming master's thesis. The international experience gained will also be a clear advantage in my future studies and in my transition into the job market.

Arranging your stay

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

The process of arranging my exchange stay was generally smooth, and I found good support from IT University throughout the application process. Going abroad together with two fellow students from my programme was a great advantage, as we were able to support each other in keeping track of deadlines and practical matters such as visas, vaccinations, and flight bookings.

The most challenging aspect was managing the preparation alongside a busy semester at home, which made the process both time-consuming and demanding. Applying for scholarships was also a lengthy and sometimes demotivating process, although it ultimately proved very worthwhile.

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

Both ITU and the host university were very helpful throughout the planning process and responded quickly to questions. In addition, advice from former exchange students and others in my network who had previously studied abroad was extremely valuable, particularly regarding accommodation in Australia and scholarship applications. I can also recommend sharing access to a scholarship database with other students who are preparing for an exchange stay.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

Finding accommodation from abroad proved challenging, as most landlords in Australia prefer in-person inspections and require extensive documentation. Together with the two other students I travelled with, I therefore stayed in a hostel during the first week and used this time to attend viewings in person. We eventually secured an apartment through an online housing platform.

The process was time-consuming and involved multiple inspections and follow-ups. I would recommend starting the housing search early and, if possible, contacting current exchange students in advance in order to take over an existing rental.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

Studying abroad in Australia involved significant expenses, particularly in relation to accommodation and travel. I would strongly recommend applying for multiple scholarships to help manage the costs. While living expenses were high, the many unique travel and nature experiences available made the overall stay very rewarding. Receiving several scholarships was a great support and made the exchange stay more financially manageable.

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

Yes, I applied for scholarships very actively. In total, I applied for approximately 60 scholarships and was awarded 8, which required a significant amount of work but was absolutely worth the effort. I would strongly recommend starting early and applying broadly, as scholarships made a major difference in making the exchange stay financially feasible.

I received funding from the following scholarships:

- Knud Højgaards Fond
- Rudolph Als Fonden
- Lemvig-Müller Foundation
- William Demant Fond
- Fonden Ulla og Carsten Mouriers Legat til Unge Talenter på Vej
- Richter Fonden
- Krista og Viggo Petersens Fond (KV Fonden)
- ITU Travel Pool

Recommendations for other students:

I would strongly recommend going on exchange, as it is an experience you are unlikely to regret, especially if you actively apply for scholarships to support the stay financially. Studying abroad offers a unique opportunity to experience new cultures and perspectives. Australia in particular provides something for everyone due to its size, diversity, and distinctive environment. I would also advise future students to start preparing early, as many scholarship deadlines are already at the beginning of the year. Planning ahead makes the experience both more manageable and more rewarding.

