



Travel Report, Victoria University of Wellington Autumn 2025

Host university: Victoria University of Wellington

Study Programme at IT University: Global Business Informatics

Exchange agreement or Free mover: Exchange Agreement (since it is New Zealand you still need to apply for Udlandsstipendium)

Courses studied abroad:

Anthropology in Oceania (elective)

Supply Chain and Logistics Management

Organisational Analytics

Identifying Grand Challenges in Business and Government.

Period studying abroad: 5th semester, Autumn 2025

My stay abroad

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

Victoria University is definitely not a technical university; however, they do have a fair amount of courses that are relevant to GBI. Just remember to check whether the courses you seek to get approved are bachelor's or master's level, as you, if you're on your bachelor's, can only take bachelor's level courses.

The academic structure is very different from the one we have at ITU. At Victoria you will have multiple smaller assignments /tests which then accumulate to a 100%. This means that not everything depends on 'the final exam' as here at ITU, which I found was really nice. The academic level is not as high as the one at ITU, however, as the structure is so different, it can also be a bit difficult to compare. However, I would not at all be worried that the academic level would be too high for you.

There are heaps of various activities going on, multiple student-led organizations you can join; everything from sports, arts, to just meeting up. There is a day, in the introduction week, when all the different student organizations have a booth so that you can get to know more about them.

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

My initial motivation was simply that I wanted to go to a country that had incredible nature, and New Zealand did definitely not disappoint. It is an incredibly beautiful country, however, be aware it can be difficult to get around in NZ without a car. So be prepared to spend some money on either renting a car, or even buying a car as some people did. The cars there are much cheaper and can be resold.

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?

I met some incredibly nice people from all over the world. I was very lucky that I ended up in an amazing flat with the best people. It was definitely the people who made my stay so special.

Academically my favourite course I took was definitely my elective, Anthropology in Oceania, which helped me understand much better how Oceania has changed, and is changing still.

My course in Organisational Analytics was focused on how to best visualise data, and to consider to what purpose and what should be shown. It was a great help in teaching me about data visualisation with purpose, and how to use Excel for this.

The Supply Chain course was, as the title implies, focused on supply chains, so if you are interested in learning more about that, you might find it interesting. I will say however, I did not find the course particularly interesting.

Finally, my course, Grand Challenges in Business and Government, had some great professors; however, the course is for first-year students, which is noticeable.

Arranging your stay

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

I first applied through ITU to go to Victoria University of Wellington. When I was approved, I got put in contact with Victoria, who sent me multiple emails explaining how to apply for accommodation, how to apply for courses with them etc. I then reviewed their course catalogue and found multiple courses that I thought would be a good fit, corresponding to the ones I was supposed to have at ITU. I applied 2 to get my courses approved, and note that there is a certain deadline to send in your wishes and it also takes approximately. a month for them to get back to you if they got approved. Both ITU and Victoria need to approve the courses. I ended up applying twice for my courses through ITU, so be prepared that you might need more than one 'round' to get enough courses approved that also match point and schedule-wise. And this can be both ways, so start early, it will save you from the stress later on.

I paid upfront for the tuition cost of attending Victoria (you get a 10% discount from ITU), it is around 50.000 so be aware that you will have to pay that. Afterwards you can apply for 'Udlandsstipendium' which in 2025 provided me with around 50.000. So technically, you do not 'pay' much of the tuition, but be aware that you should have the resources to pay the 50,000 yourself first, which you will then be reimbursed by the Udlandsstipendium around a month or two months later.

I spent some time applying for different grants, which I would recommend you to do as well, and it is very handy to look through the ones on ITU's website of which has previously been granted.

All in all, the process was pretty smooth and not too difficult, if you are going with other people, it is always helpful to see what courses they get approved. In general, a lot of the paperwork might seem overwhelming but if in doubt, I found everyone on both sides were very keen to help.

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

I was in contact with SAP and Victoria University quite a bit mainly to get courses approved on both ends, but as soon as the courses got accepted, everything was very smooth.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

You can apply through the university; the rent is approximately 5.000 kr. per month. The process is super fast and you get a room almost immediately. I lived in Everton Hall, where I had a great time.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

I did spend a lot of money on seeing New Zealand, meaning renting cars, flight tickets etc. As New Zealand is not a cheap country, you should expect to spend the same amount on rent as you do back home, and on groceries.

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

I applied for multiple grants and was lucky enough to receive 3:

- Bornholmer legatet, Johannes Birch (you can only apply if you are from Bornholm)
- Lemvig-Müller Fonden
- ITU's travel pool.

Recommendations for other students:

If you're in doubt about going, go! It is a lot of fun, and the paperwork throughout the application process is honestly not that bad.