



## 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. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not.*

*Note that by filling in and sending the report you automatically consent to publishing it on ITU student.*

**Host university:** University of Technology Sydney (UTS)

**Study Programme at IT University:** C50007 Study Abroad Postgraduate

**Exchange agreement or Free mover:** Free mover

**Courses studied abroad:** Project Management, Creative Problem Solving, Python Programming for Data processing, and Strategic Supply Chain Management

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

**If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here: [annagraabekpovlsen@hotmail.com](mailto:annagraabekpovlsen@hotmail.com) (private) or [annpo@itu.dk](mailto:annpo@itu.dk) (studentmail)**

## Your stay abroad

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

Studying at UTS was a valuable and refreshing academic experience, that I am so grateful for. The courses were structured with a clear progression and connection between lectures, tutorials, assignments, and learning outcomes. This created a strong “red thread” throughout the semester, helping to reinforce and build upon knowledge in a cohesive way. Tutorials were practical and well-aligned with lectures, and the course materials were thoughtfully selected and accessible.

Compared to ITU, I found the Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO's) at UTS to be more transparent and proactively integrated into the curriculum. There was a clearer sense of what we were expected to learn and how it applied both theoretically and practically.

Social life on campus was also a major highlight. UTS had a vibrant student environment with active societies and regular events. I found it much easier to connect with fellow students through clubs, social activities, and course groups. The university encouraged engagement and collaboration beyond the classroom, which made a big difference in my overall experience.

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

My main motivation for going abroad was to gain international academic experience, broaden my perspective, and challenge myself in a new educational environment. I also wanted to explore how group work, problem solving and IT are taught and applied in another country, especially in a more global and diverse setting like Australia.

My stay at UTS definitely met and even exceeded my expectations. I experienced a different academic structure that offered more clarity and cohesion, while also being exposed to a more socially engaging and inclusive student culture. The courses were both relevant and informative, and the university environment made it easy to feel supported and included. At UTS, the students are obligated to attend classes and do a lot of assignments throughout the semester, which enforced and motivated me to attend lectures and spread out the groundwork and reading for the courses, instead of revising the material during an stressful exam period.

**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?**

Academically, I developed a deeper understanding of how structured course design and transparent learning objectives can enhance the learning experience. I also gained insight into different ways of approaching IT education, especially through the integration of practical tasks and tutorials. The exposure to diverse academic content and teaching styles helped me refine how I approach complex topics and problem-solving.

Personally, I grew more independent, open-minded, and confident. Being in a new country pushed me out of my comfort zone, helped me build new relationships, and taught me how to adapt quickly to new situations. The active social scene and inclusive student societies gave me a strong sense of belonging and community, which made the whole experience even more meaningful.

Looking ahead, I expect this experience to enrich my further studies by bringing a broader, more global perspective to how I engage with academic content and collaborate with others. It also inspired me to think more critically about how education can be designed to support different types of learners.

## **Arranging your stay**

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

I would recommend all study abroad or free movers to apply for the UTS housing (Yura Mudang). Unfortunately, my application was declined, so I had to find my own place. I found a bad place in Glebe under Amber student, which was expensive, did not meet the standards, and I had a lot of issues with the tenants. Therefore, I would choose the sites that UTS recommends for other accommodations, than their own. Worst case, wait to you arrive in Sydney, so you can preview the accommodation. There are a lot of options to choose from, and people that are offering places in the UTS WhatsApp group (students at UTS get added to this) and on other sites, which in my opinion, is safe and cheaper, than the places online.

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

Two of my friends had been studying in Sydney, so I asked them for recommendations and general advice. Also, Anna (from SAP) was invaluable and did a great job answering our questions. Otherwise, UTS website can be informative, but in general, the information and preparation as a free mover is a little limited.

**How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?**

I searched the internet thin, and unfortunately, I found a very bad place. It was quite hard to find something, so I would suggest waiting if you get declined at UTS housing.

## **Expenses and Financing**

**Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad**

Studying in Sydney for a semester was a great experience, but it did come with relatively high living expenses compared to Copenhagen. Accommodation was the biggest cost, especially if living near the city or campus. Food, transportation, and general daily expenses were a little cheaper than in Denmark. But trips, SIM cards, Insurance, and Visa were really expensive.

I managed my finances through a combination of personal savings, support from SU (the Danish student grant), and the Erasmus+ scholarship. Careful budgeting and some pre-planning helped make the stay financially manageable.

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

I applied for 30 grants and/or scholarships and got three. I would recommend applying for these, because it is expensive to go to Australia, especially Sydney. Go to Legathåndbogen, ITU's grants, or apply for scholarships through UTS or maybe your workplace?

### **Recommendations for other students:**

Go! And stay at Yura Mudang (UTS housing). I was so lucky that one of my friends from ITU stayed there, and I could visit. It is such a great way to meet other students from around the world and engage in social activities. Don't sign any contracts with other accommodation or pay in advance, there are so many scam places in Sydney. Wait to you are there. Also, apply for a lot of grants and scholarships, because Sydney is expensive, but 100 percent worth it.