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:

QUT – Queensland University of Technology

Study Programme at IT University:

DDK

Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad:

Exchange Agreement

Courses studied abroad:

- Art Direction and Copywriting
- Concept to Campaign
- Telling Stories; Narratives in creative advertising

Exchange Period: semester (autumn/spring) autumn year 2017

If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here: ________________________________

Your stay abroad

What was it like to study at [the university] (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?
QUT is a university with a lot of opportunities – both course wise, but also if one wants a good social life among other students. Personally, I didn’t have anything to do with the social life at QUT, so I cannot describe what it is like, but I heard good things from other Danish students that attended it from other Danish universities. The courses were well organized, and with a very modern way of teaching as well as incorporating external resources in the courses. Almost every other week we had guest lectures from organizations and advertising agencies that came and shared their knowledge. They also participated in the development of campaign and concept work, which helped us sharpen our ideas and our way of pitching. The academic level varied a lot from course to course, and had a very loose attitude towards the attendance in class. The exams were very much like ITU; presentations and written reports.

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

The reason why I went to QUT in Brisbane was to specialize in art direction and creative advertising, which ITU couldn’t offer me. If I had not been able to study these courses abroad I would probably not have continued my studies at ITU. So to me the study abroad meant everything regarding my motivation for continuing my studies. That said I had expected to gain more knowledge and skills in that area, which disappointed me a tad. Another reason for going to Brisbane was its close distance to warm water surf, which I ended up spending my entire summer on as well as every weekend. Byron Bay is only 2 hours away and became my second home, which is a fantastic place with a fantastic energy and just great and happy people.

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?

Personally, I became a part of a little community in West End, where I was involved with a lot of political activism, local projects and social happenings, which made me a member of a very precious and loving community. This likewise happened in Byron, where I gained a likeminded little community family, who I surfed, crafted and enjoyed life with. Because of these two great small communities I didn’t have the need to travel and see Australia, but I don’t regret that a tiny bit, cause I gained so many friends for life. Aussies are truly lovely people, and I can’t wait to go back.
Arranging your stay

Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:
The process was smooth and it didn’t involve too much work. On my bachelor degree I studied in Dublin, Ireland, which was an Erasmus program, which involved a whole lot more work. So I was very pleased with the process. The only thing is that in between the different deadline ITU and QUT can be quite slow at responding to your official docs. When you apply for a visa, don’t worry it actually only takes a few days-a couple of weeks.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?
I used ITU a lot to help me get to the bottom of questions. But besides that it is helpful to use each other (other students who plan to take a semester abroad) to remind each other on different deadlines.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?
Don’t worry a second about accommodation!!! There is plenty of it when you arrive. So hold your breath, don’t panic and go to Brisbane, stay at a hostel and find out which area that suits you the best. That said I could only recommend staying in West End.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

I had a monthly budget on 22.000Kr. (maybe a bit more). It is a different culture, where you eat out a lot and things are in general more expensive.

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

I applied for quite a lot of scholarships, and I can recommend you to do the same. Start early, so you don’t miss your chance.

Recommendations for other students:

Just do it!