

Deakin University Exchange and Study Abroad Program Final Evaluation


With this evaluation the Education Abroad Office hopes to learn more about your exchange or study abroad experience. The information you provide is important as it will help the Education Abroad Office improve its programs and it will also give other students interested in participating in the programs more information about your exchange or study abroad destination.

The evaluation is confidential and we appreciate honest and frank responses as your answers help other students decide on their exchange or study abroad destination. It also helps us improve the programs for future students.

Please attach extra sheets if the space provided is not enough. We appreciate long and detailed answers!

Thank you in advance for completing the questionnaire.

PLEASE RETURN THE EVALUATION TO:


Education Abroad
Deakin University
70 Elgar Road,
Burwood VIC 3125
Fax: 03 9251 7754

Course at Deakin: _____ Bachelor of Commerce

Major(s) at Deakin: Sports Management and HRM

Age: _____ 20

Gender (please circle) Female

Semester(s) and year of exchange/study abroad program: _____ semester 1, 2008

Host University: _____ UMASS _____

Host

Country: _____ USA _____

ACADEMIC

1. Please list the units you took at your host university.

Sport Marketing

College Athletics

Sport Event Mgmt –Graduate

Promotional and Marketing Strategy

2. Compared to Deakin, what kind of teaching methods did the lecturers at your host university use (e.g. lectures, seminars, tutorials etc)?

How did this affect your academic experience?

Smaller lectures, kind of like tutorials, much better, way more interactive, got to know people and the lecturer more one-on-one.

3. Compared to Deakin, what was the workload (e.g. class hours per week, assignments, field work, labs etc.) and the level of difficulty like?

Workload was much more! I was also doing 1 subject that was equivalent to two, so that was also set out as an experiential class, but fantastic learning curve. A lot more work, and assessments but overall the work was also a lot more interesting.

4. How was your course work assessed (e.g. exams, essays etc.)?

one subject weekly essays and 3 tests during semester, other one similar to deakin commerce subjects, but for all my subjects, I didn't have finals which meant I had a lot more work and assessments during the semester

5. Overall, were you happy with the academic component of your exchange/study abroad program?

Very – teacher were passionate, interested, and I learnt more in one semester there then I probably have during my time at Deakin simply because their education system is so important and serious to Americans

COST

6. How did you finance your exchange/study abroad program? Please list by percentage (%).

Deakin University Travel Grant

I did receive this & paid for 50% of my flight

Deakin Scholarship

UMAP Subsidy

Personal Savings	Worked a lot before I left Aus plus was getting Centrelink while I was away from home as a full time student
OS-HELP Loan	_____
Other Loans	_____
Family Contribution	_____
Income from working while studying at host university	_____
Outside scholarships (please specify scholarship)	_____

7. How did your living expenses abroad compare with your living expenses when in Australia?

Much More – only because I live at home with my parents, so I don't pay rent etc

8. Were you successful in keeping to a budget? No

If yes/no, what were the reasons for this?

I didn't keep a budget, just watched my spending at the start so I didn't run out of money, and wasn't stupid with the way I spent money

9. Please outline your approximate monthly budget whilst overseas

Housing	\$ _____	2000
Food	\$ _____	1500
Text Books	\$ _____	300
Local Transport	\$ _____	0
Entertainment	\$ _____	500
Clothing	\$ _____	300
Phone	\$ _____	200
Other Expenses	\$ _____	
Total	\$ _____	

10. Please outline your approximate travel costs (if any)

Travel 3.5months of traveling before and after the semester)	\$	8000	(included	traveling
Accommodation	\$			
Meals	\$			
Other Expenses	\$			

ACCOMMODATIONS

11. Was accommodation arranged for you by the host institution? Yes

If no, how did you find accommodation?

12. If the host university arranged accommodation, did you have a choice of housing?

Yes - type of dorms to stay in – that was all

13. What kind of accommodation did you live in?

(Please rate your level of satisfaction with each setting on a scale of 1 = lowest to 5 = highest)

University accommodation with meals	1	2	3	4	5
University accommodation, self-catered	1	2	3	4	5
Host Family	1	2	3	4	5
Shared Flat or House	1	2	3	4	5
Single person flat or house	1	2	3	4	5
Rooming House	1	2	3	4	5

14. For most of the program, did you live

- _____ alone
- _____ with hosting country students
- _____ with Australian students
- _____ with other exchange or international students

15. If you moved, why did you move?

16. Please indicate arrangements you made for meals

- _____ Provided by university accommodation
- _____ Self-catering
- _____ Eating out/take away
- _____ Provided by host family

WORK

17. Did you work while participating in the exchange/study abroad program? No

18. Was employment easy to find? Yes No

19. If you worked, how did you find your job?

20. If you worked, did you work

- during the semester? Yes No
- during vacations or holidays? Yes No
- legally with work permission? Yes No

21. Please write any comments you have in regards to finding a job in your host country (please feel free to comment even if you did not work).

HEALTH AND SAFETY

22. Did your host university provide information and services to exchange/study abroad students on health and safety and legal issues relevant for your stay in the host country?

Yes

23. Did your host university have appropriate emergency/crisis response measures in place?

Yes

24. Did you need medical attention at any point by the host university No

25. Did you need medical attention at any point during the program? No

26. If you needed medical attention, please describe how easy or difficult this was to obtain.

27. Did you claim anything on your insurance whilst on the program? Yes

28. If you made an insurance claim, please describe how easy or difficult this was to make. Please also make any comments you think may aid future students when making an insurance claim.

I still need to – I missed a flight because I was searched at customs, they found nothing, and I had to stay at hotel that night so I will try and claim that – other than that –nothing.

LIFE AT YOUR HOST UNIVERSITY AND IN YOUR HOST COUNTRY

29. How easy or difficult was it to meet and interact with host country students?

Easy – Americans are amazingly friendly and welcoming, they know nothing about Australia so they are keen to learn from us.

30. With whom did you spend most of your time with (e.g. host country students, Australian students, other exchange/study abroad or international students?)

What were the reasons you spent most of your time with those students?

Host country students – because that’s who I came to mix with. I mixed with other internationals, but not a great deal as Americans were much more interesting, fun and every experience was different

31. What aspects of the host university stand out in your mind?

The education system was amazing, and the passion in my lecturers, and definitely the party lifestyle at UMass – was a good balance!

32. What aspects of the host culture stand out in your mind?

How much of a bubble wrapped life American kids have compared with Aussies. I felt like I was on school camp when I arrived there, because it was so sheltered, they don’t have to do anything because its all done for them.

SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

33. Thinking back about what you packed, list those things which you didn’t take abroad and later wished you had – and vice versa – those things which you took and didn’t need or could have purchased on site.

TAKE ALONG:

Heavy Jacket, Aussie Flag

LEAVE BEHIND:

Tracky pants and hoodies (there is so many to choose from in the states), fancy boots – no use in the snow! I actually packed pretty well other than these things

34. What changes would you make to your exchange/study abroad program?**What would you preserve?**

I loved everything about my exchange, I think it could be made better by meeting UMass students who attended Deakin the semester before, and then we could have met them over there, it would really build a strong relationship between the students and the schools.

EG – University of Wollongong students seemed to know a lot of UMass students they met on exchange etc, that is something I think all exchangeds would love to do – is meet people from a university they are going to if they studying at their home uni.

35. What kind of advice would you give to students who are thinking about going on this program? Is there anything else you would like to tell students about your experiences?

- expect the emotional ups and downs – they are what makes the trip
- take up on every opportunity offered to you
- don't be too scared of the cold weather - a warm scarf and jacket work wonders
- mingle with the locals as much as you can, then you experience the culture more
- check out www.couchsurfing.com - by far one of the best things invented for the traveling world
- Craig's List – sells lots of stuff you can buy over there
- Make sure you get your Centrelink payments if you are entitled to them – they are a huge help!
- if you start to panic, just take a deep breath (as tacky as it sounded, I did have to do that once or twice when I was in unfamiliar culturally different situations)