

# 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  
221 Burwood Highway  
Burwood VIC 3125  
Fax: 9251 7754

Course at Deakin Commerce

Major(s) at Deakin HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, MARKETING

Age 21

Gender (please circle)      Female       Male

Semester(s) and year of exchange/study abroad program 1 / 2006

Host university Växjö University

Host country SWEDEN

## ACADEMIC

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

- Management across borders - a Scandinavian perspective
- European management
- European marketing + strategy
- Company field study

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?

Swedish system based on taking one unit over 5 weeks for a 20 week semester. Teaching methods used were lectures and seminars. Seminars were similar to tutorials in Australia. Majority of work was group work based and the report for each unit had to be presented to the class

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

Class hours depended on the subject and teacher but were still very few. Most of the work was expected to be done at home. The level of difficulty was not very high, it sometimes seemed that all you had to do was produce a reasonable report and turn up to class to pass the subject

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

The first two subjects were assessed by both report and exam. The third was assessed by individual and group report as well as seminar work. The last was report on a company. All of the group reports had to be presented to the class

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

The system gave a unique way of learning, but at times I wondered how some things were related to the subject at all. As an English speaker, it made it so much easier to do the work, meaning a lot of spare time.

## COST

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

Deakin University travel grant	5%
Deakin scholarship	
UMAP subsidy	
Personal savings	40%
OS-HELP loan	40%
Other loans	
Family contribution	15%
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 less      Slightly less      About the same      Slightly more      Much more

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

If no, what were the reasons for this?

Reasons relate to the travelling I made during the semester. Scandinavia is a very expensive region and time spent in Iceland, Norway and Denmark which are all more expensive than Sweden meant it was much harder to stick to my budget. Otherwise I think I did my best to stick to budget.

9. Please outline your approximate monthly budget while overseas

Housing	\$ 520
Food	\$ <del>500</del> 600
Text books	\$ 100
Local transport	\$ 120
Entertainment	\$ 300
Clothing	\$ 100
Phone	\$ 180
Other expenses	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1700</b>

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

Travel	\$
Accommodation	\$
Meals	\$
Other expenses	\$

## ACCOMMODATIONS

11. Was accommodation arranged for you by the host institution?  
If no, how did you find accommodation?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

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	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 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 host country students  
 with Australian students  
 with other exchange or international students

15. If you moved, why did you move?

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16. Please indicate arrangements you made for meals

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

## WORK

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

18. Was employment easy to find? Yes  No

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

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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).

I heard that it was hard to get a job if you could not speak Swedish, but I know a few people who did get jobs so it is not impossible

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

21. 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    No

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

Yes    No     Not sure

23. Was airport reception/pick-up provided by the host university?     Yes    No

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

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

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26. Did you claim anything on your insurance while on the program?    Yes     No

27. 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.

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## LIFE AT YOUR HOST UNIVERSITY AND IN YOUR HOST COUNTRY

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

I found that in the first half of the semester when the weather was bad, I did not meet many Swedish people as they 'hibernate' in winter. In spring when the weather was nice I met so many more and they became more outgoing and friendly. Once you get to know them they are really nice people.

29. With whom you spend most of your time (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?

As I was living mainly with exchange students from all over the world, I naturally spent most of the time with them. Towards the end of semester I was also spending a lot of time with ~~the~~ Swedish people.

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

The strong international culture at the uni as they take so many exchange students. Also the modernness of the university, it's only 7 years old so everything is very new.

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

- shy people coming out of their shell when their drunk
- trying to avoid confrontation as much as possible
- conformity to all the laws
- ~~the~~ honest people

## SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

32. 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:

- Things that interest you from Australia as international people are keen to learn about Australia

LEAVE BEHIND:

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

If it was possible I would have done one year instead of one semester because I was having the time of my life and Sweden is a great country as well as meeting some fantastic people

34. 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?

If you have the opportunity to do the program then do it because I guarantee you will not regret it at all. Even in 5 months you will learn so much and I made some great friends, meaning I have so many contacts for future travelling etc...