



## My Exchange Evaluation

### Basic Information

<b>Host University</b>	University of Melbourne
<b>Semester &amp; Year of Exchange</b>	Semester two 2021
<b>Otago degree(s)</b>	Bachelor of Arts
<b>Major(s)</b>	Political Science and Communications

### Academics/ course load

*Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?*

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Language of instruction</b>	<b>Otago equivalent</b>
MECM30002 Perspectives in Global Media Cultures		12.5
POLS30018 European Integration: Politics of the EU		12.5
POLS30030 American Politics		12.5

**Total Otago credits gained:**    54 points    72 points    108 points    37.5 \_\_\_\_\_

*Any comments about these papers?*

Loved my papers just didn't do as well as I could have in covid.

*How did the academic experience/ workload/ style of teaching differ from Otago?*

It was pretty similar. I think just not attending campus and not having a library available was the hardest.

## Accommodation

*What accommodation did you stay in? What were the pros and cons of your accommodation?*

Apartment \$215 a week - university accommodation is almost or over double that cost and just seems like a waste of money

## Money matters

*Please detail your basic costs, e.g. accommodation, flights, visa, food, insurance*

Accommodation was around \$ 860-month

Flights both ways around \$800 together

Insurance \$300

Food is similar pricing to NZ, alcohol is not it is triple the price.

*What means did you use to access your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, Cash passport, foreign bank account, etc.)*

I would recommend having savings in your NZ but you can work so easily so that's not a problem nor should it stop you from going. I am financially independent and so are a lot of my friends and they never thought going on exchange was possible due to not having their parent's income but I don't think that's true. Once I started working my usual hours after lockdown I was never stressed about money. I just think lockdown would be the hardest because NZ citizens don't get a covid subsidy unless they're on a work contract that allows set hours.

## Visas & Insurance

*Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?*

*Did your host university have mandatory insurance?*

Yes, mandatory insurance. It wasn't that useful for health insurance, medicare was a more beneficial option, the only issue was medicare applications take forever due to covid.

## Extra-curricular/Social Activities

*What organized activities were available to students? What extracurricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?*

*What was the university/ city like?*

*Any recommendations for things to do, places to visit, places to eat etc.?*

*Any tips for future students?*

## **Overall Experience**

*Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos!*

Loved it. Meet great friends and would recommend any to go.