

My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	Wirtschafts Universität Wien		
Semester & Year of Exchange	spring semester & 2019		
Otago degree(s)	BCom		
Major(s)	Finance and Tourism		

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
Econometrics 1	English	FINC203	18
International Financial Management 1	English		
Corporate Finance	English	FINC206	18
Discover tourism: current issues and challenges	English	TOUR218	18
Planning and Designing New Touristic Services	English	TOUR305	18

Any comments about these papers?

Papers are taught in a very practical way which might be helpful for my future career. They do not have a heavy workload but innovative assignments.

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

They have a very different time schedule for courses, Otago would have many class hours to elaborate the details of the course content. But for WU, they have much less class hours, so they talk less detail and more summary of the content.

Accommodation

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

OeaD's GuestHouse. Pros: I learned how to cook and I am free to decide when to eat and what to eat; Cons: I lost plenty of time to cook and I need to spend time on shopping groceries.

Money matters

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

Accommodation: around 2700 EUR

Food per day: around 13 EUR

Flight (go and return): around 4800 RMB

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

I always use credit card to make payments if they accept the credit card, if not then I use cash in EUR. I would recommend credit card as you are only here for a few months.

Visas & Insurance

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

Yes, I have to apply for a visa before I fly to Austria. The process is that I prepare the materials needed for the visa and submit them to the visa application centre back in my home country.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

No, but my visa has a mandatory requirement of insurance.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

What organised activities were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

There are plenty of parties held by the student union happening regularly, and they invite you through email and posters. They have library classes to teach students how to search for the material they need for their essays which is quite useful.

What was the university/city like?

The university is quite modern, the architecture of its central library is awarded worldwide, the entire construction style of the campus is rather advanced. Vienna is a city full of history.

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

Have a listen in a music theatre in Vienna and plan some trips in Europe as you do not need a visa to do it, it is quite convenient. In Vienna, "Sacher" is a famous Viennese café that is highly recommended.

Any tips for future students?

Bring some cash in EUR with you as credit card is not always an option in Vienna.

Overall Experience

Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos! I had a wonderful semester during my exchange in Vienna. When I first came to the city, I felt the indifference of its people and environment as I cannot understand German, I found different languages do generate gap between people. But gradually, when everything is settled, my life became colourful. I travelled to Paris, Berlin, Prague, Rome and Dubrovnik in Croatia. I had a good time. I also learned how to cook after I come to Vienna as they do not have any catering accommodation. All my roommates are exchange students from other countries, they are sweet and friendly, I got a lot of tips from them. To conclude, I think I really had a worthy semester in Vienna!

































