



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	University of Melbourne
Semester & Year of Exchange	Semester two 2021
Otago degree(s)	Bachelor of Arts
Major(s)	Political Science and Communications

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent
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.