

STUDY ABROAD REPORT

You should upload/send this report **within 2 months** after the end of your stay abroad to Mobility Online (Joint Study) /send via e-mail (CEEPUS). You should also upload the confirmation of your stay abroad from your host university as well as the equivalence list signed by the dean after your mobility to Mobility Online (Joint Study)/send via e-mail (CEEPUS). If you should not fulfil these requirements it is possible that your whole study grant will be revoked (see letter of acceptance). Queries: jointstudy@boku.ac.at or ceepus@boku.ac.at

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Name of student: **E. Pohl**
- Study programme: **NARMEE**
2. Host university: **BOKU UNIVERSITY**
- Host country: **AUSTRIA**
3. Your period
- of stay: from **02/2025** to **06/2025**
- Study year: **2025**

FEEDBACK FOR FUTURE STUDENTS

4. Information about the host university. How helpful were the following sources of information?

(Please enter a number between 1 and 5, where 1 = not helpful and 5 = very helpful):

Homepage of the host university	5
Students / friends	5
Teachers at BOKU	3
Curricula	3
Host university	4
BOKU International Relations	5
Other:	

5. How would you evaluate your ability in the language of the host university?

(1 = weak to 5 = excellent)

Before your stay
abroad

After your stay abroad

	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Listening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Languages of care/support at the host university and their use in percentage:

Language of care was German: ☐ Yes ☒ No

1.) English	100 %	3.)	%
2.)	%	4.)	%

What recommendations would you give to future students about the host country and university? (Questions 7 -14) Please give tips, sources of information, contacts, and links

7. Host country

Take time to travel during your stay in NZ. I went 4 months prior to study start and could have taken even more time, particularly because you'll be busy (!) during the semester. Also, be prepared to spend quite a lot of money and - compared to the EU - eat less healthily if you don't want to spend too much since vegetables and quality food is pricey down there!

If you're looking for jobs, do it way before arriving since good jobs are gone quickly. Also if you plan to get a car get informed beforehand. The car market is extremely volatile and by planning accordingly, you can save a lot of money. And if somehow possible, get a car! It'll be worth it!

8. Host university

As others have already mentioned, the university in NZ is quite different to what I was used to in Europe. It's much more of a school vibe. Personally, I was extremely glad about the decision not to live on the campus since it seemed to be very 'parented' and regulated. If you're used to living in a shared flat like me, it'll be quite a strange feeling. I found a flat in Chch with great flatmates for way less money than i'd have paid on campus and you'll be able to properly experience how the kiwis live ;--)

9. To what extent did you feel socially integrated?

(1 = not at all to 5 = very well)	1	2	3	4	5
in the local culture/community in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
with students at the host university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
with international students at the host university	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Which contact person (at BOKU/the host university) helped you organise your stay abroad?

BOKU: Mrs Eleonora Coni

LU: Mrs Hui Li

11. How would evaluate the general advice and help given in administrative matters?

(Please give a number between 1 and 5, where 1 = not helpful and 5 = very helpful)

at BOKU International Relations	4
from teachers at BOKU	4
from the host university	5
from students at the host university	3
from others:	

12. Registration process, financial support, other requirements

The registration process was more or less straight forward, although it simply takes a while until the whole bureaucracy is done. Take time to really plan everything thoroughly, especially the visa application. I realized way too late that my passport is not valid for the whole stay which brought me in distress and things like that can simply derange the time plan.

13. Can you give advice and suggestions regarding the social aspect of your host country/university (cultural differences, importance of language ability etc.)?

Not too much since I didn't spend too much time at the LU campus, but generally there are lots of international students keen to connect and do cool stuff together. Just be open. The university did a great job giving lots of opportunities to make the newbies get to know each other.

14. Were there events organised especially for exchange students during your stay?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please indicate which ones:

Lots of them, especially in the beginning of the semester but also during the semester.

ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES, AND COSTS**15. What was your primary residence during your stay?**

- ☐ Student dormitory ☐ Hotel / guest house
☒ Room in a private apartment ☐ own private apartment
☐ Flat share with other students

16. Who helped you look for accommodation?

- ☐ Host university ☐ Friends/family
☒ Housing market ☐ Other:

17. How helpful was the host university in looking for a room?

(1 = not helpful to 5 = very helpful)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 x 4 ☐ 5

18. How would you evaluate the quality of the accommodation? (1 = poor to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

19. How would you evaluate the availability and/or accessibility of assistance given during your studies (regarding for example the library, computer rooms, labs, equipment etc.)?

(1 = poor to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 x 5

20. How would you evaluate the accessibility and/or quality of computers and email services at the host university?

(1 = poor to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 x 5

21. Expenses during your stay abroad (in Euros):

Travel costs (for a single return journey):

ca. 1500-1800€

Overall expenses per month (inc. Accommodation)

700€

Breakdown:

Accommodation	500	€ / Month
Food	200	€ / Month
Travel costs at place of study	50	€ / Month
Costs for books, photocopying, etc.	0	€ / Month
Study fees	50	€ / Month
Other:		€ / Month

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

22. How would you evaluate your stay abroad from an academic point of view?

(1 = poor to 5 = excellent):

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 x 4 ☐ 5

23. How would you evaluate your stay abroad from a personal point of view?

(1 = unsatisfactory to 5 = highly satisfactory):

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 x 5

24. Which aspects of your stay abroad did you like the most?

From an academic point of view:

Simply getting to know other approaches to education on an academic level.

From a social/cultural point of view:

To me it was extremely interesting to see the Maori culture and how it interacts with the 'Pakeha culture'

25. Did you have any problems during your stay abroad?

Not really.

26. Will your academic progress at BOKU be hindered as a result of your stay abroad?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ I don't know

If yes, please explain why:

27. How could the Joint Study and student exchange programme be improved in your opinion?

I think creating a tick list with very distinct information on what to do when would be a great advantage. Personally, I like lists with concentrated information with good overview and it would have saved me some time not having to gather search information and click from link to link. I think it would have saved some energy of some of the coordinators as well ;--)

All in all, they did a great job and provided me with a lifetime experience I am very grateful for!

General Report

Short feedback on your stay: attended lectures, seminars, excursions, etc.

Other things you found interesting, you think future students should know, problems, general tips and recommendations...

I did semester one at LU and attended the lectures:

Conservation biology (recommendation, great field trip to the alps)

GIS I (also recommendation if you like GIS like me, great lecturer)

Environmental policy and planning (had to chose it, but not my interest honestly)

I also attended some of the personal development seminars i really liked. Look out for those, some of them are really interesting!

The last two questions

What did you gain the most out of your stay abroad?

International experience, English proficiency and breathtaking landscapes.

Which particular piece of advice would you give interested students?

Save up for a car, go there either early (Sem 1) or stay longer (Sem 2) and go traveling! Have a look at the car price development throughout the year, in the autumn when all the tourists leave, the prices are extremely low due to oversupply and in spring they shoot up. Having that in mind you can get a car very easily and cheaply.

Try to not end up only studying there, it can easily happen.

Many thanks for your support!

Publication of this report

I agree that this report, including the above data (field of study, host university, year of study, length of stay), will be published on the website of BOKU International Relations for the purpose of exchanging information on the study visit, so that future interested outgoings can be informed about your experience at the host institution.

☒ Yes

☐ No

The consent is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any time in the future without giving reasons. Any revocation can be declared at any time by e-mail to joinstudy@boku.ac.at.