

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: **Anonym**
- Study programme: **H 066 416**
2. Host university: **Lincoln University**
 Host country: **New Zealand**
3. Your period
 of stay: from **13 Feb 2023** to **14 Sep 2023**
 Study year: **Semester 1 in 2023**

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	4
Students / friends	2
Teachers at BOKU	2
Curricula	4
Host university	4
BOKU International Relations	3
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

New Zealand is a stunning country with a great landscape, a large variety of hiking opportunities, beaches for surfing, ski resorts, and wide abandoned areas. I would absolutely recommend buying a car to be able to travel to all the interesting places and to get around more easily. You will get used to driving on the left side quickly. If you have the time, I would suggest staying for some months after your studies in Lincoln are finished to see more from the whole country since the time for traveling is very limited during the semester.

8. Host university

Lincoln University is a University with a lot of offers for students. Starting with the included gym membership, plenty of LUSA (student association) events and clubs for every need (e.g., hiking and tramping club, boardriders club, postgraduate club). I would suggest trying some of the offers in the first weeks of university. That helps to get to know some people and gives you some orientation of how things work.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

BOKU: Ulrike Piringer and Kyrill Sattelberger
 Lincoln University: Steve Ulrich and Carol Fan

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	3
from teachers at BOKU	2
from the host university	4
from students at the host university	2
from others:	

12. Registration process, financial support, other requirements

In the first days (O' week) you will go to different places at the university and finalize your registration, balance your payments, and get your student ID card. The whole process is easy and can go very fast. Go early to avoid large queues. If you have any questions or problems the LU staff is super friendly and will help you find a solution. Financial support is in general not sufficient. It covers not even the travel costs for a single return ticket.

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

Cultural differences are not large compared to the European lifestyle. Besides, everything is a bit more expensive, and public transport is not as good as in Europe. People are very friendly and happy to help you. A high level of English language skills is absolutely recommended (especially for studying).

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

Yes No

If yes, please indicate which ones:
 There were events for people living on the campus (e.g., barbeque or pizza night) and postgrad events (e.g., morning tea). There was a photo competition for exchange students with free food and drinks.

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 4 5

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

- 1 2 3 4 5

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 would appreciate increasing the financial support for exchange students after the pandemic, as living standards and travel costs became more expensive.

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...

All of my courses were very work-intensive. I would not recommend to chose all of them together in one Semester. The courses were the following:

ERST 601 - Advanced Theories in Resource Studies: Very recommended course. Probably the most mind-changing course I have ever taken. You will learn to question the Western scientific worldview and be able to understand complex environmental issues from different stakeholder perspectives in a holistic way. However, the teacher just changed recently and he was not sure about the future of this course.

ERST 604 - Advanced Urban, Regional and Resource Planning: Also a very recommended course when you are interested in environmental and landscape planning. You will get the opportunity to develop your own resource management plan under New Zealand laws and methods. Very intense and detailed insights into the planning system of New Zealand. Also, creative assignments were part of this course.

ERST 630 - Environmental Policy and Planning: This course was compulsory for semester 1. The course was divided into two different parts. The first 6 weeks were spent on New Zealand's environmental policy system and the second half was spent on the development of a plan for a specific area with different perspectives.

I can recommend the following one-time library workshops:

- Getting started on the research journey
- Human Ethics application
- How to read academic sources quickly
- How to write a literature review

The last two questions

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

I met many different people and made a lot of new and intercultural friends. My English skills improved a lot and I have learned so much about different cultures. I also enjoyed the New Zealand landscape and nature and experienced the beauty of the country primarily through traveling and hiking. My view on Western science changed through the courses I have taken at LU and I gained a holistic understanding of the importance of historical influences and different stakeholder worldviews.

Which particular piece of advice would you give interested students?

Don't integrate your master's thesis research into the semester abroad (especially if you choose work-intensive courses as I did).

Buying a car for traveling is highly recommended. It is very easy to buy a car in New Zealand. You can either find a car on Facebook Marketplace, diverse Facebook Groups, online platforms (e.g., trade me) or Turners Cars (sells and buys used cars) in Christchurch. It also became a tradition to buy the car from the latest NARMEEs. The registration process works straightforwardly.

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.