



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Study programme WUR	Animal Science
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	28-08-2023 until 21-12-2023
Exchange destination: University	University of Alberta
Faculty	ALES (Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences)
Country	Canada
City	Edmonton

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I choose to go on exchange to broaden my horizon, I wanted to have more options for courses in my free electives. I also liked to opportunity to explore a different teaching system.

What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

I choose Canada as it is a English speaking country, this gave me many options to choose courses I liked. I choose to go to the University of Alberta as their were many good options for Animal Science courses at the faculty.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

A direct flight is way better than a flight with a connection.

4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
1	INTD207		Course on communication and the development of leadership skills	4	
2	ANSC471		Applied poultry science focusses fully on poultry, get	5	Combination of lectures and project

			knowledge on all aspects.		
3	ANSC320		Starts with introduction on how processes in the animal body work and will continue with how this is applied in the industry. Different aspects of the meat (mostly cattle) industry are discussed	3	
4	RSOC460		Traditional knowledge is knowledge from the First Nations from Canada. This course will go over different themes involving Indigenous people and give a new insights in difference between science and Indigenous knowledge.	4	
5	NUFS427		A food safety course that touches upon many food safety issues. How to communicate the risks is also included in this course.	5	Really good teachers that made the classes fun.
6					

What is it like to study there?

E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material.

The academic level is comparable with 3rd year BSc courses especially in 400 level courses. The final examination is done at the end of the semester but during the semester many courses have quizzes, midterms, assignments and presentations. This results in a separation of the workload but the workload is always there. The workload is the highest at the end of the semester as all courses have their final assignments and presentations planned at the end. Most of the lectures are given by the main lecturer and there will be several guest lectures but this depends per course.

What is the culture of the university?

E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?

The lecturers are very approachable, multiple lecturers want to be called by their first name. Questions can be asked directly and they will be answered accordingly.

What does the university offer students additionally?

E.g. catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?

The university offers living on campus. On the campus there are many options to get food. Every residence building has its own laundry facilities. The university has multiple sports facilities for example a gym, swimming pool and climbing hall that are available for students. The university of Alberta has an international program that organizes many fun activities for international students.

5. Housing-travelling-living

What are the possibilities for housing?

E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?

You can live on campus, the rates are dependent on which residence you choose. You will always have a private bedroom but you can share your kitchen and bathroom with 2 to 8 people. The price increases when you want to live alone. The rent is higher than in the Netherlands.

What is the culture of the country like?

E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?

People are very kind and welcoming. Everyone is friendly but a bit more distant than in the Netherlands.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)

The university provides a card for transportation, which makes it cheaper overall. The public infrastructure within the city is okay but you cannot travel easily to other cities. When living on campus you do not need public transport to get there.

6. Expenses

Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

E.g. you can also indicate price differences (higher/lower/equal) in comparison to the Netherlands.

Ticket there: round trip approximately 1500 euro

Visa if applicable: 7 C\$

Vaccinations if applicable: not necessary

Insurances (extra, if applicable): mandatory health insurance to pay to the university approximately 150 euro per semester.

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: slightly higher than in the Netherlands. When living on campus paid all at once and is all inclusive rent.

Groceries: in total equal to the Netherlands some products might be more expensive, and others are cheaper.

Public transport:

Restaurant/going out for dinner: similar to the Netherlands.

Daytrips/sight-seeing: Can be as expensive as you want to make it. If you need to travel to popular sights it will be expensive.

Additional remarks regarding expenses?

Save for bigger trips those are definitely worth it.

7. Free time

What are must-sees in the area?

E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?

The Rocky Mountains are relatively close to Edmonton make sure you are able to plan a trip to Jasper or Banff, those places are more touristic but definitely worth it.

Going to a game of the Edmonton Oilers is a must, the games are quite expensive but if you can visit in the pre-season the prices are lower.

What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth a visit?

Students can visit the student sport games for free. Especially the ice hockey games are a must visit as this is the national sport of Canada.

The River Valley is a nice place to walk around and it right next to campus. Make sure to walk around in all seasons as every season has its charm.

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?

The room at the top is a nice place on campus to have a drink and a snack. Also in campus you can find Deweys a student run pub. White avenue is the street with multiple bars and pubs.

For coffee and a snack you should definitely go to Tim Hortons.

The university has many clubs, go to the clubs fair and see if there is something you like to do. This is a nice place to meet like minded people.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

What challenges did you encounter and how did you overcome them?

The first weeks when you move in and have the orientation are very hectic. The same for the weeks before finals as you have many assignments to do. A good plan can help you a lot and there will be people with the same issues, when you talk with each other it makes it a lot easier.

What is your best memory of your time abroad?

Traveling to Lake Louise and Jasper were the best moments as the nature is amazing.

9. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input type="checkbox"/>	no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail		