



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student information

<b>Study programme WU</b>	International Land and Water Management
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	02/01/2023 until 27/04/2028
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	University of British Columbia
<b>Faculty</b>	Okanagan
<b>Country</b>	Canada
<b>City</b>	Kelowna

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### a. Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to experience what it is like to study abroad and to live in another country.

### b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

I love the nature of this country and I wanted to go to a good university with sort of the same level of education as the one in the Netherlands.

### c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

The other option in this region would have been the university of Vancouver, but since my grades were not very high my chances of getting in were lower than being accepted for the university of Kelowna.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

Get a car or make some friends who have a car. Public transport does not reach all places.

## 4. University and studying

### a. 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	Energy Resources Management	3.0	Course about all unsustainable energy resources we are using and	3	Really interesting, but it worked like a secondary school

			potential green alternative energy resources.		subject. It was not difficult at all.
2	Geography of Natural Hazards	3.0	About the geography of different types of natural hazards.	4	Really interesting, nice teacher.
3	Geographies of Migration and Settlement	3.0	About the motivation of people to move around the world and how other countries react on those types of movement.	4	
4	Leadership in Complex Environments	3.0	Really interesting course, it teaches you all different types of leadership and how to be a good leader.	5	
5					
6					

**b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain):** Yes, all courses were in English.

**c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain):** Yes, a lot of geography courses.

**d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):** No, it was really easy. Enjoyed my spare time though :)

**e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):** Yes, it was interesting and classes were very small so it was easy to reach out for questions.

**f. What is it like to study there?**

*E.g. Study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material?*

Study forms were really personal due to the small size of classes. Academic level was definitely lower than the one at WUR. Examination looked like a secondary school exam. Workload was low and lesson material was sufficient.

**g. What is the culture of the university?**

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

The lecturers were really approachable due to the small amount of students during class. Difference with WU was the academic level and size of class.

**h. What does the university offer students additionally?**

*E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?*

Lots of sports facilities, like sports clubs and a gym. There was one big canteen for breakfast, lunch and dinner but the food was not really tasty nor healthy. Laundry facilities were sufficient.

## 5. Housing-traveling-living

**a. What are the possibilities for housing?**

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

There was enough housing availability on campus. I could choose between different type of rooms with or without meal plan.

**b. What is the culture like?**

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

Really American, they do not really have there own culture since the whole country has been invaded by Europeans. They do not go out until late though and everyone is outdoorsy.

**c. Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?**

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

Taxi prices were the same as in the Netherlands. Public transport was free for everyone, but not really good since it did not go everywhere. From out my room on campus it was only a two minute walk to university.

## 6. Expenses

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

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	1200
Visa - if applicable	90
Vaccinations - if applicable	-
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	400
Daytrips/sight-seeing	1000
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	600 apartment with three other girls
Grocery costs per month	150
Public transport costs per month	0
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	30

**b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands:**

Equal

**c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

It seems as if things are cheaper, but taxes are added in the end which makes the prices just equal to the ones in the Netherlands then.

## 7. Free time

### a. What are must-sees in the area?

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

Banff, Jasper, camping in Nakusp, Vancouver, Vancouver island, Big White (skiing/snowboarding).

### b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?

Halfway hot springs, visit Yucatan in Mexico.

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

### a. Any challenges? How did you deal with them?

Download the Airalo app so you can buy an e-sim and have internet everywhere.

### b. Best memory?

The trips we did and all the great friends I made and the skiing and snowboarding.

## 9. Contact details

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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