



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student information

Study programme WU	Bachelor Biolgy
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	February 2024 until July 2023
Exchange destination: University	Wollongong
Faculty	science
Country	Australia
City	Wollongong

2. Motivation for exchange

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

Always wanted to go to Australia. Half a year is the perfect amount of time.

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

Nature is amazing and unique. It seemed liked a country where everything is stable and good organized. I can speak the language.

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

It had the most interesting courses in my opinion and field.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Book in time otherwise it will be very expensive.

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	Biodiversity of Marine and Freshwater Organisms	7.5	About all the different marine lifeforms (including cells and plants)	4	
2	Conservation Biology	7.5	About what to conserve and how	3	Writing two big reports

			to conserve biodiversity		
3	Global Challenges in Science	7.5	Introduction to science and putting science in recent context	4	Very easy
4	Biogeography and environmental change	7.5	How environmental change now and in the past has altered earth's systems.	5	Very interesting!
5					
6					

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

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

d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain): Yes

e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain): Yes

f. What is it like to study there?

Workload is very dependent on the courses but definitely not too much. Examination is a bit different. During the semester you take graded assignments and sometimes there is one exam at the end of the semester.

g. What is the culture of the university?

The same as at WUR. Very safe and inclusive.

h. What does the university offer students additionally?

A lot of sport facilities that do not cost a lot of money. They even offer a surf camp!

5. Housing-traveling-living

a. What are the possibilities for housing?

You subscribe to a website and get a room on campus. This was very easy. I would recommend Campus East as an accommodation.

b. What is the culture like?

The culture has resemblances of the American culture. The aboriginals are also very important and sometimes form a sensitive topic.

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

Public transport in Wollongong was free and very good! Other public transport is also very cheap. I even got a free bike from the university.

6. Expenses

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

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	A lot...
Visa - if applicable	\$200 AUD?
Vaccinations - if applicable	none
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	None?
Daytrips/sight-seeing	~ 35 eu
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	700 eur incl food
Grocery costs per month	Included in rent (but groceries are around the same as in NL)
Public transport costs per month	6 euro
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	Same as in NL

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

c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?

Only alcohol and cigarettes are more expensive. The rest is the same as in NL.

7. Free time

a. What are must-sees in the area?

Sydney, Blue mountains, Kangaroo Valley, Sea Cliff Bridge

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

Hike mount Kiara, go to Silent Disco in town.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

Finding friends can always be hard. Definitely go to the organised welcoming events from Uni. Do things with your accommodation. I experienced that it was easier to make friends with other internationals.

b. Best memory?

Travelling to Cairns and Melbourne with my exchange friends.

9. Contact details

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name & email address (if yes)	Sam Crabbé sam@crabbe.nl	