BERICHT
(Bitten spätestens 2 Monate nach Beendigung Ihres Auslandaufenthalts vollständig übermitteln.)

1. Gastuniversität (Land/Stadt/Uni) Carleton University / Canada / Ottawa

2. Studienjahr ☑ Wintersemester 2015 ☐ Sommersemester 2015
Aufenthaltsdauer (Tag, Monat, Jahr) von 01.09.2015 bis 31.12.2015

3. Studienrichtung(en) DWL Matrikel. Nr [Redaktionell geändert]
☐ Bakkalaureatstudium ☐ Diplomstudium ☐ Lehramtstudium ☒ Magister-/Masterstudium
E-Mail Adresse (optional)

4. Stipendium bewilligt für 4 Monate bew. Stipendienbetrag 1600 €
weitere Stipendien ☐ bew. Reisekostenzuschuss 800 €
Bezugsquelle ☐ Gesamtsumme Stipendien 2000 €

5. Wohnmöglichkeit (betr. bitte ankreuzen):
☐ Studentenheim ☐ Privat

6. Kosten Unterkunft
Lebenshaltungskosten
Studienkosten (Bsp. Studiengebühr, Bibliotheksgebühren, Kursmaterial).

Verfassen eines persönlichen Erfahrungsberichtes über Ihren Studienaufenthalt
Anhaltspunkte: Gastuniversität, Kurse, Prüfungen, Mitstudierende, Unterkunft etc.
(Bitten verwenden Sie ein extra Blatt: mind. 1 Seite; Überschrift des Berichtes: Ihre Matrikelnummer, Name der Gastuniversität und des Gastlandes, Ihre Studienrichtung sowie der Zeitraum des Aufenthaltes).

Abgabe des Leistungsnachweises der ausländischen Institution (Transcript) sowie des Anrechnungsbescheides (Formular: Antrag-Anerkennung-Studienerfolgsachweis)

Ja, ich bin damit einverstanden, dass dieses Formular zusammen mit meinem Bericht für Mitstudierende auf der Webseite zur Ansicht zur Verfügung steht (falls zutreffend, bitte ankreuzen).
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating out</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supermarket</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city of Ottawa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University life</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic support</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language support</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus life</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating on campus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going out</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ottawa

Weather
Arriving in Ottawa in the end of August, beginning of September the weather is very hot. It reaches around 35-40 so even that you might be thinking that you won’t need summer clothes going to Canada, you would be wrong. This kind of weather persists about 2 weeks. ON the other hand, when I was there in 2015, the weather didn’t get as cold as it was expected, because normally in the end of November it gets already between 0 and -20. That year the coldest it got was -6 but that was first in December. Important to know is that in that time the streets freeze so it is very important to be very careful and have suitable shoes because often it might cause fractures due to falling. All in all for most of the time the regular European autumn cloths would suffice.

Food
Canadian food is the same as American’s for the biggest part of it. Things that are very Canadian and the Canadians are very proud of are: poutine, which is a dish made of French fries with a topic of anything possible one can imagine (traditional one is with gravy, which is the melted fat from a barbecue meat and cheese, might not sound so appealing but the folks love it). For the people who would prefer another topping there is bacon, beef minced meet, tomato sauce, different kinds of cheese or even avocado. The dish is quite heavy but it is great for morning snack after a night out and for winter time. Another thing that Canadian are very proud of is the beavertail which is a fried dough topped with a sweet topping like Noutella or banana and cinnamon or icing. In Canada people eat a lot of meat/barbeque and fish and sea fruits. There is also very strong influence of the French, English and Asian cuisine.

Eating out
There are many bars Downtown like 101 Bar, which offer meals and drinks all for $5. Otherwise a normal meal in a restaurant varies $10-$40.

Supermarket
Downtown there are supermarkets which are open 24 hours (Lawblas and Metro), which gives a lot of freedom to go make the shopping any time convenient to the person, that being after university or even after a night out.

The city of Ottawa
Ottawa is the capital of Canada and therefore it is very administrative city. There is the Parliament building and some other administrative buildings. Downtown there is a whole district with administrative skyscrapers, other than that the city is mostly composed by 2 floor family houses. All the time there are different kinds of cultural events like discussions on different social topics either in one of the museums or some other cultural centers, many music and film festivals – jazz, city folk, blues festival. All the Thursdays all the public museums are free to enter after 4pm until 7-8pm depending on
the closing time of the specific one. The history museum, the art gallery and war museum are highly recommendable. The building of the Parliament can also be visited for free but the tickets are normally over very fast so best go to get them around 8-9am from the office in front of the Parliament building.

Safety
In general Ottawa is very safe city. There are no problems walking in the night anywhere. Downtown there are many public social houses where the homeless people find shelter so in this area there are many beggars but apart from begging they don’t bother the passengers.

Payment
Almost anywhere it is possible to pay by card. There are ATMs also in various places.

University life

Classes
Students are allowed to have a max load of 2,5 credit classes, which is about 5 classes since most of the classes have a weight of 0,5 credits. The attendance in most of them is not obligatory with exception of the language classes but is highly advisable because the lectures are very interesting and later on the exams professors ask questions they have discussed in class but also a reflection on the material which is easily acquired in class. There is a lot to read as a preparation for all the classes. The teachers give mostly direction to the students providing reading list but rarely give the information itself as they would expect it from the students. The classes also require high involvement from the side of the students because they have to prepare regularly their readings as well as to write multiple papers and hold presentations in class. The library is there to support the students through that providing assistance in the research, correction of the written work and any other guidance a student might need. The working hours are also very favorable starting at 9am-12pm and during the exam period the library is open 24 hours. There are also many PC’s the students can use so there is no need always to bring their own computer and in case of need a student can even rent a laptop for a couple of hours from the library. There are also various workshops the library is holding throughout the whole semester which are very interesting. There are couple every day repeating couple of times per month so the students can select the time which is best for them to attend and they are incentivized by receiving some academic credits in case they attend more than 5 workshops, each being 45 min. The relation between the professor and the students is very friendly and relaxed.

Academic support
There is a service provided by the Success Centre where students can drop in and let their papers and reports being corrected by professionals so they can make the best of their work and correct as for content as for grammar and spelling mistakes which is a great service especially for foreign students.
Language support
Same as for the academic support in all the language faculties, students can find help for correcting their written works. I personally was attending an intensive French course so I am a bit more aware of the way the French department functions but I am pretty sure that things are similar in the other departments as well. In the French department there was student support every day 9am-5pm. Students had to book an appointment for the writing correction which is an individual 30 min session, where a person from French nationality or a French Assistant Professor is checking the essays and papers. During the same hours there was also a conversation session which is as well 30 min and students can just drop in whenever they have time and they converse with a French native speaker in a group. Aside from these services which are more academic there was a so called club Francophone which was organizing social events and gatherings 3 times per week, like a French movie night once a week or social gatherings.

Campus life
The life on campus is very dynamic. In Carleton there are more than 150 clubs and societies and people can choose from and get involved. These are club like cinema club, language clubs, dance club, photography club, outdoors club, kayak club etc. Due to them there is always something happening on campus. Many bake sales, many performances. The outdoors and kayak club is organizing 1-2-3 days trips. There are free dancing classes on campus being salsa, merengue, zumba, Korean pop dances, Pandjabi dances, break dances, you name it. There are 2 bars on campus Oliever’s (for anybody) and Mike’s place (mostly for graduate students), where students can gather after or between classes, watch sport games or attend different events happening in the night. The exchange student organization is also very devoted and is organizing multiple events for the exchange students especially during the first month, when there are events almost every day. There are also many social support initiatives happening regularly like fundraising for different causes or social impact days where students can volunteer.

Eating on campus
There is a big food court on campus, many small kiosks offering different kind of food and a cafeteria which belongs to the dorms but anybody can visit anytime. The food is however merely fast food in a sense pizza, burgers, sandwiches, poutine, kebabs etc. There is one sushi place and one place which serves small soups but all in all the food is not very diversified or healthy. Nevertheless, it is very common for the Canadian students to bring their own food and very common is even eating in class, which is not considered as rude or disrespectful towards the professor.

Going out
Have in mind that all the clubs and bars stop serving alcohol at 2 o’clock and close shortly afterwards. Most of the places to go out are either on Bayward Market or on Bank or Elgin Street. Always take a peace of identification with you since otherwise you would not be let inside.
Accommodation
When I arrived in Ottawa, I still didn’t have any accommodation. Decided to stay off campus because the on-campus accommodation costs $1100 per month inclusive a full meal plan, meaning that if a person wants he or she can stay and eat in the cafeteria all the time or multiple times per day. Without the meal plan the cost is around $800. For the off-campus accommodation, I was looking online for some rooms and arranging appointments with people but preferred not to book anything until I have seen the places. Very helpful option for exchange student is the “Rent a place” organization which helping students find a place and showing them multiple flats which they can choose from. It is very fast and efficient way to find a place. The place I stayed in was in Sandy Hill, very nice modern apartment, 15 min away from Rideau center and 7 min away from the campus of Ottawa U. I was paying for a small room there $600. Unfortunately, as I was a student of Carleton I had to travel 40 min one way to get to university but in any case the location of my place was very favorable, especially when it comes to students going to Ottawa U.

Transportation
There is no metro in Ottawa but multiple busses going anywhere and an O-train which is a single train line reaching Carleton and Greenboro station. There are plans that the line will be prolonged and will reach the center of Ottawa. The students buy in the beginning of semester a U-pass from Carleton which is $199 and can use with it any kind of transportation throughout the semester. Unfortunately the U-pass is not optional in Carleton as the UHIP (health insurance - $200 per semester) so every student have to buy it no matter if they plan to use it. Another option for transportation during the night when there are no more busses is Uber. It is similar to taxi service but is much cheaper and it is made very user friendly with an application people have on their phones, so by requesting a car, the application obtains the location of the person and sends the closest car.