



BERICHTSFORMULAR

Non-EU Student Exchange Programm

2023/2024

BewerbungsID 17677

Nominierte Studienrichtung: 066/879 Studienrichtung Masterstudium Naturschutz und Biodiversitätsmanagement

Angaben zum Aufenthalt:

Gastinstitution: The University of Queensland - (Australien)

Aufenthaltszeitraum: WS 2023/2024

Aufenthaltsbeginn: 17.07.2023 **Aufenthaltsende:** 18.11.2023

STIPENDIUM	
Stipendium Uni Wien gesamt laut Zuerkennung: (inkl. Zuschüsse für Reisekosten und Sprachtest)	€ 2.600,00 Rückforderung: nein Rückgeforderter Betrag: € Rückforderungsgrund:
Weitere Stipendien (zB Jasso, Studienbeihilfe):	Weitere Stipendien: Ja <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stipendium des Gastlandes: nein () • Bundesländerstipendium: nein • Studienbeihilfe: ja • Sonstiges Stipendium:
Summe weiterer Stipendien:	€ 1.925,00
Gesamtsumme aller Stipendien:	€ 4.625,00

KOSTEN DES AUSLANDSAUFENTHALTS	
Unterkunft:	€ 1.800,00
Art der Unterkunft:	Privatunterkunft
Reisekosten:	€ 2.188,00
Lebenshaltungskosten:	€ 2.500,00
Studienkosten:	€ 540,00
Versicherungskosten	€ 316,00
Visakosten:	€ 410,00
Gesamtkosten des Auslandsaufenthalts:	€ 7.754,00

Bericht veröffentlichen:

PERSÖNLICHER BERICHT

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Verfassen Sie bitte einen persönlichen Bericht über den Studienaufenthalt

- **Mindestumfang:** Fließtext 1 Seite DinA4
- **Inhalt:** Gastuniversität, Kurse, Prüfungen, Mitstudierende, Unterkunft, etwaige Schwierigkeiten etc.

BERICHT ÜBER DEN STUDIENAUFENTHALT

The University of Queensland (UQ) in Brisbane was one of three Australian universities I considered for the exchange semester, the others being the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney. I am a student of conservation biology with a focus on zoology and marine biology, and the decision to enrol at the UQ proved to be an excellent one as I had the opportunity to attend a marine biological course at the GBR and various other marine events hosted or advertised by the Marine Society UQ.

During the exchange, I graduated from three courses:

- Coral Reef Ecology & Conservation
- Earth Observation - Advanced Image Processing & Modelling
- Politics of Environmental Change

Courses are usually worth 2 credit points, which is equivalent to 7.5 ECTS. I recommend clarifying how many ECTS will be approved in exactly which module of your curriculum with the Studienprogrammleitung beforehand.

Coral Reef Ecology and Conservation: This course covered various topics such as macroecology, marine mammal biology, invertebrate physiology, and especially fish biology and ecology in the context of fisheries' activities and protected areas. The interactions and dependencies of the numerous players in marine ecosystems were highlighted throughout the course. It involved a one-week project work on Heron Island in the Great Barrier Reef.

Earth Observation: This course taught the many different applications that can be found for satellite images, an overview and a bit of theory on satellite images, and current developments in image analysis. The course was offered by the School of Environmental Studies and, therefore, covered applications also of interest for biology/conservation students. DEA Sandbox and ImageJ were the programs used for the practicals, and the course was a good addition to the GIS course at my home university. At the same time, it was impressive to see the wide range of applications of satellite imagery and the advances in image capture, processing, and analysis.

Politics of Environmental Change: In this lecture, different political, societal, economical, and ethical implications of climate change and resource management were critically discussed.

The types of assignments varied - in general, exams were less common and less comprehensive compared to my studies in Vienna. Instead, every course that I attended comprised at least two extensive written assignments. In my case, the assignments were distributed throughout the whole semester and the last few weeks did not get too

packed.

The university of Queensland offers numerous student societies and clubs. They cover a great range of interests such as various languages/cultures, philanthropism, dancing, games, literature, surfing, and many more. As mentioned above, I joined the Marine Society, and also attended a few events of the Dance Society UQ (first jive in my life!). The Marine Society organizes several events such as whale watching, shore surveys on rocky intertidal organisms, or industry nights where you can meet the governmental fisheries department and different organisations involved in conservation.

Accommodation

As student dorms are quite pricey, I looked for, and found my accommodation on flatmates.com. Although many of my colleagues started searching for their accommodation only after they arrived in Brisbane, I preferred having my place settled before arrival, and so I set up my profile on flatmates.com and started looking while I was still in Vienna. (Obviously, the one big disadvantage with this strategy is that one cannot personally inspect the place before signing the contract.) The place I eventually chose was a room in a typical wooden Queensland house. It took me about 40 minutes to university by public transport, and about 30 minutes by bike. During my search I found many more accommodations closer to the university, but those were a little more expensive. I shared the house with four friendly and relaxed Australians, whom I had met via video chat in advance. However, the house itself was not overly soundproof and I was thankful for my personalized ear plugs.

Getting around

Brisbane offers an extensive network of buses and a few trains. Transportation fees are paid by tapping the 'translink go card', which you can purchase in many local stores. There is a concession for students. One has to bear in mind that Brisbane is a large city and getting around takes time. Many buses outside the CBD stop only twice every hour. Also, be aware that upcoming stations will not be announced in the bus. Another possibility is to get around by bike – however, Brisbane is quite hilly and the availability of bike lanes is poor. Although it is not obligatory, the easiest way to travel is by car, especially when you travel outside the city.

Others

If you want to observe wild koalas in Brisbane, I recommend the Whites Hill Reserve in Camp Hill. It takes some patience to spot them, but almost every time I found two or three of them (bring binoculars!). Here (as well as on Mount Coot-Tha), I also came across an echidna. Possums you can find throughout the city, and in the Botanical Garden of the CBD - with some patience and slices of mango - they will basically crawl into your lap. Also, Queensland and New South Wales offer numerous amazing national parks such as Springbrook, Lamington, Carnarvon, or Daintree in northern Queensland.