



## BERICHT

(Bitte spätestens 2 Monate nach Beendigung Ihres Auslandsaufenthalts vollständig übermitteln)

1. Gastuniversität USA/Columbia/University of South Carolina

2. Studienjahr  Wintersemester 2017 \_\_\_  Sommersemester 20\_\_\_

Aufenthaltsdauer (Tag, Monat, Jahr) von 16.08.2017 bis 16.12.2017

3. Studienrichtung(en) Englisch/Biologie und Umweltkunde Matrikel. Nr [REDACTED]

Bachelorstudium  Diplomstudium  Lehramtsstudium  Masterstudium

4. Stipendium bewilligt für \_\_\_4\_\_\_ Monate Stipendium Uni Wien gesamt 2400\_\_\_€  
weitere Stipendien \_\_\_0\_\_\_€ Bezugsquelle \_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Gesamtsumme Stipendien \_\_\_2400\_\_\_€

5. Wohnmöglichkeit (zutr. bitte ankreuzen):  Studierendenheim  
 Privat

6. Kosten Unterkunft gesamt \_\_\_3140\_\_\_€ Reisekosten gesamt \_\_\_1200\_\_\_€  
(An- und Abreise, öffentl. Verkehrsmittel)  
Lebenshaltungskosten gesamt \_\_\_1400\_\_\_€ Visakosten \_\_\_200\_\_\_€  
Studienkosten gesamt \_\_\_800\_\_\_€ Versicherungskosten gesamt \_\_\_380\_\_\_€  
(z.B. Studien - Sprachkurs-, Bibliotheksgebühren Kursmaterial, Application Fees) Gesamtkosten Auslandsaufenthalt \_\_\_7000\_\_\_€

### Verfassen eines persönlichen Erfahrungsberichtes über Ihren Studienaufenthalt

Anhaltspunkte: Gastuniversität, Kurse, Prüfungen, Mitstudierende, Unterkunft etc.

(Bitte verwenden Sie ein extra Beiblatt: 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-Studienerfolgsnachweis)

**JA**, ich bin damit einverstanden, dass dieses Formular zusammen mit meinem Bericht für Mitstudierende auf der Webseite zur Ansicht zur Verfügung steht. Bitte bedenken Sie, dass Sie diesen Bericht auch anonymisiert ohne Name abgeben können.

**NEIN**, ich stimme einer Veröffentlichung nicht zu.

University of South Carolina  
United States of America  
LA Englisch/Biologie und Umweltkunde  
15. August – 15. Dezember 2017

The University of South Carolina offers many opportunities to experience the famous Southern hospitality, as well as a typical American university life, as often seen in movies. The housing, the course work and clubs and sport teams all help to get to know American students and to embrace oneself in the American culture.

I was assigned to the International House in Maxcy College, which is a dorm-style 'learning community', i.e. you share a room with an American (probably a freshman), and also a bathroom with the two people in the next room. Staying in the same dorm as most other internationals, or at least very many, is very convenient; however, you also have to share one single kitchen with all these people. There are approximately 160 students living in Maxcy every semester, and one kitchen, especially one fridge, is not enough for this many people, that's why I took a meal plan. My meal plan was the 'Silver Declining Balance' which meant that I basically just put money on my CarolinaCard and could pay at the restaurants on campus with that money. The Silver Balance was around 800\$ which was enough for one meal per day, and for breakfast and dinner I've always eaten at Maxcy. My room was on the ground floor and big enough for two people, however others had a rather small room. In hindsight, I would have preferred to stay in Thornwell, where you have a room for yourself, and share a kitchen between three and not hundreds.

When it comes to the courses I took, two were from the Environmental Science curriculum and two were literature courses from the English curriculum. Since I travelled a lot and also tried to enjoy other parts of university life than studying, four courses were enough for me. Especially the literature courses were time intensive, since I had to read one book per week for each course. I suggest that you check sites like [ratemyprof.com](http://ratemyprof.com) before you finally decide on a course. Although the amount of time needed per course was more than at home, the overall academic quality demanded was more on the Austrian high school level.

Next to the big fitness center (Strom) and the many sport events (GO COCKS), there are also many clubs you can participate in. I was part of the Mountaineering and Whitewater rafting Club (MWW), which was great fun and you can meet lots of people.

The steps you have to take before you get there may seem straining, but it is worth it. Finally some tips for the beginning. I activated the MINT-Sim Card which was sent to us by the university which worked fine in Columbia, however in other states, the reception was either bad or non-existent. I also opened up an account at the Bank of America which is free for students, and I paid 17\$ once as a fixed amount for the transaction from the Austrian account and received a debit card. I would not recommend taking the linen package, but rather visit Walmart on the first day, which is way cheaper and there are shuttles provided by the university. Also, if you want to travel and rent a car with others, several times, you should get a AAA membership and rent with Hertz, since many additional fees (under 25, additional driver) can be omitted this way.

Lastly, I just want to say that this past semester was great and USC is a great university to study abroad. Be it the courses, tailgating before the football games or the nights in Five Points, every single aspect was fun and the people you'll meet there just love European students. So if you want the stereotypical American student experience, USC is the place to go.