

EXCHANGE STUDENT EVALUATION REPORT

EVALUATION OUTLINE:

Please list your name, and institution in Denmark or the United States where you studied, term/year of participation, and your e-mail address at the top of your report.

1. WHY AND WHERE:

a. The US has some of the best schools in the world, and I was interested in the US college experience, I also wanted to travel and see more of the country.

b. The risk management program at UW Madison Business School is ranked top in the world. I also liked that the look of the campus. It seemed small enough to not get lost, but also not too small to get bored.

c. My expectations was to have experience good professor and classes, try something challenging and meet different kinds of people.

d. My preparations was mostly administrative, where to live, to travel.

e. I could have looked more into housing, I just accepted the place recommended by my school. It was overpriced and worn down. I could have found something better.

2. ARRIVAL/ON-SITE ORIENTATION:

a. I lived in the Saxony's apartment. It had a great location, but it was expensive for what you get. On the other side it was very social.

b. The buddy program was not very helpful to me, as I never meet mine, he was too busy. There was a buddy program at Madison that a couple of my friends got into, and they where very happy. Maybe that should be advertised more?

c. Yes, very much!

2. ACADEMICS:

a. Please evaluate the instruction you received. Compare the following to your home institution's system:

- class registration- A bit complicated as I was not familiar with it, but the fact that you had the trail period made things easier.

- classroom structure- very good, appreciated the open nature and discussions. Every professor I had was very approachable.

- instruction- good

- teacher/student relations- good, easy to go to office hours and they seemed interested in us students.

- grading/exams- I liked that there was a lot of continuous work with feedback. Exams was ok

- administration- helpful and easy to get in contact with. The international coordinator, Jenn, was very good.

- library, computer, and classroom facilities- good, very similar to my home school.

b. Please evaluate the quality and content of instruction- very good and relevant. The professors had a good progression for the courses.

c. In general, what did you like best and least about the academics- the discussions and participations was very good, the least favorite thing was my 8am HR class.

d. Are there any courses or instructors you would recommend to future students- Negotiation, Brand Management and Risk management, all very good with dedicated professors.

3. HOUSING:

a. How would you assess the housing arrangements. Central, social ,overpriced and overpriced.

b. How did you locate your housing- CBS recommended it

c. Which did you choose, and why- The Saxony Apartments convenience

d. What would you recommend – for an undergrad I would say go into the college dorms, good way to meet people, there are also some shared flats that are good. For convenience and location, Saxony.

4. EXCHANGE SITE:

In general, please describe your impressions of the host University campus and its location and surrounding community- It is right on the lake, and the surrounding area around the city is very pretty, you can go for walks in parks and 'get away'. It has pretty buildings and many different libraries to use, you don't just need to use your department. It's a great way to see the various places. The city is not very big, and has one main shopping street, that also has a lot of nice restaurants.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY: I considered Madison to be a very safe place. There was number you could call if you ever did feel uncomfortable and a car would come and pick you up, however, I never needed to use it. Besides all the scooters popping out from everywhere, no matter the weather, non.

6. CULTURAL ASPECTS:

a. A good place to start was to go to the Madison union, by the lake, always tons of people to meet. Go to the society fairs, and sign up!!

b. I have found in the past that it is a good thing not to be too 'loud' about how things are so different in the US then your home country, be interested and polite.

7. FINANCIAL:

a. The Scan|Design Foundation fellowship was a great help to me, as it allowed me to not have to worry as much about money, and go explore a bit more. Go to football matches (which could turn expensive), try out local restaurants and the food market every Saturday. It also helped assisted me seeing things outside of Wisconsin, such as a trip to New Orleans. Trips such as this helped to create a more holistic picture of the US.

b. I was actually using my domestic credit cards while in the US, in retrospect, I wish I would have signed up for a UW Madison Bank account.

c. I paid \$620 in rent every month, \$30 in electrical bills, \$75 for groceries and \$50 recreational activities. Transportation is free as you get a bus from the university.

d. Pay as you go plans for cell phones is expensive and kind of a hassle to deal with

e. Cost of living is about the same for accommodation, but food and other activities is much cheaper.

8. EXCHANGE/SCAN|DESIGN FELLOWSHIP ADMINISTRATION:

a. I am overall very grateful for the assistance from the coordinators. They were good at getting us all together and planned activities that was very fun to be a part of.

b. Good, very helpful with anything that I had a question about.

9. PROGRAM/STUDENT TYPE:

I was in the graduate/MBA program at Madison business school. The level is high and participation is important. If you are not used to this, be ready to move outside your comfort zone. Once you have done it, it really becomes child's play. The professors are interested in who you are, so be willing to talk, go to the office hours and be open to try new things in class. The reading material for class might not be as academic as I was used to, but that is not to say that it was of lesser quality, learning wise. I found that many of my classes had a more practical then theoretical approach to learning then I am used to. Looking back I have learned a lot. Any student can do this, but you have to be willing to work at the continuous course assessment (exam is often only 25%) and not be hostile to trying out a new way of learning.

10. OVERALL EXPERIENCE:

a. Very good, I would do it all again in a heartbeat!

b. My academic expectations was meet, on a personal level it's harder to say, as it never turns out the way you think, which is not a bad thing. I did hang out in a very international crowd, and maybe it would have had been nice to get closer to more US, students. However, those I did get to know, more than made up for it; quality over quantity. Scan design made the transition easier, showing me the Madison way, surrounding areas, and that we were all in the same boat. I have some great memories from those activities.

c. I got to experience the US grad school system, the classes and approach a new way of thinking. As I

plan to work internationally, it is of great value to have this kind of experience. It will allow me to connect with people who also have that experience. It has improved my English, written and verbally as well as the classes that I got to participate in, they were at a very high level. As for the challenges, it was to move out of my comfort zone, talk in class for the first time among other, and much wiser MBA students.

FEEL FREE TO ADD OTHER COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE.

I would like to thank the Scan Design Foundation for being part of my exchange semester. It made a positive impact on my stay, that is easy to see in comparison with those whom were not fortunate enough to be a part of its activities. Please keep up the excellent work.