

Study abroad in Australia 2016

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A short introduction

My name is Mikkel and I decided to study abroad in my 3rd semester at KEA because it sounded like a good experience and a way to meet different people and try another way of studying.

I know that 3rd semester is an important one at KEA because it is where you start to get some experience with the KEA way but I thought that it was a good time to open up my view of the industry.

My expectations before going abroad was that this semester would bring me a broader view of the field and give me a head start to a field that's becoming more and more international.

I looked forward to getting to know some people with different backgrounds and new stories.



My experience at Deakin

At Deakin University, I studied *Computer Aided Modeling*, *Matterscapes*, *Environmental studies*. After every description, I have included a picture of my final project from each class.

My favorite course was **Computer Aided Modeling** by Mical Sherman.

It was a course where you have to pick a computer modeling program and from the first steps to the final renderings become as good as possible with the program.

During a normal school week, the course would have 1 day of class and a half a day of lecture.

This, for me, was the perfect combination because you get to think about the theory before you get to use it.

At KEA you are modeling on your own computer and if you have a problem there is not much help to get.

But at Deakin University you always have a computer at your disposal and everything you save is saved onto the Deakin cloud. Furthermore, every lecture is recorded onto the cloud which is a lifesaver especially if you are sick a day or two.



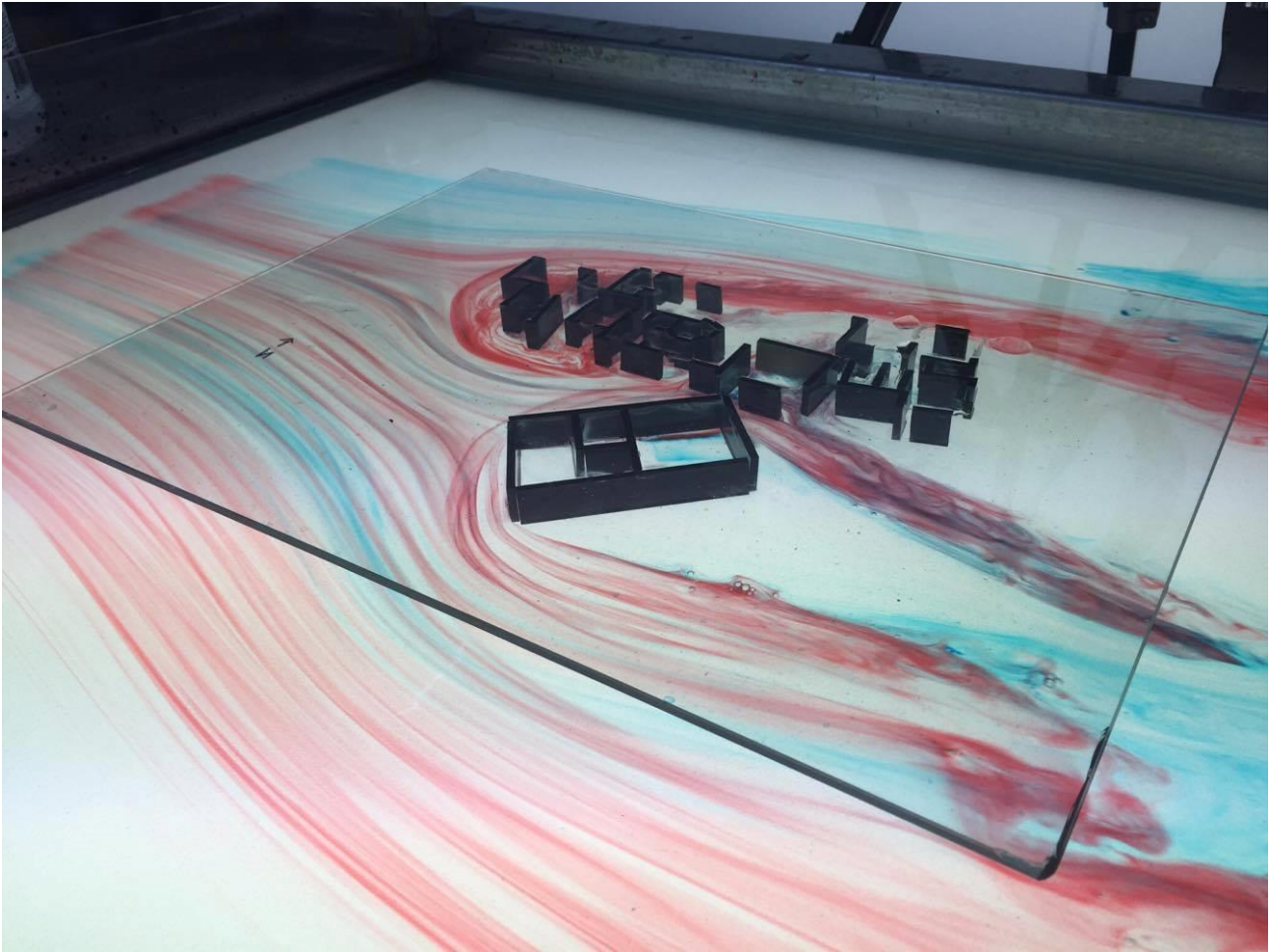


My second favorite unit must be **Environmental Studies**

You probably think it would be a bit stupid to travel half way around the world to study environmental studies when this field is something we are actually very good at here at home but I had an English teacher that had a lot of experience both with the climate on the northern hemisphere and on the southern.

Again, here the unit was a combination of class and lectures and I already miss this way of studying because you can read up on things before you have to use it.

In this course, we were put in teams and had to deliver three reports during the trimester. We were given a house (a case) and had to measure its performance and then we had to improve upon it with the tools we had learned during the course.



The last course I took was **Matterscapes** by **Ciro Marquez**

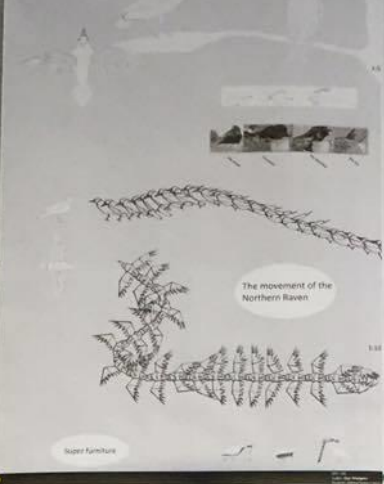
This course was the hardest course I took and from what I heard from my fellow students was that every course with the name scapes in it is really hard.

This course was an architectural course with focus on communication and understanding of the creative proses.

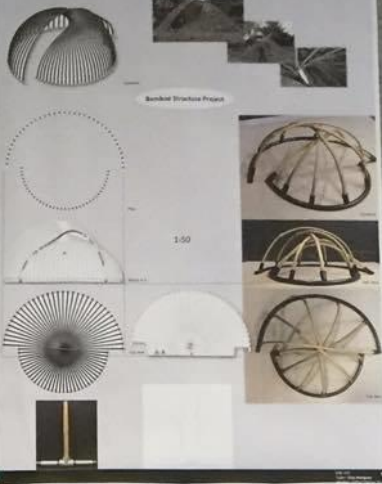
I was a bit behind the first day because of the difference in the educational field but the teacher was pretty good at helping me catch up.

Even though this course was tough and was a double credit unit I enjoyed the experience and the new way of seeing things.

The Raven's Hideout

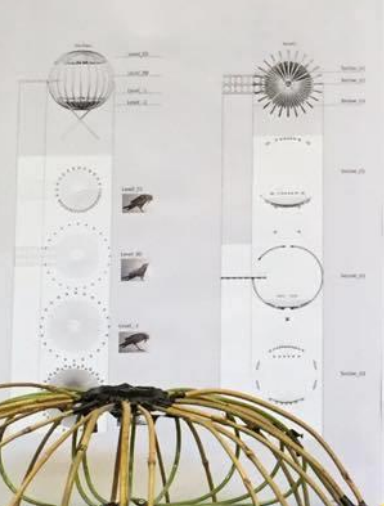


Case study

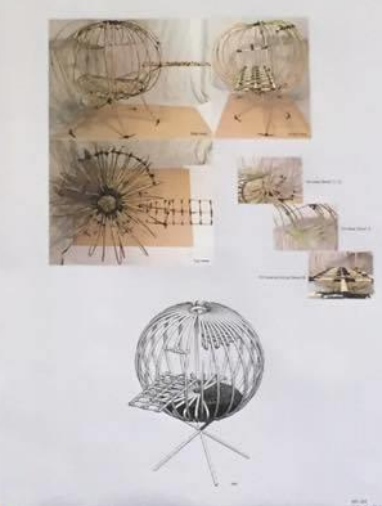


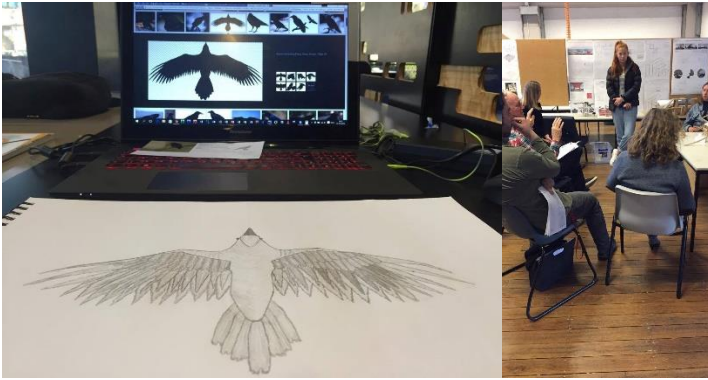
The final design

1:50



The final design





Social and cultural

It would take a long time to describe all the nice people I met during my stay in Australia but you will bond a lot with the other exchange students and you will find that **ALL** Australians are really friendly and always very helpful. For example, in Australia it is normal to greet your bus driver when you enter and exit the bus which makes the bus drivers a lot more services minded and friendly (that's something to think about).

The city of Geelong is not the most existing city it is more like a suburban city with a mall and so on but it has a very pretty water front with a lot of life during the summer. Melbourne on the other hand is a very nice city with a vibrant night life and some really nice things to see during the day (it takes about an hour to get to Melbourne from Geelong).

Here are some pictures from my social and cultural life mostly from my travels all around beautiful Australia:















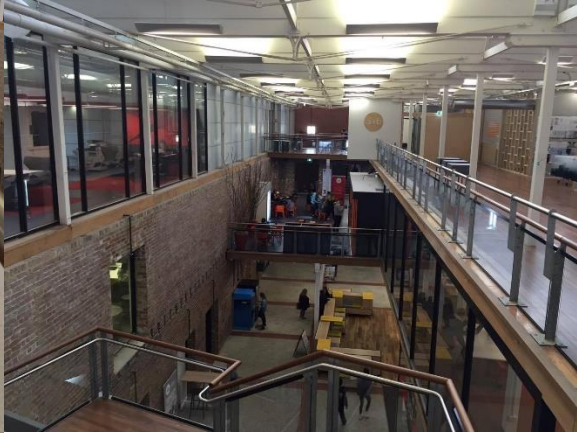
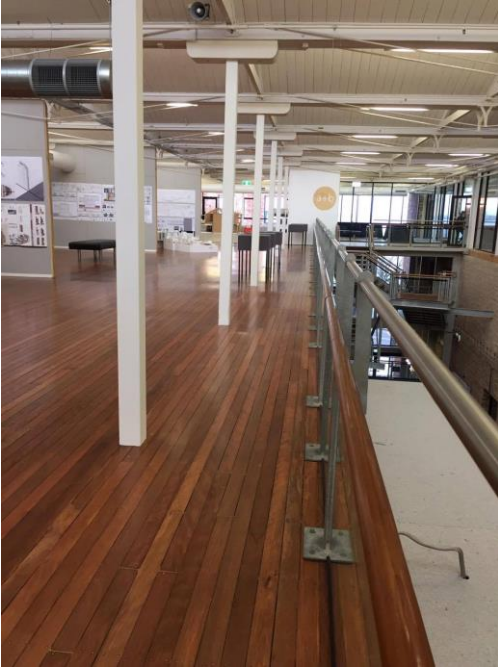
Practical experiences

I flew to Melbourne from Copenhagen on the 4 of July and after 22 hours my pre-booked driver from Deakin University rove me to the main entrant of Waurn Ponds Campus were I, from home, had rented an on-campus room for 900 AUD a moth. It is a bit expensive but it has been a really nice experience to live with aussies and speak a lot of English every day which is one of the many reasons why I went on this exchange in the first place.

Every day I took the free campus bus from my dorm at Waurn Pond to the Geelong Waterfront Campus. (a half an hour bud drive).

I normally ate in the big common kitchens on campus and went to the grocery stores on my way home from the Geelong campus. Food in Victoria by the way cost about the same as in Denmark.





Conclusion

My expectations both professionally and culturally were exceeded and I must say that this semester abroad is one for the books.

I have seen and learnt a lot of different things in my field and gotten a lot of really great friends from all over the world.

And I am more open to the idea that I might take a job outside of Denmark one day.