



Where and when did you study abroad?

I studied at Deakin University in Melbourne on my 5th semester.

What KEA program did you attend at the time?

Design and Business – specializing in Brand Design.

What classes did you take during your semester abroad?

I had three “units” (classes) whilst in Australia.

Communication in Everyday Life

For this unit we were taught how the power of media shapes public interest, and the opportunities and challenges created in the network society. We learnt a lot about different theories, concepts and analytical methods.

Making Social Media

For this unit we explored present day digital media culture in critical and creative ways. For our assignments we were taught how to make blog-posts, a website and a podcast. Making Social Media helped us understand the importance of your online identity.

Event Management

This was my favorite subject. This unit taught us everything you need to know about Events – from design, planning, organization and the operation of events. We had to work with budgets, marketing, HR, Risk Management. For this unit we worked in groups.

Academic Experience

How helpful was Deakin University in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?

Deakin University were very helpful in choosing classes (which I did from home). When I came to Deakin I wanted to switch classes and they helped me through it easily.

What classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding?

I have always been very interested in events. Even at my first internship at KEA I got to help plan an event for Copenhagen Fashion Week. Therefore I was so excited to learn how events are planned and different do's and don'ts.

What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?

Communication in Everyday Life is a great class and you learn a lot about different methods you can use in every type of assignment. Unfortunately, I had already learnt a lot of these methods, but it is always great to refresh knowledge.

What classes would you advice other KEA students going to Deakin University to choose or not to choose?

It really depends on your interests and hobbies. I think the most important part is to read the list of classes that are possible for you to join and really go for what you find interesting – that will also make it a lot more fun.

Cultural/Personal Experience

What challenges did you experience culturally whilst being a broad?

I didn't really experience and cultural difficulties whilst abroad. Luckily Australia is an English-speaking country and everything was made super easy for me.

What was the best cultural /personal experience during your studies abroad?

Deakin had the best two-week intro and I got to meet so many amazing people who were 'alone' like I was. Deakin is very good at making everyone feel included and were good at planning different activities like Moonlight cinema, trips to the city or the zoo.

What advice would you give other KEA students going to study abroad at Deakin University?

The majority of study abroad students were (also) there to explore and experience Australia so make sure you start saving up early because it would be a shame to have to say no to different activities because you are on a budget. And also be open and kind!

Practical Experience

How was the application process?

a. What did KEA help you with?

Unfortunately I couldn't go as an exchange student, so I went to Deakin as a study abroad student. This meant I had to do a little bit of extra work (like paying for the school) even though most of the amount was refunded. But KEA helps you with this and makes the process easy.

b. What help did you receive from your school abroad?

Deakin University helped me with deadlines, applying for classes and so on. They always answered me quickly (remember they are on a completely different time schedule). All in all, they were really helpful. And a BONUS is they pick up every student from the airport – free of charge. So I got to Deakin safely which was nice.

Did you have any practical difficulties settling down at your destination?

I stayed at Deakin residence and the only difficulty I had was going out to buy everything I needed. K-mart is a 10 min drive away and since I didn't have a car, I had to take an uber. Luckily Deakin offers to but this for you beforehand, but this is a little expensive. The only thing I bought from Deakin was everything I needed in the kitchen.

Where did you live?

I stayed right next to Deakin University at Deakin residence. So, it was super easy for me to find accommodation, but it was quite expensive. It would probably have been cheaper to stay outside of Deakin but there were different factors that made choose as I did. Like for example a good way to meet new friends, security at the residence, easy access to the university, 24hour reception and so on. There were also different facilities at campus that made it fun and enjoyable.

What kind of expenses did you have in general?

I spent more than I thought. My main expenses were for the tram (Aussie train) and just all the different trips I went on and weekends out exploring Melbourne. But I wouldn't have it any other way.

