

Erfahrungsbericht

Allgemeine Informationen	Verfasser	Muriel Sophie Amstutz (muriam@hotmail.ch)
	Art der Mobilität	Konvention
	Zeitpunkt	HS22
	Studiengang	Bachelor of Arts – Englische Sprache und Literatur / Geschichte
	Ausgewählte Universität	University of Technology Sydney
Vor dem Aufenthalt	Einschreibung	I researched possible universities and, later, what kind of courses I could take at UTS. Then, I got all the signatures needed for the different kinds of documents I had to upload.
	Vorbereitung	I did a lot of research about the university and the city I was going to live in. I compared courses and housing possibilities and also looked at the activities and cultural introductions that were offered.
	Visa, andere Formalität	Getting into Australia can be quite stressful. You have to have a student visa which you only can get once UTS has formally accepted you and sent all the necessary documents. I was able to apply for my visa at the end of May, and I received the visa within seconds. But I know other people who didn't receive theirs until late July. This depends on the countries you have visited in the last couple of years. The whole process of filling out the visa takes a long time, and you also need to already have medical insurance etc. For the university itself, I then also had to do an online training called 'Consent Matter' that each student had to complete.
	Ankunft im Gastland	I lived at UTS housing, so I arrived in Sydney the same week as many other newbies. That makes life much easier as everyone is new and excited and wants to get to know the city and country. The housing, therefore, also offered events for us and in the second week of my arrival, the university also hosted a welcome week with many different introductions and activities. During this week, I was also finally able to finalize my timetable.
Vor Ort	Allgemeine Eindrücke des Aufenthaltes	This semester has been the best experience! I've met the most wonderful people from all around the world and, thus, learnt not only about Australian culture but about many others as well. Academically, it has been a highlight as well: As the University of Fribourg does not offer Creative Writing, I decided to use this chance and specialize in this field. This has been super interesting and taught me overall a great deal. During the semester there was also a study break, usually just called StuVac, where my friends and I also had the chance to

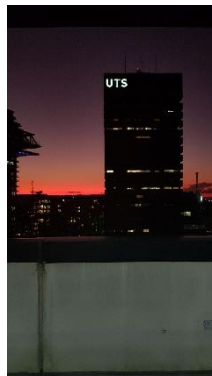
	<p>travel around the country for a bit and learn more about beautiful Australia.</p>
Unterkunft	<p>I lived on campus, in a housing called Yura Mudang. After some comparison, this was one of the cheapest options for living in Sydney (this is because everything is included in the total cost, whereas in other rental places, you have to pay for electricity and everything else extra), plus it was literally on campus. One of my courses was even in the same building. My flatmates were from all around the world, two of them from Australia and the housing was filled with both international and domestic students. Furthermore, the housing was very central, and it was a 20-30 minutes walk to the Sydney Opera House for example. Getting to the beaches like Bondi or Manly takes a bit longer, but still, everything is nicely accessible.</p>
Kosten	<p>The expense of living is really a downside in Sydney. It is one of the most expensive cities in the world, and some costs are just unreasonably high. But UTS offered free brekkies and once a week free dinner as well.</p>
Gastuniversität : allgemeine Informationen	<p>UTS lies in the heart of Sydney and offers many different degree options. It has the most amazing library and also offers many clubs and organizations to join in your free time.</p>
Gastuniversität : akademische Informationen	<p>I studied Creative Writing for one semester, and instead of exams, I had creative projects and papers to write. The university offers support for students who don't speak English as their first language. Furthermore, they also offer a service to look at one's academic papers and discuss improvement techniques. My tutors were very friendly and helpful too.</p>
Gastland	<p>Australia is usually seen as a progressive country, but as is often the case, there is still a lot to be done. I recommend taking a course on Indigenous culture or even just exploring different experiences offered by Aboriginal people, as for example, an Aboriginal tour of the Royal Botanical Garden. Unfortunately, there is a lot of racism in Australia, and especially Indigenous people are still suffering from stereotypes and the aftermath of colonialism. One of my courses was called Aboriginal Sydney Now and taught much about Australia's First Nations People.</p>
Freizeit, Studentenleben	<p>As already mentioned, finding friends when living in a student housing is rather easy. Everyone wants to explore Sydney and make the best of their time. The Welcome Week activities helped of course too! At UTS there are many clubs and activities offered. One of them even offered many events to get to know the city during the first month and took us all around the metropole. There is also a gym at campus where you meet many other students. UTS also teams up with a Surf school each semester and offers discounts for students. During the semester, there is also some time to travel around the country as during StuVac or even just weekend trips are possible. My semester</p>

already ended at the end of October, so there is again some room for travels then before returning to your home country!

Fotos

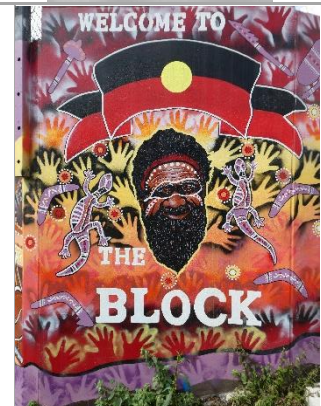


The Library



View from
Rooftop

The
neighbourhood





Australian Wildlife and Nature



Other activities and StuVac

