

Rapport d'expérience

Informations de bases	Auteur	Giosuè Antorini (giosue.antorini@unfir.ch)
	Type de mobilité	Convention
	Quand	SP2024, 5 months
	Voie d'études	Anglais
	Niveau pendant le séjour	Master, 1ère année
	Université choisie	University of Mississippi, United States
Avant le séjour	Inscription	At the University of Fribourg I had to provide a cover letter, my CV, my academic results, and my passport photo. Moreover, I also had to follow the steps indicated on the MyUnifr Outgoing portal (which are very clear). At the University of Mississippi I had to provide an English speaking test attesting my English level (a minimum of B2 is required), as well as a proof of having enough financial resources and a letter of good standing by the University of Fribourg.
	Préparation	I had to take a Cambridge English exam, so I studied for about 3 months before taking it. In terms of questions that might arise before departure, I could talk to a girl who went to the University of Mississippi one year before me. So that I could ask any question that I had for organization purposes.
	Visa, autres formalités	I needed a J-1 visa to study as a temporary student in the US. I had to register on the US-Swiss Embassy for an interview in Bern and provide the documentation they require (acceptance letter from the University of Mississippi, proof of financial resources)
	Arrivée dans le pays d'accueil	The Study Abroad Office of my host university took care of transportation from the Memphis airport to campus.
Sur place	Impressions générales du séjour	I loved my stay at the University of Mississippi, life on campus is vibrant and always full of different activities for students. The Study Abroad Office also offers various excursions for free. There are two big recreational centers for sports and with a gym to stay fit that are also free. On campus there are several places where you can eat (3 mensas and other fast-food options). So, a positive factor is definitely campus life, which is something one cannot experience in Switzerland. Finally, school sports are also a big magnet to bring people together and experience the true American lifestyle.
	Logement	I lived at The Quarters, which is an apartment complex. I stayed in a room with private bathroom in a shared apartment with three other

students (each with his private room). The price is kind of expensive (4000 dollars for one semester). However, it is an accommodation already provided to international students by the Study Abroad Office and student housing, thus, there is no need to look for accommodation. This will be the most expensive expense here.

Coûts

The cost of life here is no different than in Switzerland. Be aware that the apartment in which you will move in will be empty (apart from the bed, a drawer, a desk and chair). Therefore, I would recommend to consider a budget of around 200 dollars to get cutlery, plates, cleaning material, etc.

Université d'accueil :
Informations générales

Campus is big but easily walkable, in about 10/15 minutes walk you can reach any spot on campus. You can rent a bike for 30 dollars for a semester which is great. There is also a free bus service that runs daily and with a frequency of 5/10 minutes on each line, this means you can get from The Quarters to campus easily too.

Université d'accueil :
Informations académiques

The variety of courses available is much bigger than in Fribourg. You can find anything, even "walking classes" or "wine tasting" classes. This means that apart from following classes related to your area of studies, you could also take classes that simply interest you out of curiosity. In the US, the classes are structured in a way that is more similar to Swiss high school. For one class you can meet up up to 3 times a week (usually on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 50min or on Tuesday and Thursday for 1h15min) and you will have plenty of assignments, homework, readings to do. It's not hard to find classes and professors are generally open to questions and friendly. All classes are taught in English. I could only recommend the classes I took in order to get to know southern literature and history more.

Pays d'accueil

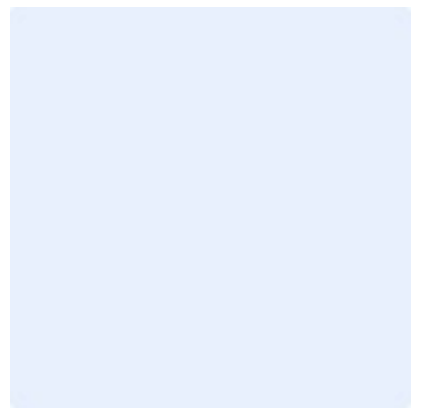
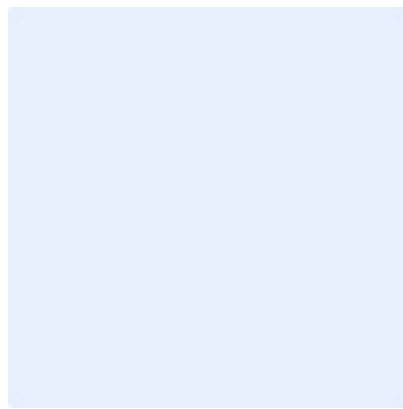
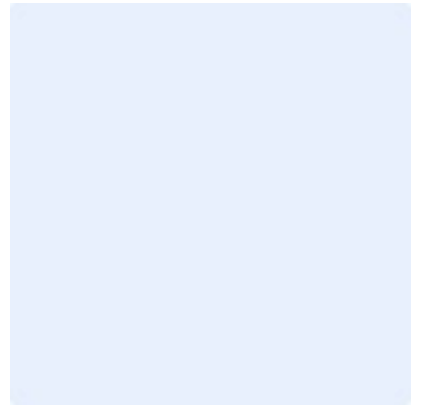
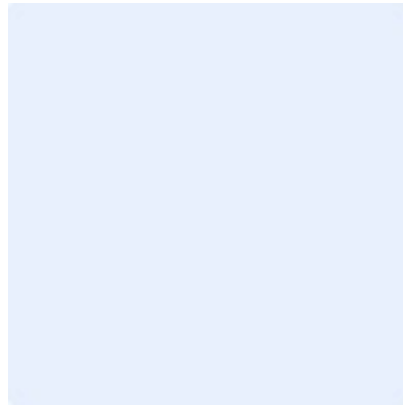
Oxford does not have public transportation that takes you out of the city, thus, if you want to travel you have to rent a car or find a ride that takes you to the Memphis airport (1h15min away by uber/lyft/ or a friend)

Vie sociale, loisirs

I think I have already touched upon social life and traveling in answering other questions. Meeting American friends is not hard, they are very open and kind, moreover, they particularly like international students and love to get to know them. There are activities proposed by the Study Abroad Office and sport events throughout the whole semester to keep you occupied. Like I said earlier, you need a car to get around. But it is absolutely recommended to go for a road trip to Nashville or New Orleans, or both!

Informations supplémentaires

Photos
(vous pouvez télécharger ici
des photos si vous le
souhaitez)



Commentaires, remarques

I think I said everything.