

## Student Exchange Questionnaire

**Name:** Benjamin Duthie-Jung

**Massey Degree:** Bachelor of Aviation Management

**Host university:** European Business School - Germany

**Semester and year of exchange:** Semester 1, 2016

### Why did you choose this particular university and/or country for exchange?

As I am half German I have family in Germany and I have visited Germany a couple of times. I have always loved my time there so I wanted to see what it was like to live there for an extended period of time, along with visiting my family there.

### Did it meet your expectations?

The exchange totally exceeded my expectations! It was far better than I could've imagined!



### What papers did you study while on exchange? Would you recommend them?

- Accounting & Control
- Airline Business Models
- Economics II
- Study Skills in German
- Managing Strategy

I would recommend Accounting and control, Airline Business Models, Economics, and Study Skills in German, because I found them challenging yet achievable and interesting. However Managing Strategy I wouldn't recommend as I found it too challenging.

### Were there differences in the teaching methods and academic environment at your host university, compared to Massey University? If so, what kind of differences?

Yes I found that the 'lectures' at EBS were more interactive than the majority of my Massey lectures, however I feel more comfortable in Massey lectures as they are conducted at a much more comfortable pace than EBS. I also felt that the lecturers at EBS were more distant than those at Massey, at Massey I feel more comfortable approaching a professor if I have a question or query.

### Did you stay on-campus or off-campus? What was the accommodation like?

I stayed off campus because EBS at this stage doesn't have halls of residence on campus. My flat was very nice and modern, and very 'european'.

### How did living expenses compare to in New Zealand?

Overall living expenses are similar however some things are cheaper in Germany and some things are cheaper in New Zealand. For example,



alcohol and food is cheaper in Germany, however rent and petrol is cheaper in New Zealand.

**What extra-curricular activities did you participate in at the host university?**

I participated in EBS's football league and I also played for the local football club in the village where EBS is situated. However this is the only extra curricular activity I did at EBS because their university has very small focus on extra curricular activities and I feel that not many things were offered.



**What's one thing you learnt about your host country or culture?**

Germany is a very blunt and efficient country, they are not known for small talk and I witnessed that in the lectures where lecturers wouldn't bother with small talk before a lecture, they would just jump straight into the lecture topic.

**What were some of the highlights of your exchange experience?**

My biggest highlight was meeting approximately 100 other exchange students from all over the planet including countries like; France, England, Italy, Portugal, Brazil, Lithuania, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia, USA, Canada and many more. This was the best thing because we all wanted to travel and explore Germany and Europe so I always had a good group of friends keen to travel with me.

**What did you find challenging?**

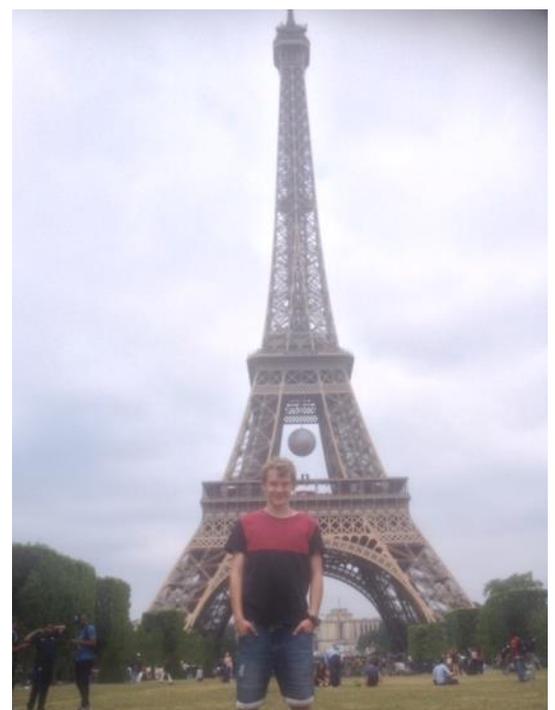
Being the only New Zealander at the university was at times challenging. For example, other exchange students not understanding our slang (jandals, chilly bin), also our fashion is different and we are a lot more informal compared to other countries, so I felt like I always had to double check that I meet the formalities for certain occasions etc.

**What do you feel you have learnt or gained from going on exchange?**

Independence is the biggest thing I've learnt, living 6 months away from immediate family and with minimal contact from my German family was a big step up for me personally. Travelling with only other students throughout Europe was also a big learning curve for me, learning how big and different this world is, yet how accessible it is!

**Do you have any tips for future students intending to travel to the same country or university?**

Dive straight into every opportunity you receive, travel to as many countries as possible, use as much of your budget as possible on experiencing the world, Europe is very different to NZ and once you're back in NZ it isn't easy to return to Europe.



**Do you have any comments on the support provided to you by Massey University and/or by the host university before/during/after your exchange?**

The support was very good, including the reminders of the things required once I finished the exchange. I particularly liked that after certain terrorist events in Europe Massey straight away contacted me to check that I wasn't involved.

