

Student testimonial question form

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Degree: BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (MANAGEMENT)

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1. Why did you choose to study at QUT?

After living in the USA for some time, I was invited to spend time in Australia with my extended family. Two weeks after the initial invitation, I was on a plane to Australia and spent 3 months travelling throughout Australia. I decided that Brisbane was the best destination for me to study. I made an appointment with Study Abroad the day after I got back from Australia (jetlagged!) and met with Asa to speak about my options. For Business, Study Abroad recommended QUT, Griffith University and Martin College. I was looking for a university campus environment and knew that QUT had a great reputation for Business. I also had friends in the US who were from Brisbane and spoke highly of QUT!

"All has lived up to my expectations which is great!"

2. Why did you choose your area of study?

I chose business as I've always been more interested in that, over something like the Sciences. I thought that the skills I learned within a business degree would be highly transferable which is really important to me. I don't know where I'll be based in the future so it needed to be something that I could take with me. QUT also has a really good reputation in the area so that encouraged me further. I decided to major in Management as again, thought it would allow me to build a career in a lot of areas. I've had some really interesting units so far, e.g. Managing People and Business and Law Ethics, which makes me feel secure that I've made the right decision.

3. What parts of the course have been most beneficial, or have you particularly enjoyed?

I've only completed two semesters so far so my schedule has been made up mostly with core units. However, I've found this really useful as it has given me the opportunity to explore options for a second major or two minors. It has been a great base on which to work from.

4. What have been the highlights of your student experience at QUT so far?

My absolute highlight so far has been the opportunity to make so many new friends. For me it feels so much easier to connect with people in Australia. I'm not sure what it is but people are more relaxed and open which makes me more confident to chat with new people. I don't think I would feel as comfortable doing this at home. I've now got friends from all over the world – some are here

for full degrees, others are here on exchange and there are also plenty of Australian friends in there too!

5. Have you participated in any internships or volunteering opportunities during your time at QUT?

I haven't done any yet. My first year was all about settling into Brisbane and my studies at QUT. I plan to get involved with QUT's Real World Placement program to hopefully get an internship in something related to my Management degree. I know there are a lot of other programs available for students, for example the Business School's Business Advantage Program and the Leadership, Development and Innovation program, which I might also look into.

6. What opportunities for practical learning experiences have you had while at QUT?

I'm heavily involved in the QUT Guild "Your Personal Uni Wingman" which has been a rewarding experience as I get to help connect people and provide support to students. I'm also in the Norwegian Student Organisation, NorSK, which has been a lot of fun!

My electives in upcoming semesters will provide me with more opportunity for practical experiences.

7. What did you find was great about your lecturers and tutors? What experiences did they add to your learning?

A lot of my tutors work in industry so they are good at including examples from "real life" into the classroom. For example, my management tutor works for a company in the city and would talk about a real example and then we had the opportunity to discuss with him. It's much better than reading examples from a textbook!

8. How has your QUT experience helped shape your career?

My QUT degree will help me in the future as the university prepares me for what is to come afterwards. The mentality of the lecturers/tutors is really supportive and this builds confidence in us students. It's uplifting and I realise that if I would hard, I can do it and succeed. This differs from other universities, particularly in Europe, where I've heard they strive on having a reputation of being 'too hard'. This has the opposite effect and makes students lose confidence in their ability. I prefer QUT's approach!

9. What advice would you give to prospective QUT students?

"Just come here"

"Moving here has seriously been the best decision! I just feel so much happier here!"

10. How did you find the transition moving from your home country to Australia? Did services at QUT support this transition?

I had an advantage that I had already been to Australia and already had some friends living here in Brisbane and in other cities. It really helped me out in the beginning as they could let me know which bank to use and where I should live. I know that feeling and so I feel really encouraged to “give back” to other students who may not have the same support network upon arrival. For instance, I offer to give my email address to any new students who have just arrived in Australia or may not have left Sweden yet and have questions about life in Brisbane. I also try really hard to connect people when they arrive. I have one friend who I introduced to another student and they are now best friends! It makes me really happy that I made that introduction! Although I didn’t need it, I know QUT offers free airport reception which is really valuable as it provides security to students after the long flight!

11. Any other comments you would like to add?

It’s not as hard as you think to relocate to Australia for study! It’s such a good experience that it is totally worth it! Something that I’ve learnt is that it all comes together and will be fine! There is so much support both in Sweden and when you arrive in Australia that it will all be ok.