

EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete and return this form to <studyabroad@sfu.ca>

TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost? _____

Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? _____

Do you have a recommended routing or airline? No Yes

If yes, please describe: _____

VISAS

What is your citizenship? (voluntary; may impact following information) _____

Did you need a student visa/permit? No Yes: What was the reason? _____

If yes, what documentation was needed? _____

Did you need a visitor visa/permit? No Yes: What was the reason? _____

If yes, what documentation was needed? _____

Where was your immigration documentation processed? _____

How Iso89 l _____

Where was yjRJta _____ to _____ uocumentocess667(No 281(No Yes) TJ T* [(Wher)19(e w)29(as y)39(

Is there easy transportation between the airport and university? No Yes

Please comment: From airport to the university, taking a cab is around less than \$10 CAD, however if you plan ahead, the DLSU linkages advisor can pick you up.

What is the closest airport to the host university? _____

ORIENTATION

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival at the host university? No Yes

If yes, do you recommend that future students participate? No Yes

Please comment:

LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

Is there a language program available either before or during the term? No Yes

If yes, how long is it? It is informal, DLSU students help for with language, or you can go to a private language school

Is there an additional cost for language training? No Yes: How much? Depends on school

Please comment: The Philippines is one of the best non-Tagalog speaking countries out there - they are heavy on english usage.

ACCOMMODATION & LIVING

Is on-campus or university dormitory accommodation available? No Yes

If yes, are you living in a university dormitory? No Yes

If yes, can you make a recommendation for a specific dormitory? No Yes

If yes, please describe: EGI Taft Towers (I used this), however the Orlando Suites nearby is better

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation? \$200 CAD

Is there a meal plan? No Yes: How much is it? _____

If no, do you have access to adequate cooking facilities? No Yes

How far is your dormitory from the main campus? Right beside it!

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

No adequate phone service, however, it is very easy to get a cell phone, most everyone's on "pay-as-you-go" system. Internet/Wi-Fi is available, but coverage in your room is spotty, and it sometimes gets shut down unexpectedly.

Did you have to make a deposit for your accommodation prior to arrival? No Yes

If yes, how did you arrange this? Through family, however I am sure you can wire money.

Is off-campus housing easily available? No Yes

Please comment on off-campus housing:

I extremely recommend the Orlando Suites near campus, or the EGI Taft Towers, for off campus living, or if you're staying longer than 6 months, get condo somehow!

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals? > \$1000 CAD

Any other comments on accommodation:

Buy everything in the Philippines, don't bother bringing things you might not need. I do recommend getting a condo, only because there is more freedom in doing so.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Have you opened a bank account in your host country? No Yes: What are the challenges/benefits to opening a local bank account?

I opened up a "Global Filipino" ATM card here in Vancouver at the Philippine National Bank. Basically it is a reloadable ATM card that I got my brother to remit funds to whenever I needed it. The only challenge is that workers get confused by the card and refuse to swipe it so often I'd have to find an ATM to get funds, but otherwise it was a good system!

How would you recommend students bring money (Canadian/American cash, travelers' cheques, local currency?)

Get the ATM card I mentioned above. Hardly any problems. It is not a formal bank account.

What is/are the preferred method(s) of payment at most establishments? Cash Debit Credit card

Please comment: See above.

ACADEMIC DETAILS

Was it possible for you to get all of the courses that you wanted? No Yes

Please describe the course registration procedure:

Because you are not a formal student at DLSU, you do not have a "course" which you are upon, therefore you get to cherry pick which courses you take. Basically you do it personally with your advisor.

What discipline(s)/program(s) are you taking at your host university? Organizational Communications / Development Studies

What is the language of instruction in your courses? English

If not English, are English-taught courses available? N/A, there are courses available in Tagalog (of course)

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university.

First and foremost, I'm not going to say that the level of education is worse in the Philippines, it is simply different. To compare SFU and DLSU is like comparing apples to oranges. However what I will say is to be prepared to be flexible in what your expectations for yourself and your education are. I had small classes, personable teachers, that was great. Just enjoy the ride, and don't beat yourself up if there are group papers involved.

What do you feel is/will be the main academic benefit of your participation in this exchange program?

My main academic benefit wasn't necessarily learned from the books or readings I had to do, it was seeing the differences in what was important to learn for these students (for DLSU students or SFU students), and what was expected of them in the real world. You'll see what I mean when you get there.

Please email to:

SFU International
Maggie Benston Centre, Room 1200
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5A 1S6
Fax: 778.782.5880
studyabroad@sfu.ca



WWW.SFU.CA/INTERNATIONAL