*What type of student should go on this program (ex: personality traits, major, etc)?
-Someone who is active, open to meeting new people, self-motivated, open-minded, and easygoing. The university has many courses in social sciences as well as business, exercise science, literature, etc.

**Instructors**
- What were they like when compared to UCSB instructors?
  They were much more involved, with many of them also being tutors for the class discussions.

- Could you call them by their first names?
  Yes, most of them asked to be called by their first names.

- Was the student/instructor relationship more formal than at UCSB?
  No, if anything it was more casual

- Were they available for help during office hours?
  Yes, they held office hours every week

**Courses**
- Were the courses more difficult when compared to UCSB courses?
  There was less busy work and the grade in the class was dependent upon only big papers and tests, but the classes prepared students for the tests pretty well.

- Was the grading system similar to UCSB?
  No, grades were less weighted and most students were given very low marks. Grades ranged from High Distinction to Fail, with most students receiving a Pass and very few actually being given High Distinctions. However, EAP makes up for this when translating grades into the ABCD scale.

- How did the course structure differ? Ex) did you have many assignments or just finals?
  There were very few assignments and the majority of my grade was made up of exam results.

- Did you have oral and/or written exams?
  All of my exams were written.

- Was the final exam schedule flexible or inflexible?
  Some professors were understanding, but exams were taken very seriously and the schedule wasn’t very flexible. The professors didn’t actually give the exams. Instead, many classes were all in one big hall at the same time taking their exams.

- What kind of academic support, if any, did you receive?
  There are peer-led study groups for many of the sciences and most lectures also have small group discussions.

- Did you find you needed to be more independent and take more initiative abroad?
- Yes, since work wasn’t turned in throughout the semester, it was easy to fall behind and then save all of the studying for the last minute.

- **Was classroom participation expected?**
  - While attendance in lecture is not normally mandatory, professors do expect that you participate in small group discussions.

- **How were the host university courses different than UCSB courses?**
  - I didn’t recognize much difference

- **Were classes usually on certain days/times and for how long?**
  - Most classes had one lecture which was normally an hour long and then one discussion which was two hours.

- **What is the class culture like? How important was it to be punctual? Could you eat/drink in class?**
  - It was very similar to UCSB. You were expected to be on time and for the most part you could eat/drink in class.

### Language

- **In which languages were the courses offered?**
  - English

- **What language did you take your courses in?**
  - English

- **If you took your courses in a foreign language, please provide info about your overall experience, difficulty of courses, language acquisition, placement exams, etc.**
  - N/A

### Host University

- **How large is the university? Student enrollment and approx campus size (smaller than UCSB)? Is it an urban campus with many tall buildings or just a few building?**
  - The student body size was similar to UCSB but the campus seemed a lot smaller (it wasn’t quite as spread out). There were still some big buildings with lecture halls and classrooms but it was much easier to find my way around.

- **Do the local students live on campus, at home, or off campus?**
  - There are many students living on campus (even 2nd and 3rd years) but then other students also live in apartments or rented houses. Some students commute from other nearby towns as well.

- **If not located in the city center,**
  - **How far or close is it to the city?**
    - About 5 minutes by bus

  - **What type of public transportation could you take – cost?**
    - There was a free shuttle bus that would go to each stop every 15 minutes. There was also a train with a few convenient stops around town

  - **Could students take cabs -cost?**
- Yes some students did take cabs.
  - How long would it take to get to the city center?
    - 5-10 minutes

- Are there student clubs on campus that UC students could join?
  - Yes there are clubs and sports teams that international students are welcome to join.

- Is there a bookstore on campus? Where did you get your books?
  - Yes and this is where I purchased my books.

- Is there a computer lab on campus? Or, should students bring laptops?
  - There is a fairly big computer lab on campus and you could pay to print anything out there. I still brought my laptop for use when I wasn’t on the university campus.

- What types of establishments are in the university’s neighborhood? (cafes, stores, etc)
  - On the campus, there are many cafes and places to eat. Other food would probably be about a 15 minutes walk away.

**Housing**

- What types of accommodations are available to UC students?
  - You can live in campus housing or find your own apartment or house to rent

- How close are they to campus?
  - My dorm building was about 10 minutes by bus and 40 minutes by foot to the university.

- How did you find your housing?
  - Through the university’s website

- Where did you live and with whom?
  - Campus East (university accommodation); there are 600 students that live on the campus, about 400 Australian and 200 international students

- If you lived off campus, was it difficult to find an apartment and roommate?

- Were the rooms nicer or not than I.V./UCSB dorms?
  - Each person had their own bedroom and then each 5 bedrooms shared a living area and bathroom. The building was a bit more outdated than UCSB dorms.

- Was it more expensive than living in I.V.? How much was a typical rent cost in US dollars?
  - I paid $200 Australian dollars a week, which averaged out to about $600 US a month. This included utilities and I had my own bedroom.

- How/who did you pay for housing?
  - I paid with money I had saved up.
**Food**
- What was the food like?
  The food was pretty similar, but there were a lot of fried foods. There was also a lot of Thai restaurants and very few Mexican restaurants.

- Where did you eat most of your meals? Cafeterias, restaurants, street vendors, etc?
  - I mostly ate in the dorm’s cafeteria but I also found a few restaurants that I liked when I was in town or at the university.

- How much was an average meal?
  - Probably around $10-15 but there was no other tax or tip that needed to be added on.

- What time of day did people eat lunch/dinner?
  - Same as in US

- Would it be difficult for vegetarians to find meals?
  - No, even in the dorm cafeteria there was always a vegetarian choice.

**Travel/Safety**
- If not discussed above, describe the public transportation system around your host university/city?

- Did you feel safe in your host city? Are there tips you would offer future students?
  - Yes, I always felt very safe but I also made sure not to walk around at night by myself if I didn’t have to.

- Describe the public transportation in your host country?
  - Most people could use the free shuttle bus, the train, or taxis.

- Was it difficult/easy to travel to neighboring countries?
  - It was very easy and there were always great deals to go to Southeast Asia, New Zealand, Fiji, etc.

**Host City/Country**
- What was the weather like?
  - Very similar to Santa Barbara, but the seasons are opposite.

- Describe your host city…which California/US city is it similar to (if any)?
  - I thought that the city in general was much like Santa Barbara.

- What were some interesting/fun things that you did in the host city?
  - Hike Mount Keira, go to the beach, go shopping, skydive on the beach, play sports, go watch rugby or football games, etc.

- How international was your host city in terms of tourism, cultural diversity, and international businesses?
- The city was mostly Australian, but I did notice a significant number of Asian residents and near the university there were many other international students.

**Culture**
- Describe the cultural differences that you observed/encountered.
  - **Time & punctuality**
    - Similar to US, although Australians are a bit more laid back and easy going.
  - **Eye contact & staring**
    - Everyone is very friendly right away; many times strangers in the street would be comfortable starting a conversation or helping you if you look lost.
  - **Relationships**
    - The Australians were willing to build friendships with many of the international students
  - **More formal dress in general, for women, for school, etc?**
    - No, very similar
  - **Alcohol consumption**
    - Alcohol is a part of their culture, and students may notice that consumption is a bit higher than what is normal in US
  - **What culture shock did you go through?**
    - I felt that there was more of a language barrier than I excepted there to be so that was difficult when I first got there.

- **Other?**

**Banking**
- Were credit cards widely accepted?
  - Yes
- Did you open a local bank account? Was it easy?
  - No
- If you did not open a local bank account, was it easy to withdraw money from the ATM? Which banks were popular & had low ATM fees?
  - Yes, fairly easy—my bank would charge $5 per withdrawal, regardless of how much I was taking out. The Australian bank Westpac does not charge for Bank of America accounts.
- Were there ATMs on campus?
  - Yes, for National Australian Bank.