

**EXCHANGE REPORT****Name****Year and term for exchange**

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2022/2023 Fall

**Exchange university**

EPFL

**Degree programme**

Architecture

## **An Impressive Architecture Exchange Journey**

### **Before departure**

The reason I applied for an exchange is to try to live in another place for a period of time and experience a different living environment and culture. For the study of architecture majors, it is great to be able to participate in different architectural experiences as much as possible by traveling different "landscape". Before leaving, I learned about the school's professional courses in advance, read the teaching information of each course, and made a pre-selection.

### **Upon arrival**

I arrived in Lausanne two weeks early and did a walking tour of the city to get a first impression of where I'm going to live. The school provided us with a lot of warm-up activities from different clubs and organizations through the mailbox to help us better understand the school environment and study life.

### **Financials**

I received a scholarship from the European Union, but the relatively high cost of living in Switzerland taught me to manage my daily expenses better. More self-cooking would be a good way to save money, and to buy discounted tickets on the public transport system in advance for planned trips.

### **Accommodation**

The accommodation situation in Lausanne is also very tight, but I was lucky that I got a very good studio in fmel.

### **University and studies**

About half of the courses at EPFL are taught in French, so for English-speaking students, options are limited. However, the courses provided are divided into several categories, and we have the option to choose corresponding course content from different research directions among quite rich courses.

### **Courses**

I was absolutely amazed at the high quality of teaching, the coherent teaching system, and the great amount of guidance and feedback I received in every course I chose at EPFL. Especially the Cartography, I learned how to read a territory, and awakened my hobby and ability to draw.

### **City and country**

The old city, that is, the city centre, is at a height- a mountain, and then spreads to the shore of Lake Geneva, opposite the small town of Evian in France. Although the city is not big, it is very fun to "play", and the lakeside space with a wide horizontal view.

**Leisure and social activities**

The school offers a huge range of physical education programs, facilities and teaching. At the same time, you can choose to go for a walk or run by Lake Geneva, which is an excellent urban space.

**Sustainability**

In Switzerland, garbage sorting is a very important living habit to learn. It not only helps you save money by saving garbage bags, but also ensures the cleanliness and low-carbon environmental protection of the entire city life.

**Other recommendations and observations**

In short, I am very lucky to have this exchange experience, whether it is the school course study or the city life experience, it is impressive and very helpful for my future planning