



AUSTRALIA

Name: Sarah Dymock
Program: Bachelor of Business Administration Exchange Program

I came to Nanaimo, British Columbia on the study abroad program from Australia; my experience at Vancouver Island University (VIU) has been indescribable. I have enjoyed every moment at VIU, and have had many opportunities to get involved in all that VIU offers. From the outdoor recreation programs and international coffee house experiences to the wonderful excursions the international office puts on such as the Ladysmith Christmas lights, which were amazing. The cultural diversity at VIU has been one of the best experiences; I have met so many people from so many different countries and I have learnt so much about different cultures, which is something that I will definitely take home with me. Overall it has been an extremely positive experience that I will remember for the rest of my life.

Living in Nanaimo has been awesome; it's twice the size of my home town, so it's been a nice change. Nanaimo is a very friendly city and offers many things to do especially in the great outdoors. I have had the chance to take many walks around the area and I also went white water rafting on the upper Nanaimo River which was an experience in its self. I have enjoyed the beautiful scenery that surrounds Nanaimo, the gorgeous harbour front and the mountains that surround the area. Nanaimo is a great area to attend university and I would recommend it to anyone that doesn't like the busyness of the bigger cities.

I was enrolled in the business program for my exchange period, I found the program and the instructors exceptional, while the learning style was a little different to my own university I adjusted quickly, and found that my professors were very helpful. The resources that were available to me for my courses were excellent. I found that for my business program this exchange has been very beneficial as I studied both international trade and international marketing while here, and from these I got to see a different perspective of the business world that I believe will help me both in future study and employment prospects.

Although my time was limited at VIU, I am thankful for the time I did have. I have met so many wonderful people and made many life long friends that have enriched my experience here which I will never forget.

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