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How my exchange benefited my studies

The reason I selected the University of Tampere for my exchange was because of the course offerings, recommendations from my EURUS professors, and the amount of resources offered which Carleton could not match. The university was said to have a very strong European and Russian studies department, something which turned out to be true.

In terms of courses, I was able to enroll in two that were specific to my MRP topic, something that has not been offered at Carleton since I have been enrolled. Taking part in those courses allowed me to build on my knowledge of my MRP topic, create a stronger framework around it, and progress in my research due to the materials used in the classes. Taking part in these courses was also beneficial as they provided me with a direct European perspective on matters rather than a North American perspective.

In terms of literary resources, I had access to the libraries and online sources of three different universities in the city, as well as different journals which were not available at Carleton. That allowed me to access and use European specific sources for my MRP research.

I was also in contact with both professors and PhD candidates who were working on similar topics for their research. This helped me with my MRP as I had professionals who were knowledgeable on my topic with whom I could discuss it and raise questions. They also provided me with assistance in structuring my MRP, and sources for me to refer to and read when conducting the research on my topic.

Spending a semester at the University of Tampere was an invaluable experience to me as my time there assisted me greatly in researching and preparing my MRP in ways which were not available to me at Carleton.