



# Exchange Report- NEOMA Business School, Campus Rouen

Tam Ching Chi  
FINA & OM (YR4)

# Monthly Log

## September



I arrived Paris on the 1<sup>st</sup> September with other two UST exchange students. The airline left my luggage in Hong Kong and I was only able to get my luggage back a week later. I took a taxi to the campus and I have to stay in hotel for one night as the residence did not provide check-in service at night. I completed the check-in process and attended the orientation activities on the second day. There were booths that you can get your bank account done. You can also join the campus tour and orientation party as you wish.

At the first weekend, there was a city tour that you can join for free to discover Rouen. They will take you to the tourist spots and get you familiar with the downtown.



Before the semester started, there was a French intensive course for students who were taking French course in the coming semester.

After settling down, I made my first trip to Paris. I also went to the Netherlands and London in the following weeks. My wallet was stolen in the Netherlands. Luckily, I found my passport back and only lost one hundred euros. Always goes to the police and get a proof to claim insurance.

## October

All courses have started and the courses I took were mainly with international students. The workloads of the courses were not as heavy as the courses in UST. I have made two trips going to Switzerland and Iceland. Midterms are coming so I have to study for the French exam.

I also went to the running dinner held by the Culture Connection, a student association for exchange students. In the running dinner, we have to go to three separate French students' apartments for starter, main course and dessert. Remember to buy a total of 9 bottles of wines if you join the running dinner! Three bottles for each apartment.



## November

In November, I went to Czech Republic, Paris Disneyland, Spain, Norway and Sweden.

Paris Disneyland is a true wonderland. It was much bigger than the one in Hong Kong. There was an outlet that near Paris Disneyland, we have had such a great time to shop!

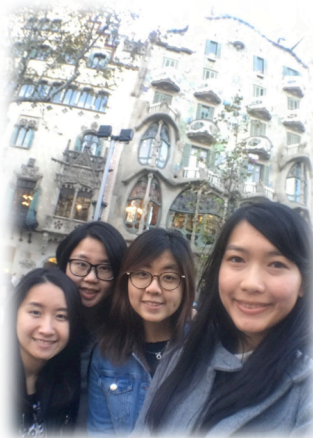
In Spain, I went for skydiving. Skydiving is a seasonal sports. It is not possible to do it in the winter since the temperature would be too low. It was better to do it before October which most of the skydiving spots in France and Czech Republic will still be opened.

Meanwhile, I have got a lot of presentations coming. There was a French presentation for French course. The presentation was very difficult for me because I had to give a 2 minutes speech in French. Other presentations are quite easy when compare to those we had in UST.

## December

This is the month of final examinations! I have had four final examinations within a week. The exams were a lot easier than those at UST. I also went to London to take the Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law Test.

After the end of all exams, I had a 2-weeks trip with my friend to Germany, Italy and Belgium before returning to Hong Kong.



# General Information

## Course Registration

You will receive the course catalog before you start course registration on early July. The whole registration process was a mess. The system was down when the registration starts. We do not know the time of the courses. We can only make priority of the courses that we want to attend and the NEOMA will arrange our schedule based on our priority. Some of my friends have time clash between two courses. It did not make sense as attendance is mandatory in NEOMA and the timetable was arranged by NEOMA.

There was a two-days add-drop period after my arrival to NEOMA. I had to send email to the staff for swapping, adding and dropping the courses. The staff refused to reply our emails as she said she already replied us twice and it's enough. The add-drop period was totally useless as they only allow us to drop courses. We had to find SBM for help.



## Courses Taken

NEOMA has an absolute grading system. You can get a pass when you get 50% or above.

I have taken five courses in NEOMA as followed:

**GP42003E-3-RN Essentials of Project Management:**  
This is an OM major elective. The course was project based with one in-class written exam. There was presentation every class. The content of the course is relatively easy and the workload is not heavy.

**LV3X126F-5-RN FL- French for Communication A1-1**  
This course is the hardest course I have taken in NEOMA. There was a midterm exam (40%), a final exam (40%) and a presentation done in French (20%). Although this is an A1-1 course for real French beginner, many of my classmates are way beyond French beginner level. The teacher did not really take good care of the needs of us, the real French beginner. The workload of the course is a bit heavy as there was homework every week.

**SC42014E-3-RN Purchasing, Procurement and SCM**  
This course is an OM elective. This course has a group presentation (40%) and one final exam (60%). The course covered some basic theory in supply chain and the workload is not heavy.

**SC42016E-2-RN Introduction to Operations Research**  
This course is an OM elective. It has a midterm (20%) and final exam (80%). Both the exams consist only MC. Midterm has 20 MC questions and the final exam only has 12 MC questions. A double-sided cheat sheet is allowed in the final exam. The content of this course is extremely easy if you have studied excel before.

**SC42019E-2-RN Supply Chain Management (GB)**  
This course is an OM elective. It has a presentation (50%) and a final exam (50%). The content is theory based and interesting. The professor will provide hits for final exam. Just follow his instruction and you will pass the exam easily.

## Sports Facilities

NEOMA has several sports classes and a gym room for students. However, you have to pay 50 Euros and did a body check to fill in the health certificate before you can get access to those activities. You have to go to the clinic in the university next to NEOMA to do a body check. It is free-of-charge but you have to book it in advanced. You will also have to go to the sports office to get the health certificate form and bring it with you to the clinic. The nurse only speaks French so it is better for you to find some French students to help you make the call.

After filling in the health certificate, you have to hand in the form and 50 euros in the sports office. They will then give you a sticker which indicates you are eligible for using the sports facilities.

## Transportation

If you are living in La Pleiade like me, the bus Line 8 will take you to the supermarket "Super U" and to the downtown. However, Line 8 will stop service before 9pm. You will have to take the night bus "N" instead.

If you are living in Ango, you can take T1 or F2 but both of them has a 5 to 10 minutes walk to Ango.

For the bus ticket, you can purchase a single journey ticket with the driver when you get on the bus. You can also buy a 10-journey ticket or a monthly ticket in the ticket office in downtown. It is better to buy a 10-journey tickets as you will probably don't have much time to stay in Rouen!

You can also download the "Reseau Artuce" application on your smartphone to check the bus status.

## Finance & Banking

You can apply for a French debit card on the orientation booth. The process takes about 3 to 4 weeks. The debit card is not very useful to me and it is not convenient to cancel the debit card and most of the bank officers do not speak English. There is a bank "Societe Generale" next to the campus has ATM which support withdrawal using union pay.

My Exchange expense is as followed:

Item	HKD
Flight Tickets	6100
Insurance	3000
Accommodation	15,000
Daily expenses	15,000
Travel expenses	60,000
Total	99,100

## Canteens & Supermarkets

There are two canteens in NEOMA campus. Both of them offer acceptable food with reasonable price. However, they only provide lunch. You can only cook by yourself after the evening class.

There are two big supermarkets nearby:  
SuperU  
Closed on Monday and Sunday afternoon  
Transportation: Bus No.8 stops at Hotel de Ville - Belvedere

Carrefour  
Closed on Sunday  
Transportation: Bus F2 stops at La Vatine  
Carrefour is the biggest supermarket market in town.

## Health & Safety

NEOMA itself does not have a clinic on campus. You have to go to the university next to NEOMA with your student card to enjoy free clinic service.

## Communication

People in Rouen do not speak English. If you do not know any French like me, you can only use body language and Google Translate to communicate with the French. It is better for you to learn some French before going to Rouen as you probably cannot learn much in the French course.

For the mobile sim card, I used the one that provided by "Free Mobile" It has 50GB 4G usage per month and 3 GB data roaming per month. It costed around 20 euro per month.

## Climate

In September, the temperature is still very warm and you can wear T-shirt and shorts. Starting from October, the temperature will drop significantly and reaching 0 degree Celsius in November and December. It will also start to rain during winter. The temperature difference is really huge (can be over 10 degree Celsius) even in summer time, so always bring a jacket with you.

## Airport Transportation

Taking Flixbus is the most convenient and economic way to go to Rouen. There is a direct bus from CDG Airport to city center. You may encounter payment problem when purchasing bus ticket online. Just create a Paypal account and use Paypal to pay for the ticket will be fine

# Items to Bring

Passport	Passport Copies	Cash	Credit Card	Hair dryer
Medicines	Umbrella	Laptop	Mobile Phone	Chargers
Adaptors	Clothes	Sun Glasses	Chopsticks	Rice Cooker

You can buy pillow and basically every things in Carrefour. You can also find soy sauce and Chinese noodles, Korean instant noodles in the Chinese grocery stores in downtown!

# Enjoy your Trip !!!