



Exchange report 2016

Cass Business School, City University London

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Information System and Management Year 3

Part 1

Monthly Activity Log

September

I arrived London in Mid September. The normal school days start in End September and I went earlier in order to settle down my luggage and get familiar with London. I lived in Liberty Hall during my exchange period. It is one of the student halls for City University student. Some of the exchange students also lived in this hall. The weather was quite warm when I arrived London. However, I usually carry an umbrella with me since it was very common to rain in London.

October

The official starting date of the semester is End September. Students will get to know what basically the courses are going to teach you during their first lesson. Each course usually will have one lesson per week. Cass Undergraduate courses will usually conduct in City University instead of Cass Business School. It was very convenience to walk from my hall to City University (5 minutes walk). Apart from attending the lesson, I also went to some town in UK, e.g. Brighton and Cambridge.

November

November was a busy month. Most of the coursework and project have to be submitted during this month. I have attended many meetings with my group mates in November. Despite the busy school works, I still went to Paris with my friend. It was awesome that most of the museums are free if you hold a European school student ID. The food in Paris was amazing and some local French people have brought me to some good restaurant with a relatively cheap price.

December

December was a bust month for exchange students. Since most of the exchange students will take alternative assessment instead of final exams. Most of the alternative assessments are individual project or essay. I spent most of the time on finishing them in December. I also went to some Palaces and National Gallery in December. I come back to Hong Kong in mid-December since I missed my family and friends in Hong Kong.

Part II

General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

Since I hold a European passport, I don't need a visa to stay in UK.

Orientation Activities

There are many orientation activities for students. Many orientation activities occurred one week before the school start. In those orientation activities,

students will know some general information about the school, like the location of different buildings and how to use the student -learning platform (similar to Canvas). Besides, there were some orientation activities organized by student societies. For example, I have joined the orientation activity organized by Malaysian society and knew some Malaysian and Singaporean friends.

International Services & Activities

The exchange office organized several activities for exchange students. Exchange students were invited to join the International Students Welcome Reception in Mansion House, which is used as formal business meetings, civic and livery activity usually. The exchange office organized a farewell party for exchange students as well. Exchanges students came from different places had a chance to share their exchange journeys with each others.

Accommodation

I lived in Liberty Hall during my exchange period and it cost £3450. Students will get a individual room with a toilet in liberty hall. 10 students will share a kitchen. It is only 5 minutes walk to City University. With a 10 minutes walk to another side, you can go to Angel station with a lot of restaurants and supermarket around there.

Courses Registration

Course registration is quite simple here. Students just need to send an email to the student aboard office to confirm which courses you are going to take. The student aboard office will usually allow students to take the courses they want.

Teaching and Assessment Methods

I took 5 courses at City University London.

Performing Arts in London LA2017	HMCC UCORE: Common Core Courses in Humanities
Fixed Income Portfolio Management FR3100	FINA 4303: Fixed Income Securities

International Financial Management BS3200	FINA 3404: International Finance
Financial Accounting AF2101	ACCT 3030: Intermediate Financial Accounting for Non-Accounting Majors
Corporate Finance IF3108	FINA 3303: Intermediate Corporate Finance

Sports and Recreational Facilities

There are no gym facilities in Liberty Hall. However, students are allowed to use the gym facilities in other Liberty living dormitories. Student could pay for the CitySport membership as well, which provides lots of sport classes and gym facilities.

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

I joined several students clubs during my exchange, like Entrepreneur Club, Investment Club and Malaysia Club. They will organize regular meeting and I met lots of friends through joining these activities.

Health and Safety

There is a Student Health Service Center in the university main building, which is opened from Monday to Friday. Students can find the nurse advisors for minor illnesses, accidents and general advice on health matters.

Cost/Expenses

Accommodation 35000HKD

Transportation 3000HKD

Living Expenses 20000HKD

Entertainment Expenses 15000HKD

Traveling 15000HKD

Airplane Ticket 10000HKD

Total HKD 98000

Food

It will be quite expensive if you are going to have meals everyday in the restaurant. I will usually cook food by myself and sometimes I will search for some cheap and tasty restaurant. You can download an app called "Yelp", which is similar to "Openrice" in Hong Kong.

Transportation

People can choose to use Goggle Map or CityMapper to search for different transportation tools. The transportation cost is quite expensive compared to Hong Kong. For example, one bus ride already cost for HKD\$18.

Climate

The weather in London is always rainy and foggy. You can seldom see the sun in London. Besides, the sun set time will be extremely early during winter time. i.e. 3pm. However, London is relatively warm compared to other European countries and most of the indoor buildings will have heaters in London.

Communication

Since I got the free Giffgaff SIM card from the hall welcoming gift bag, I just used the 2GB plan of Giffgaff. There are several telecom companies that you may choose. However, I think Giffgaff is the cheapest and 2GB data is already enough for me in London.

Items to Bring

Passport

Acceptance Letter

Hall Acceptance Letter

Adaptor (for traveling purposes)

Laptop

Credit Card

ATM Card with overseas withdrawal function

Medicine

Backpack/Small suitcase

Stationery

Thick Jacket

Cautionary measures

There are lots of people with different nationality that lived in London and they usually speak with their home language and have their own culture. However, most of them are friendly and know how to speak English. It is a good opportunity for exchange students to make friend with people from different background.

If you would like more information on my exchange, please get my contact from the SBM Exchange Team by sending an email to bmugexch@ust.hk.