

# EXCHANGE REPORT

**Vienna University of Economics and Business**

**(WU Wien)**

Vienna, Austria

CHEUNG, Lai Heung

Accounting and Operations Management

Spring 2017

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## Part 1 - Monthly Activity Log

### February

The semester of WU Wien starts a bit late which is in March. However, I arrived in mid-February as there are some registration that must be done before the semester. After arriving, I bought some necessities and finished administrative stuff such as registration at local authority. At the end of February, I planned a short trip to Hallstatt which is one of the most beautiful village in the world.



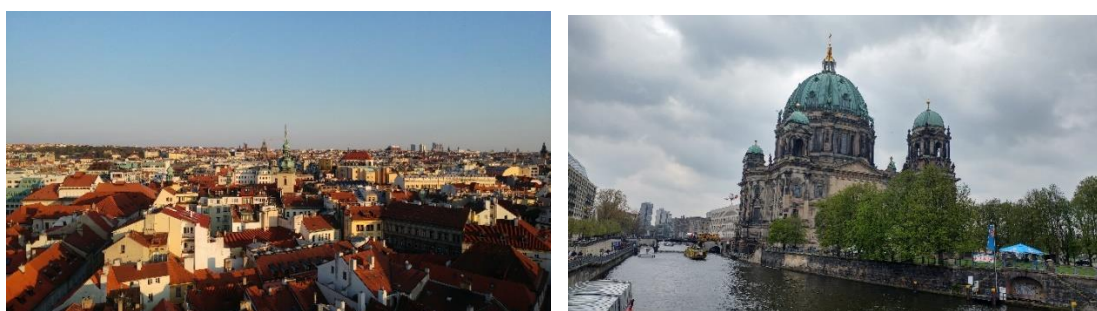
### March

On the first day of March, there was an orientation which I could meet other exchange students and familiarized myself with course registration and facilities in school. Because of the tight course schedule, I did not plan any trip to other countries and explored the whole Vienna.

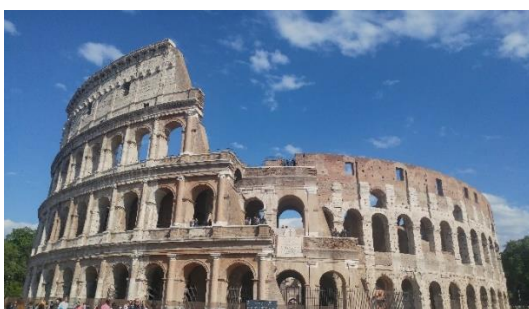


### April

The official Easter holiday was about 20 days. I planned to travel around Europe this month. I went to Prague, Berlin, Rome, Venice and Athens. And because of the Easter holiday, there were some special celebration and markets at that time.

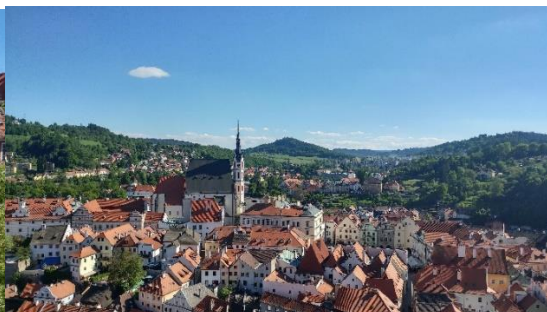
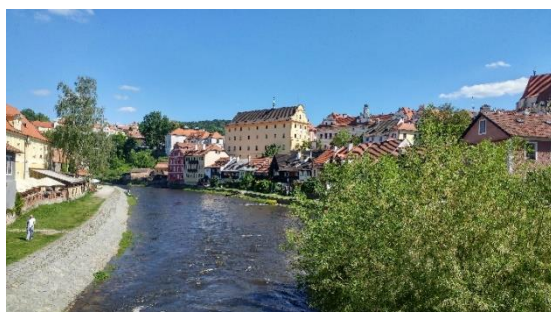






### May

After the trips, busy life started again. There are a lot of meetings for projects. After finishing the projects, I went to a small town in Czech Republic, Cesky Krumlov. It consists of many medieval constructions and beautiful natural scenery.



### June

Most of my exams were in June, therefore I spent some time on the revision of the exams in June. After the exams, I still had one-week time before being back to Hong Kong. So I went to United Kingdom for 4 days and had Viennese dishes for last few days



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## Part 2 - General Exchange Information

### 1) Visa Procedure

For exchange student, **VISA D** is needed.

The following documents are required for the application

- Application form (Download from the website and complete beforehand)

All documents mentioned have to be submitted in original and also have a **COPY**

- One passport-photo not older than 6 months (Check the requirements from the website)
- Valid passport (valid for at least 6 months after your return to Hong Kong)
- Hong Kong ID-Card
- Hong Kong Students ID-Card
- Birth-Certificate
- Proof of sufficient financial means of your sponsor/parents (Bank statement for 3 months)
- Proof of an existing scholarship program (if any)
- Supporting letter from UST
- Letter of Acceptance from the WU Wien
- Proof of proper accommodation during your time in Austria Rental contract)
- Flight ticket (Must be round trip)
- Travel/medical insurance (Apply the Insurance Certificate from SFAO)

### 2) Orientation Activities

There is orientation day for exchange students. Exchange students are able to meet new friends during that time since the school will offer sufficient time for knowing each other.

### 3) International Service and Activities

There is a student organization called Erasmus who organizes cultural activities. They will have various types of parties including orientation party, birthday party and farewell party. They will also offer some trips to other places such as Budapest. Moreover, OeAD hall has their own Facebook group and they also initiate activities like day trips and gatherings in the hall.

### 4) Accommodation

WU Wien does not have student hall for exchange students. There will be another official organization, OeAD, who offer dormitory. Most of the residents in OeAD hall are exchange students or international students. The hall which is nearest to the university is OeAD-Guesthouse MOLKEREISTRASSE. OeAD hall is more expensive but authorized than other private housing.



(The interior design of my dorm)

### 5) Course Registration

Exchange student can check the English courses offered in the semester beforehand and we will register the course on a platform, LIPS. The system is a bit different from UST. We cannot add into shopping cart and we need to immediately enter the code and register. If you miss the deadline for certain course and you still want to enrol, you can find the course coordinator of international office before the start of the course.

### 6) Teaching and Assessment Methods

The teaching in WU Wien is quite similar to UST but professors in WU Wien will encourage more interaction. They ask many questions in lessons and local students are very active during class. Almost all courses consist of group projects and examinations. As mentioned before, WU Wien encourages interaction. Professors require students to present the case and discuss deeply. Group project shares a large part of the assessment.

### 7) Sports and Recreation Facilities

There is gym room in school but I have never been there. Also, there is a large park and amusement park, Prater, next to the university which you can do exercise or have ride there.

### 8) Finance and Banking

It is easy to open a bank account in Vienna as you are student. There is a bank, Erste Bank, near to WU Wien. You need to prepare Student ID card/ Letter of acceptance from WU Wien, Passport and the registration form from local authority to open the account. If you do not want to open an account, you can also withdraw money from the ATM by using Union Pay or PLUS but there are not many ATM support these.

Costs and Expenses		
Items	Total	Notes
Air ticket	HKD 6351	Round trip/ Direct flight by Austrian Airline

Accommodation	HKD 18000	470 Euro per month/
Transportation	HKD 625	75 Euro for semester ticket
Living expenses	HKD 12000	300 Euro per month
Travelling	HKD 30000	
Total	HKD 66976	

### 9) Social Clubs and Networking Opportunities

As mentioned before in International Service and Activities, you can join the activities organized by them and meet other exchange students. Also, WU Wien student union offers buddy program. You can apply it and they will match a buddy to you. The buddy will help you with all the registration procedure.

### 10) Health and Safety

There is no clinic in school and it is expensive for foreigners to go to the hospital. Therefore, I recommend taking care of our body during the exchange period and bring all the medicine that you need. Moreover, Vienna is quite safe in Europe since it is not a problem to walk alone at night.

### 11) Food

There are various supermarkets such as Billa, Spar, Hofar, Penny. All ingredients can be bought there. Billa tends to be more expensive but contains more products. Other than that, there are some Chinese supermarkets near the metro station Neubaugasse.

### 12) Transportation

The transportation network in Vienna is well-established. You can buy a semester ticket for students for 75 Euro. You can travel around Vienna by tram, metro and bus with the semester ticket.

### 13) Climate

From February to April, it is cold (temperature is about 0°C to 10°C) so it is better to prepare thick coat. After April, it will be warmer and sometimes even hot during June (at around 27°C). And overall Vienna is dry.

### 14) Communication

The English level in Vienna is quite high. There will not be any trouble if you only speak English. However, some staff in the store may still speak German to you even you cannot understand it. Therefore, you can learn a few basic words or sentences in German.

### 15) Cautionary Measures

Vienna seldom rain in spring. Also, it is difficult for you to hold umbrella if it rains because the wind is so strong.

### **Part 3 - Items to Bring**

- ✓ Sufficient clothes (Coat/Jacket, scarf)
- ✓ Adapter
- ✓ Medicine
- ✓ Stationery
- ✓ Documents (Letter of Acceptance from WU Wien, proof of residency)
- ✓ Router
- ✓ Sufficient cash
- ✓ Laptop and charger
- ✓ Skincare products
- ✓ Hair dryer
- ✓ Passport/ ID card
- ✓ Umbrella

### **Part 4 - Useful Links and Contacts**

➤ Austrian Foreign Ministry

Website: <https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/embassy/hong-kong/practical-advice/travelling-to-austria/visa.html>

Phone: (852) 2522 8086

Address: 34-37 Connaught Road, 2201 Chinachem Tower, Central

Opening hour (for handing in application): Monday to Friday 09:00–12:00  
except Hong Kong and Austrian official holiday

➤ Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU Wien)

Website: <https://www.wu.ac.at/en/>

Notes: Click Quicklinks and get access to other useful links like LIPS (registration platform) and Learn@WU (similar to CANVAS)

➤ Transportation/Map Information

Website: <http://viennamap360.com/>

➤ OeAD

Website: <https://housing.oead.at/en/accommodation/wien-en>

➤ LVPLANER (Online platform for managing timetable)

Website: <https://lvplaner.oeh-wu.at/index.php?detail=Bitte%20Logge%20dich%20zuerst%20ein>