

# THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK EXCAHNGE REPORT

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BBA IN ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

SPRING EXCHANGE 2018



## MONTHLY ACTIVITY LOG:

January 2018:

I arrived at London Heathrow Airport on 5 January. Immediately, I went to Warwick University campus through National Express (from Heathrow Terminal 1,2,3 to Coventry). It's around two hours and tickets could be purchased online in Hong Kong in advance.

The semester officially started on 8 January. And the workload was not heavy in the beginning of semester which allowed us to travel around UK at the weekend. I have travelled to London and Edinburgh at that time.

February 2018:

At the beginning of February, the timetable was settled now. I enrolled in 4 courses and all of them had attendance-taking seminars. As far as I knew, only seminars would take attendance. If you consecutively missed 2 seminars, you would be requested to meet your academic advisor. Therefore, I suggested to arrange all the seminars in a day which allowed you to have a more flexible schedule.

The workload of Warwick Business School was not heavy compared with HKUST as not many courses will have midterm. So, I went to Nottingham and Denmark in February.

March 2018

The Warwick semester officially ended on 17 March. As the essays' deadline was all packed in the beginning of March, the workload was heavier. Obviously, most of students would utilise the Easter break to travel. I suggest students to finish all the essay even its deadline is on April.

As the Easter Break had more than one month, I travelled to many European countries, i.e. Austria, Germany, France, Italy.

## April 2018

I continued my travel till the end of April. I have visited more European countries, like Greece and Portugal.

In the middle of April, the exam timetable would be released. If there was any clash between your exam, you had to report to Warwick Business School for further arrangement.

## May 2018

The summer semester (exam) started in the beginning of May. There were some revision classes organised by the professors and students could check the schedule through WBS website or Tabula (website for non-business school courses). It was not attendance-taking.

The workload wasn't as heavy as HKUST during the exam period as it had got tonnes of time for you to revise. Therefore, you could still go travelling as long as you had a well planning.

## June 2018

I had my last exam on 11 June. After that, I went to Madrid for four days and then I left UK on 16 June via Heathrow Airport.

# GENERAL EXCHANGE INFORMATION:

## 1) Visa Procedures

The visa procedures for HKSAR passport holder is simple. For students entering UK less than 6 months, they have to apply short-term study visa. However, for HKSAR passport holder, you do not need to apply in Hong Kong in advance. As long as you present the "Letter of support for a Short-term study visa" from Warwick University, passport and bank statement (I have never been asked to present the bank statement though it is a required document.), you can get the short-term study visa from the UK security officer (i.e. the stamp on your passport). Just a reminder, remember to bring along the letter of support every time during your travel as you will need to present this document to grant your access when you back to UK.

## 2)Orientation Activities

As it's already in the middle of an academic year, there wasn't any orientation activities for students. Instead, it had some information sessions hosted by Warwick exchange officer to provide you steps to register the courses. Throughout the sessions, you could know more exchange students and hence make more friends.

## 3)International Services and Activities

The International office offered some activities for exchange students to join. If you would like to participate, you could just register online.

## 4)Accommodations

For the accommodation, Warwick can offer a wide range of choices, for example, some dorms are en-suite room while some have to share their bathroom. You can get more details from the accommodation website. For myself, I was living in Bluebell which offers student a single en-suite room and is quite near to the main campus. However, it's a bit expensive compared with other dorms.

## 5)Course Registration

The course registration system is different from other faculties in Warwick. You will get more information about enrolment of course by attending the information session held by Warwick Business School. For students who would like to take courses from other school, you would have to contact your preferred faculty and get the approval. Most importantly, you have to register the course through tabula which is a different system.

## 6) Teaching and Assessment Methods

I have took four courses at Warwick, two from Warwick Business School and two from Economics Department.

### i)Derivatives and Risk Management (IB 359)

It's a 12 CATS course with 2 hours lecture and 1 hour seminar per week. It focuses on different derivatives and value at risk. The module consists of a project (15%), a mid-term(10%) and an exam(75%).

#### ii)Principle of Finance 2 (IB 254)

It's a 12 CATS course with 2 hours lecture and 1 hour seminar per week. It focuses on corporate finance calculation and theory. The module consists of a midterm (20%) and an exam (80%).

#### iii)International Trade (EC 336)

It's a 15 CATS course with 2 hours lecture per week and 1 hour seminar per two weeks. It is an economics course about trade theory and the impact of different trade barriers. It consists of a midterm (20%) and an exam (80%).

#### iv)Industrial Economics I: Strategic Behaviour

It's a 15 CATS course with 2 hours lecture per week and 1 hour seminar per 2 week. It is an economic course about customer behaviour and firm's reactions. It consists of an essay (20%) and an exam (80%).

### 7) Sports and Recreation Facilities

Inside the campus, you would find all the facilities you need, i.e. gym room or theatre. However, the gym is quite expensive (around 25 pounds per month or 7 pounds per usage). When the weather gets warmer, you can have picnic on the grass field.

### 8)Finance and Banking

I suggested students bring more cash as there was service charge if you withdraw money from atm. Moreover, most of the shops from Europe and UK accept electronic payment. Besides, if you will travel to European countries, just bring some Euros with you from Hong Kong as the exchange rate from Hong Kong Bank is better than UK exchange shop.

## 9) Social Clubs and Networking Opportunities

There are a lot of social clubs at Warwick but the membership fee would be quite expensive if you would not actively participate their events. You will find more information about recruitment day via the Warwick email address.

## 10) Health and Safety

Warwick University was quite safe as it's located in the countryside of Coventry so only students will stay there generally. For health care, it has a health centre near Bluebell, however, I still suggest students bring along their own medicine from Hong Kong.

## 11) Food

There are different restaurants inside Warwick but it's quite expensive. Therefore, I suggest students to cook by themselves and you can get all food from a 15 minutes-walk Tesco.

## 12) Transportation

You can go to the Coventry city centre by 11, 11U, 12X bus and it's about 20 minutes. I suggest students to download NXbusmticket which allows you to purchase tickets in advance with a relatively lower price. For students who want to go to other uk city by rail, you can purchase 16-25 rail card which allows you to save 1/3 of the ticket price.

## 13) Climate

UK's winter last unexpectedly long during my exchange which was from January to end of March. After Winter, the weather became more stable and warmer in UK.

## 14) Communication

All kinds of social media and communication apps in HK (i.e. Whatsapp) work perfectly fine in UK. You can have free wifi access

in the main campus. I joined EE pays as you go plans to get internet service.

### 15) Cautionary Measures

There really aren't any cautionary measures when you are living in UK but if you go travelling to other European countries (i.e. Spain and France), you'd better stay alert in the crowd.

### Items to Bring:

Essentials: Passport, Letter of Support for short term study visa, Medication, Bank card, Cash

You can get most of the other items in Wilko or IKEA.

### Useful Links and Contacts:

Warwick office email address:

[worldwide@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:worldwide@warwick.ac.uk)

Trainline:

<https://www.thetrainline.com>

Warwick Accommodation email address:

[accommodation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@warwick.ac.uk)