

Queen's University

Exchange Report



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Accounting and Finance (Year 3)

Spring 2019 Exchange

Part I – Monthly Activity Log

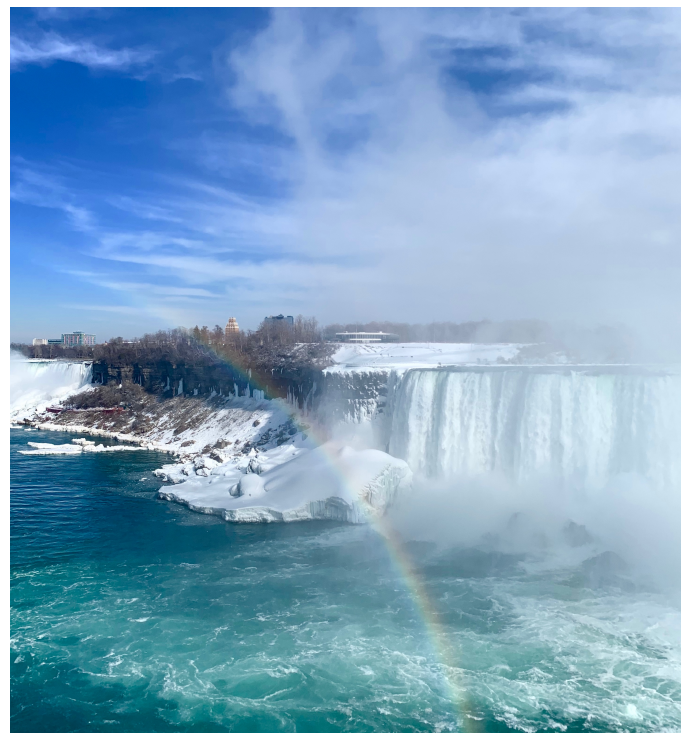
January 2019

There was a mandatory orientation activity for all exchange students before the start of winter semester. The first month of the semester was not busy so I spent most of my time getting around Kingston. During a weekend, I travelled to Ottawa.



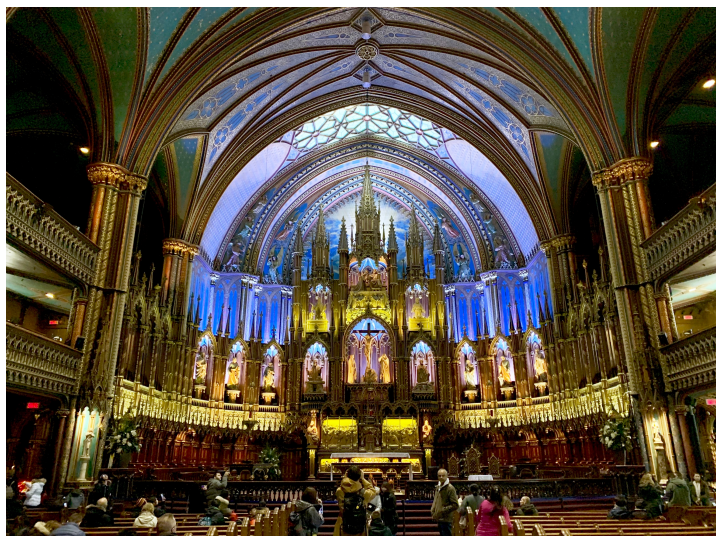
February 2019

There were few assignments due on February and midterms before the reading week. After the exams, I went to New York and Toronto. It was my first time visiting the States.



March 2019

During March, I got a few assignments and presentations. Therefore, I have to attend several meetings with my groupmates and spend my time studying in the library. Yet, it was not that busy at all and I spent two weekends to visit Montreal and Quebec City respectively.



April & May 2019

April was the last month of exchange and all students studied hard for the final exams. After the final exams, I went to different cities such as Chicago, Vancouver, Los Angeles and San Francisco for one month. It was really an unforgettable journey.



Part II – General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

eTa is required for Hong Kong citizens to stay in Canada for less than 6 months. It can be applied online and the cost of it is CAD 7.

Orientation Activities

Before the start of the semester, the Queen's University International Centre and the Smith School of Business will organize a mandatory orientation for all exchange students, including academic talk and networking session.

International Services & Activities

The Queen's University International Centre would organize a series of activities such as one-day trip and movie night for exchange students. Details of the activities would be updated on their Facebook page.

Accommodations

All international students would be living in Jean Royce Hall if they decide to live on-campus. It is located at the west campus which would take you around 5 minutes to reach there by bus. The hall fee is around HKD25,000 for 4 months which is a bit higher than living off campus.

Exchange students can choose to live off-campus instead. Rooms can be found on Queen's Housing's Facebook page and they are much cheaper.

Courses Registration

The course registration system of Queen's University is easy to use since it is similar to SIS. For students who wish to enroll in finance courses, approval from Queen's academic advisors is needed.

Teaching & Assessment Methods

Course	Equivalent Course	Assessment
COMM 313 Financial Accounting II	ACCT 3020 Financial Accounting II	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bio Rationale• 3 Group Assignments• Mid-term Examination• Final Examination
COMM 322 Advanced Corporate Finance	FINA 3303 Intermediate Corporate Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Assignments• Mid-term Examination• Final Examination
COMM 328 International Finance	FINA 4403 International Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Case Analysis• 1 Article Presentation• Mid-term Examination• Final Examination• Class participation
COMM 321 Derivative Securities	FINA 3203 Derivative Securities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Assignments• Mid-term Examination• Final Examination

Sports & Recreation Facilities

There is a gym room located in the Athletics and Recreation Centre (ARC) which is next to Goodes Hall. Students can enjoy fee access to the gym room.

Finance and Banking

As there are only CIBC's ATMs in the campus, it is highly recommended to open an account in CIBC and also apply for the debit card. The CIBC bank account can be opened in its Hong Kong branch. I spent around HKD 70,000 in total.

Social Clubs and Networking Opportunities

Exchange students are welcomed join the social activities organized by the Queen's University International Centre.

Health and Safety

All students need to pay for the UHIP (Canada's University Health and Insurance Plan) which costs CAD 204.

Food

There are a lot of restaurants in Kingston including Chinese, Japanese, Korean restaurants. It usually costs CAD13-16 per meal. There is a supermarket in downtown which is called Metro and students can enjoy discounts on every Tuesday and Thursday.

Transportation

Students of Queen's University can take all buses for free by showing their student ID card. To travel to cities nearby, you can take Megabus or ViaRail.

Climate

Snowfall is very common in Kingston during January to March and the temperature will be around 0°C to -15°C. Since it will be freezing cold in Kingston, it is essential to bring enough clothes and have a waterproof boot with you.

Communication

It is recommended to buy several data sim cards in Hong Kong as joining a phone plan in Kingston is quite expensive. I have bought 5 data cards before going on exchange and they can be used in the whole Canada, the US and Mexico.

Cautionary Measures

If you wish to travel to the US, it is recommended to apply for the visa in Hong Kong since it will be more convenient.

Part III – Items to Bring

- Passport and HKID
- Cash
- Credit Cards
- Acceptance letter
- Adaptors
- Laptop
- Vacuum bags
- Umbrella
- Coats and boots
- Suit
- Calculator
- Hair dryer
- Medicine
- Scarf and gloves

Part IV – Useful Links

Queen's University – Off-Campus Housing Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/1618611005028802/
Queen's University International Centre (QUIC)	http://quic.queensu.ca/
MyQueen'sU	https://my.queensu.ca/

If you have any questions, feel free to ask SBM office for my contacts.