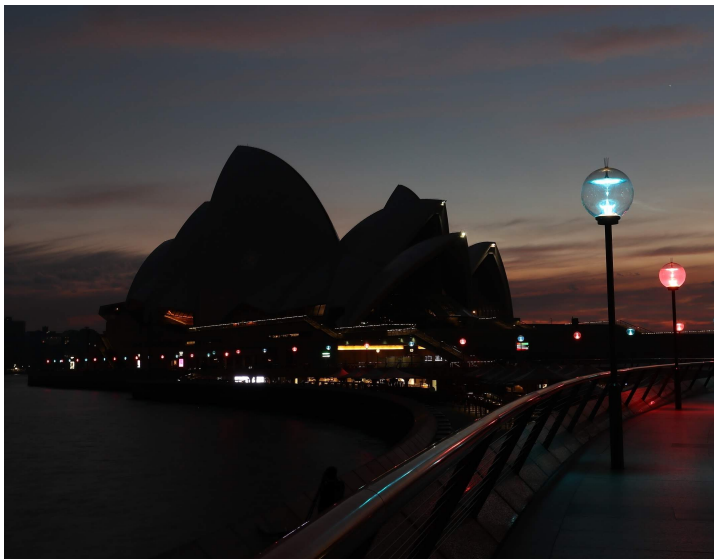


Exchange Report



The University of
Sydney, Australia

Kiki Lam

BSc in Economics and Finance, Year 3

Spring 2019

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PART I – MONTHLY ACTIVITY LOG

February 2019



I arrived Sydney in late February. Once I arrived there, I went to the Great Hall (is it magnificent? It did make me feel like I was in Hogwarts!) and joined the school orientation day. I met a lot of good friends there, some from Hong Kong, some from Japan, some from America. A few days after, I joined the Quidditch Club and the

Calligraphy Club of USDY. Sweating under the Australian sun with lots of friends from different parts of the world was really one of my best experiences.



March 2019

In March, I not only joined school short trips to Manly Beach and Blue Mountain in Sydney, but also had my first solo trip to Uluru! It is a place of indigenous history, monoliths and the best sky of stars!

What's more, I enjoyed Sydney Mardi Gras Parade so much. During this celebration, nearly all people there, including businesses, show their attention to LGBT. The unity and open-mindedness are what Hong Kong people should learn from.



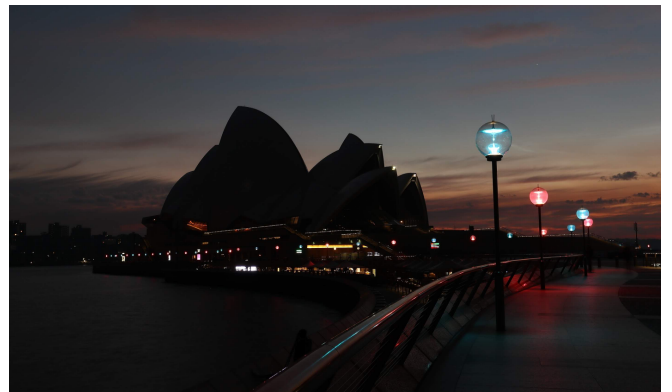
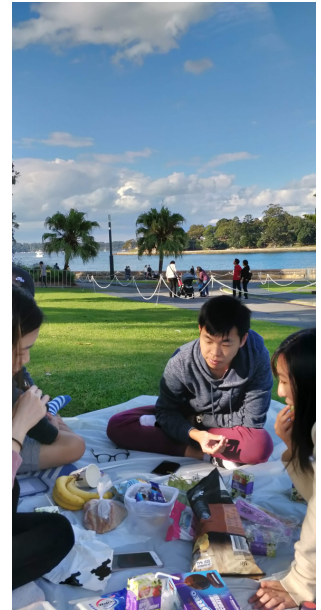
April 2019

My family came find me and we went to Melbourne and Tasmania. Sea lions, car racing, snorkeling, hiking ... We really had a good time there.



May 2019

I spent my whole May in Sydney and also had a good time. We had picnics. We went to beach. We visited around Sydney like the Wedding Cake Rock and the New Castle.



June 2019

7000 something km away from my home country, Hong Kong, thousands of people in Sydney took to the streets to support Hong Kong's demonstration on the same day. I am happy that I can still participate in this campaign in another country.

Besides, Vivid Sydney was also a great festival. The lights were beautiful.



PART II – General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

After getting your eCoE, you can look into the process of applying for a student visa to come to Australia. You can read more about the Subclass 500 visa here on the website of the Department of Home Affairs: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500>.

As for the evidence of OSHC for visa, your eCoE states your semester dates and the start date, end date, and provider name of your OSHC. This is how you will show evidence of your OSHC when applying for your student visa. At this stage, you cannot download a copy of your policy yet.

Orientation Activities

There is a Welcome Orientation day where you'll learn all you need to know about the University, including key dates, enrolment advice, administrative processes, and what to expect in the coming semester. The USU will also hold some great events such as day trips, overnight trips and parties. Do join them!

Accommodations

There are many choices of accommodations. If you want to live on campus, there are Regiment Building, Queen Mary Building, Abercrombie and more. Regiment Building opened in 2019 and is newest. The place is cleaner than QMB but the management may not be as good. But it is close to the main buildings of the university.

Course Registration

The course registration process is much different from HKUST's one. You can enrol online through the University's student administration system, Sydney Student. During the enrolment process you will select units of study (subjects), confirm your financial liability, upload a photo for your student card and complete other required administrative tasks. Every time you want to change units of study you need to fill in a form and send it to usyd. After accepting the offer, you choose the time you want to attend.

Teaching & Assessment Methods

Lecturers there are more like friends. They welcome and pay attention to your questions anytime in class and other students also do focus on class discussion. Assessments include projects, mid-term exams and final exams, much like HKUST. Be aware that for some courses the passing rate may be low.

Sports & Recreation Facilities

Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness offers you a range of facilities such as indoor heated Olympic swimming pool, the ledge climbing centre and Bruce Pryor Hockey Field. But they do charge money.

Finance and Banking

I recommend opening a bank account so that you can pay rents without sub-charge, can dine our cashless (most people there do).

Social Clubs and Networking Opportunities

There are many fun social clubs. You can join them after you join ACCESS membership.

Health and Safety

I don't recommend going back hostel late especially if you pass through Newtown. If you have to, do ask your friends to come with you.

Food

Food there is international. Coffee is cheap and good. If you miss Asian food, China town and restaurants near Broadway are both good choices!

Transportation

Most of the time we use Opal to take buses/ train. Google map tells you when exactly the buses/ trains are arriving and it is accurate. Remember to tap off before getting off buses!

Climate

Since Australia is in Southern hemisphere, when HK is winter, it is summer there. The climate there overall is comfortable. It is definitely milder than Hong Kong. But since the sunlight can be harmful, putting on sunscreen is important. Sunscreens there are low priced and good!

Communication

English is the main medium of communication.

PART III – ITEMS TO BRING

Checklist	
	Passport
	USB
	Charger
	Clothes for Winter
	Swimsuit
	Medicine
	Others

PART IV – USEFUL LINKS

Accommodation

<https://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/accommodation.html>

Clubs and Societies

<https://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/clubs-and-societies.html>

Get to the campus

<https://sydney.edu.au/campus-life/getting-to-campus.html>