

Exchange Report



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FINAIS

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January

15th January 2019, I arrived in Copenhagen, Denmark. It was 6 a.m., the weather was indescribably cold, but I felt immensely warm as I saw my buddy waiting for me at the airport in the coldly early morning. The local people are very nice and you want to join the buddy program if you don't want to face an unfamiliar city and its complicated transportation yourself. We first bought the Rejsekortet card which is a travel card like Octopus in Hong Kong. You can buy it at the airport and it costs DKK80 which is not refundable. (Please be reminded that you need a minimum balance of DKK70 to check-in). You should not buy the Copenhagen card which is mainly for travellers. Your buddy will give you a welcome package that gives you all the things you need for your stay in Copenhagen, including but not limited to your room key, sim card, and some informative welcome booklets. The semester started on 28th January. The classes were more interactive than those in Hong Kong. I am pretty sure you will enjoy the lessons in CBS.



February

I thought it would be always easy at the beginning... ..

While I was still adapting to the new surroundings in February, I got a presentation for my sociology course. I had to finish long and difficult passages from Michel Foucault and teach the students in the third lesson. Here I suggest that you read carefully for the Course description before enrolling in any course. The course was found out thereafter an advanced course for the theories of society. Fortunately, the instructor of the course was very helpful. He knew me and my friends are exchange students and provided extra help for us. Therefore, don't be afraid to seek help from the teaching staff if you encounter any difficulty.

March

The timetable is not fixed as we have in UST. You must check the timetable regularly to make sure you go to class on the scheduled time. Luckily, I got a short holiday this month. It is undoubtedly a good chance for me to know more about foreign culture! I went to Iceland and I indeed had some unforgettable moments there. The waterfalls, glacier and the miraculous aurora... These are the things you cannot miss out in your life. Try to make your exchange meaningful! Studying is important for sure, but you will have sufficient leisure time if you do your time management well!



April

Different from the courses in UST, there are semester-long and quarterly courses in CBS. For those quarterly courses started in Jan/Feb, the exams are mainly scheduled in April. I had four exams in the month: two written sit-in exams and two home assignments. I had my written sit-in exam in the CBS Examination Hall in Amager Strandvej. They were digital exams. We downloaded the question book from the exam page and wrote the answers on a word file. The written exams were not challenging but you may not get used to the exam in other formats in CBS. The exam of my sociology course was a 48-hour take-home essay. It is extremely difficult for a novice to finish a ten-page sociology essay in 48 hours. I highly recommend you to read the course description before enrolling in different courses.

May

I finished all my exams in April. I got some time to travel in May! The air tickets going to other countries in Europe are cheap and alternatively, you can take buses to some countries nearby. I went to the UK, Sweden, and Switzerland in May; seeing the British Museum, Edinburgh Castle and Jungfrau, and most excitedly I watched a football match at Etihad Stadium! Not only is it a man's dream to watch a premier league



game live but feeling the atmosphere at a British stadium in which you are surrounded by the diehard fans is absolutely incredible. Not to mention I witnessed the fantastic goal scored by the captain —Vincent Kompany.



June

It is time to say goodbye... .. As an old saying goes, "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." It will be an unforgettable experience in my life. I am sure that after 30 years, I will still miss those days and nights in my exchange journey.

General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures (For EU Citizen)

If you are an EU citizen, you can save a few thousand HKD for the visa. I am a British Citizen and I used the British passport for my exchange. As an EU citizen, you don't need to register Visa in Hong Kong, but you must apply for a residence certificate if you stay longer than three months.

You can apply for the residence permit upon your arrival, but you should prepare the required documents in Hong Kong. The procedures are simple, and they will send you an email with details of the registration. The State Administration will arrange special opening hours for the EU Exchange students, and these are the only periods you can get your residence permit on the same day. Read carefully the form and documents you need to bring. Noteworthy, after making the residence permit, you have to register with the Danish Civil Registry (CPR). The procedures are the same with other exchange students from Hong Kong. You can only open a bank account or see a doctor with your CPR number.

Orientation Activities

CBS will organise different mandatory information meetings for the exchange students. They will provide useful information about your stay in CPH, exam and studying in CBS. Also, there is an optional exchange social program for you to meet other exchange students and know more about the local culture.

International Services & Activities

There is an international office which is physically located in Porcelænsøen. If you have any problem with your dorm or even courses, you can send an email to them or meet the staff at their office.

Accommodations

You will receive an email in around November (the date may vary, please check the according website) which includes a link for the application for housing. The application is first come first served, so I highly recommend you to prioritize the dorm beforehand, and just click on the link on time as if is the course registration in UST.

What I gave the highest priority was the Tietgen Kollegiet, but it is too popular. I got Porcelænsøen at last. I was disappointed at the beginning, but it turned out I really enjoy living there. Each room has its own kitchen with a microwave and a refrigerator. They also provide a pillow, bedsheet and bedquilt.

Courses Registration

You will fill in the online course application form On the Inbound Exchange Portal. You are only permitted to take 30 ECTS per semester, which is around 4 three-credit courses in UST. If you want to take more credits than that, you should send the International Office a letter for approval prior.

I took four courses in CBS:

Theories of Contemporary Society II (BSOCO1026E) — Difficult for beginner, 48-hour 10 pages essay exam

Behavioral Finance (BHAAV2389E) — Very interesting! you will have some interesting experiment. The written exam is very easy

Business and Data Analytics (BINMO2012E) — Interesting! You will learn how to use different software for data analytics.

The Corporation in Society: Managing Beyond Markets (BBLCO6001E) — Interesting!

Teaching & Assessment Methods

Most of the courses are interactive and the instructors looked for the contributions of the students. You may have your exams in the formats of written sit-in, home assignment or oral exam.

Sports & Recreation Facilities

There are different sports clubs in CBS. For details, please look at the booklet in your welcome package.

Finance & Banking

The currency using in Denmark is DKK, which is around 1.2 HKD. You can open a bank account in Copenhagen but what I did was to withdraw cash from the Euronet ATM with my Union Pay debit card. Union Pay will receive a service fee of 20 HKD and Euronet will also receive a service fee proportionally. Additionally, credit cards are widely used in European countries, you actually will seldom use cash if you get a card in hand.

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

If you want to meet some new friends from other countries, I highly recommend you to join the exchange social program.

Health & Safety

You will have your "Yellow card" sent to you after the CPR Registration. With the "Yellow card", you can see the doctor for free. I got seriously ill in March and I went to the doctor. They will provide you a detailed examination and I had my blood tested.

Food

I cooked most of the time, but I would also go to the CBS canteens when I had lessons in SP or DH. You can have different traditional Danish food in the canteen, but I would say the quality of food is barely acceptable.

Transportation

You should buy a Rejsekortet which is similar to the Octopus in Hong Kong. Please be reminded that you need a minimum balance of DKK70 to check-in. Remember to check-in and check-out for every journey. The transportation is very convenient in Denmark, but I recommend you to get a bike to experience the Danish culture! Biking is very popular in Denmark and there are even traffic lights for the bicycle.

Climate

It was very cold in Jan to March and it sometimes dropped below 0 °C in Jan and Feb. It would snow but not always. The weather turned warm in around April and May. It can be hot in May so you should bring some clothes for summer.

Communication

You will have a free sim card from Lebra in your welcome package. You can buy different plans on the Lebra website. I chose the 99dkk monthly plan which I found it most suitable for exchange students. 100Gb data including 5Gb in European countries.

Items to Bring.

Check List

- Credit Card
- Debit Card
- Passport
- Exchange documents (e.g. Printout of Tenant contract, Acceptance letter)
- Colour copies of Passport (Photo page)
- Clothes for winter
- Camera
- Laptop
- Charger
- USB
- Sweater
- Hand Cream
- Medicine
- Scarf & Gloves
- Some clothes for summer
- Rice-cooker (Optional)

Useful links and Contacts

Course catalog

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/international-opportunities/international-students/guestexchange-student/undergraduate-courses>

Flixbus — Travelling by bus in Europe

<https://global.flixbus.com/>

Omio — Useful website to compare the prices of the tickets of trains, buses and flights in Europe

<https://www.omio.com/>

The official website of the CBS canteen — You can check the menu online on this website

<https://www.spisestuerne.dk/>

Skyscanner — Searching for the cheapest air tickets available

<https://www.skyscanner.com.hk/>

Tripadvisor — Booking local tour in Europe

<https://www.tripadvisor.com.hk/>

Qyer — A very useful website for travelling

<https://www.qyer.com/>

If you wish to learn more information about my exchange in CBS, feel free to get my contact from SBM Exchange Team by emailing at bmugexch@ust.hk. Enjoy your exchange!