

EXCHANGE REPORT

Lund University, Sweden

Lund University School of Economics and
Management (LUSEM)



LUND
UNIVERSITY

AU, Wing Yin | IS & MGMT (Year 4) | Fall 2020

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Part I. Monthly log

August

I arrived at Copenhagen Airport in the mid-August to prepare for the orientation week. Once we got out from the restriction zone, Lund University student helpers gave us a warm welcome and led us to take the train to Lund Central Station. Afterward, other student helpers drove us to the registration venue and dormitory eventually. However, since there would be a lot of students arriving at the same time, therefore, please be prepared for long waiting time for the train and transfer coach to Lund Central and registration venue respectively. During the orientation week, I have attended Swedish Introductory courses and several activities, such as Hiking tour. These experiences definitely helped me to better fuse with the Swedish culture.



September

During September, we have united several Hong Kong students in Lund University and celebrated for the Mid-Autumn Festival. Studying in Lund had relatively less workload compared to that in Hong Kong, normally four lessons per week. Therefore, I treasured the time and visited Prague in late September. Prague is a city filled with historical monuments and tasty European cuisines, such as Goulash and Schnitzel.



October

Workload became heavier, however, I managed to complete all the work two days before deadline and spared out time to travel around Europe. In early October, I visited Goteborg, the third largest city in Sweden, to experience the unique Scandinavian coastal atmosphere. I visited a church which was renovated from a fish market. In the mid October, I went to Brussels and visited several historical old towns, such as Gent and Brugges. In the late October, I visited Berlin, where I went to one of the most memorable Sanssouci Palace, which presented the lives of Germany's kings in the Rococo era.





November

Classes in the first semester ended and there was one break before the second semester began, thereby, I went to discover more about Scandinavian culture. My friend and I went to Almhult to Ikea Museum. This museum allowed us to understand more about the lives of Swedish in the old days and how it changed into the modern living style. I also visited Budapest in the mid November and tried on European hot spring. At the end of November, I visited London to experience the vibrant city life.

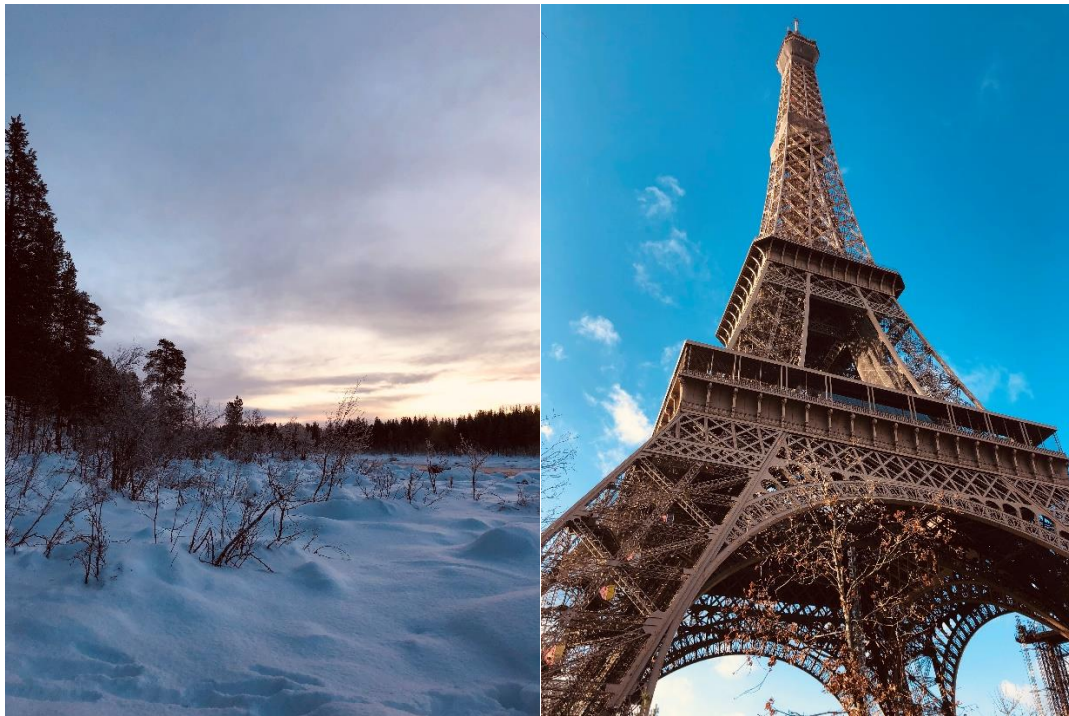


December

Lessons schedule became tighter, and weather became cooler. The sun set at 3:30p.m., therefore, I tried to wake up earlier in the morning so as to get myself energize by going for a walk in the daytime. We have grouped 11 Hong Kong exchange students

and went for a Lapland trip in Kiruna, one of the northern city in Sweden. The weather in the arctic zone was not too bad in early December, we still had around 3 hours of sunlight. This Kiruna trip definitely was one of the most valuable trip which I made some close friends and learnt how to cut wood and set up a fireplace. After settled down most of the course work, I went to Paris to celebrate Christmas, followed by

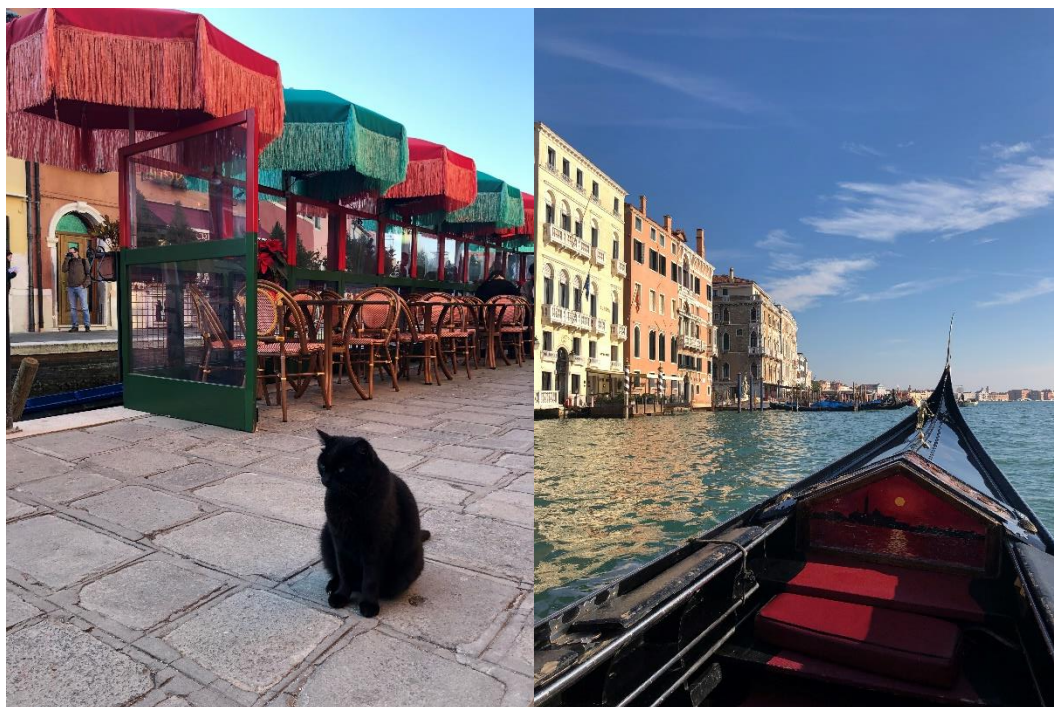
London. After the trip, I returned to Lund on 31 Dec where there was firework all night for New Year celebration.



January

Though both of the courses that I selected finished lecture, there were still take-home examination and present in the mid of January. Therefore, I took my laptop with me to go a two weeks long trip to Barcelona, Sevilla and Venice. The southern part of Europe was so different from that of the northern

Europe, people there were very energetic and out-going. Also, the weather was always sunny with long daylight which was very similar to that of Hong Kong in the winter. Barcelona had a lot of tasty seafood tapas, while Sevilla had meat tapas, which they were both worth a try. In Sevilla, I visited Plaza de toros de la Real Maestranza which enriched my knowledge about bullfighting history in Spain. After the trip, I went back to Lund and began the preparation for the presentation for INFC 60 – IS Sourcing, it was a heavy workload course that required a lot of presentation and preparation before lessons.



Part II. General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

As the visa application took around 3 months, it is recommended to start the visa application once accepted the offer. Financial documents offer letter and a short essay on the reason of applying the visa were required in the application process. For my case, it took around one and a half month before I receive the approval from the embassy. Since Hong Kong embassy no longer serve the fingerprint collection process, therefore, Hong Kong citizens were allowed to do the following process after arriving in Sweden in a month. Since the time slot for fingerprint collection was quite limited, it was recommended to book in advance as soon as possible. One week after the appointment, the resident permit would be sent to the registered address by post. All in all, it was suggested to bring the visa acceptance letter with you when arriving in Copenhagen.

Orientation Activities

The orientation week took around 2 weeks. Exchange students could join the non-mandatory Swedish Introductory course, I certainly would recommend it since it helped me in my daily life, especially while doing grocery. The course content was relatively easy and fun to learn, I have learnt something about Swedish culture through watching Swedish film and enjoying Swedish music and literature. At the course end, students would have an exam with only 40-50 MCQs which were relatively straight forward. Also, the international desk organized some activities like hiking, tasting Swedish food and IKEA tour. It was highly recommended to go for the tasting Swedish food activity which you could have a try on some strange Swedish traditional food, such as liquorice.

International Services & Activities

Most of the international services were organized by Lund International desk, however, there were also some international activities offered by ESN. Students could join ESN during the orientation week, it offered several trips to different places, like Lapland in Finland. Other activities were organized by nations, students were required to join at least one nation in order to create their student card. Each nation had their own club, the major part of Lund student life was going to a night club.

Accommodations

Finding an accommodation was one of the most challenging things to do before the exchange began. There was a very low chance of getting a housing from LU Accommodation, students were recommended to find a housing from AF Bostader. In case of failure in searching for a housing, students could reach the Lund International office for help. They might offer temporary housing in Lund University Guest house, and a fast-track in LU Accommodation or other housing agencies. I lived in a corridor room in Sparta, where I made some international friends and had a great time.

Courses Registration

As soon as you received the acceptance letter, Lund University would send an email to inform students to fill in the course registration form online. Usually, it is recommended to take 2 courses per period. Around 1 months before exchange, you would receive a confirmation email of course registered. At this moment, you needed to check the class schedule online via TimeEdit to verify that there was no class conflict greater than 3 instances. If no class conflict appeared, you need to confirm your course choices as stated in the email. On the contrary, if conflict appeared, you need to inform the International Office to change courses. In case of anything happen when you arrived in Lund, you could still seek help from the International office to seek approval for course changes. The courses I took were as follow:

Course Title	Period	Transfer Credit	Workload
SUSA01/11: Swedish: Introductory Course for Exchange Students 1	Orientation week	OTHRFREE: Free Credits (2Cr)	Light, only one written examination
FEKH45: Managing and Developing Organizations	Sept-Oct	MGMT3130: Judgement and Decision Making in Organizations (4Cr)	Relatively heavy, 3 compulsory seminars, one group literature review, one take-home exam
FEKH92: Business Administration: Innovation Management /	Sept-Oct	ISOM4020: Innovation Management and Technology	Normal, one group project, one mid-term exam, one take-home exam

Innovation Management		Entrepreneurship (3Cr)	
INFE05: Informatics: Mobile Industry Dynamics - from a Business Perspective	Nov-Jan	ISOM3000IS: 3000-level Course in Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Management (3Cr)	Normal, two group homework, one take-home exam
INFC60: IS Sourcing Strategies for Business Development	Nov-Jan	ISOM3000IS: 3000-level Course in Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Management (3Cr)	Heavy, 5 compulsory seminars which required reading around 3 academic journals and wrote a summary on the required readings, one group course paper, 2 presentations in total

Teaching & Assessment Methods

Introductory lecture and seminar were compulsory, other lectures did not take attendance. If students were absent in seminar, some professor might request students to submit an additional work to compensate. Not all courses require examination, some courses might only have group paper and presentation. The mode of examination might be taken place in either examination hall or take-home exam.

Sports & Recreation Facilities

There were free yoga lesson every Thursday in AF Building. However, since it was on a first-come-first-serve basis, it is recommended to go to the venue at least 20 minutes before. Students could also apply for a gym membership in Sparta's private gym room.

Finance & Banking

Most of the European countries are relatively cashless, people usually just use credit cards, so it is better to bring around 3 credit cards with you. Lund also receive cash, however, not all shops do accept. Therefore, it is recommended to bring around 15,000 Swedish Krona and a few Euro.

Expenses (in \$HKD)	
Flight Ticket (Round Trip)	6311
Student Visa	1000
Accommodation	17730
Living Expense	10000
Travel Expense	43000
Total	78041

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

There were nations and other interest clubs which students could join in the orientation week. Most of the membership was free, except ESN.

Health & Safety

It was extremely difficult to consult a doctor or dentist in Sweden, thereby, personal healthcare control is very essential. It was highly recommended to bring sufficient medicine with you. Also, taking some supplements would be a good idea to stay healthy. Lund was generally quite safe, however, it was important to keep in mind to lock the door and windows at all time. Since there was an instance that one of my dormmates' was being broken into and stolen personal belongings.

Food

Dining out in Lund is relatively expensive compared to that of Hong Kong. It is usually at around 150kr per person. However, there is a great pizza place in Lund called La Cucina which worth a try. Cooking in the dorm might be a better and cheaper choice. The goods in supermarket was 20% slightly more expensive than that of Hong Kong in average.

Transportation

Major transportations in Lund are bus and train. Most of the locals will buy a bike to commute to and from. A second-hand bike costs at around 700kr, while bus ticket costs around 20kr per trip and 40kr for a one-day pass. There is also monthly bus ticket. Walking might be the most common way to commute in Lund.

Climate

Weather in August to October is quite warm from around 24 to 12 Degree Celsius. It gets colder starting from the mid October and coldest in January at around -1 to 8 Degree Celsius. Since the indoor area is perfectly heated, hence, it was not difficult to adapt to the weather. All in all, it is recommended to bring a few summer clothes and mostly winter clothes with you.

Communication

On the registration day, students could buy a sim card from Telenor which could be topped up every month from 119 5GB to 199 10GB and more. The sim card enable user to dial calls and internet connection in all European countries, except Switzerland. The medium of communication in Sweden is mainly in Swedish and English.

Cautionary measures

Most of the time when going for a trip, I would go to Copenhagen airport. Custom might get on board to check the personal details while crossing from Denmark to Sweden via Oresund bridge. Bringing the passport and residence permit with you at all time was very crucial while living in Lund.

Part III. Items to Bring

- Passport (with copies)
- HKID
- Visa Acceptance Letter
- School Acceptance Letter
- Laptop
- Router
- Rice cooker
- Medicine
- Credit Card (Visa, Master, American Express)
- Bank Card (Cirus/PLUS)
- Cash (Swedish Krona, Euro)
- Stationery
- Adaptor
- Wind-water-proof coat
- Moisturizer

Part IV. Useful links

- AF Bostader
<https://www.afbostader.se/en/available-housings/>
- Lund University
<https://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/>
- Housing Application
<https://www.luaccommodation.lu.se/>
- Lund Library
<https://www.lub.lu.se/en/lund-university-libraries>
- SkyScanner
<https://www.skyscanner.com.hk/?locale=en-GB&market=HK>