

LUND UNIVERSITY

exchange report

Spring 2020

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Finance and operation management



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PART I

Monthly activity log

Jan 2020

I arrived at Lund at late January to do the check in at my dormitory and to attend some compulsory orientation activities (please refer to orientation activities in part II). There was not much to do during this month, I just went travel right away when I have done all the necessary procedures. I went to England, Scotland and Germany during this month, it was not quite the weather for UK in Jan, summer or spring would be a better season to visit. For Germany, luckily the weather was good enough when I visited the schloss Neuschwanstein, but the sightseeing bridge was closed due to snow, so if you are really determined to take photos at that spot, better go during the first snow or after the snow season.

Feb 2020

February is when most of the courses started. I just attended the first compulsory lesson, most of my time spent on travelling. Most of the people went to Finland and Iceland during this month for the northern lights, it's quite pricey but I definitely recommend a go.

Mar 2020

March is when the COVID hit Europe hard. I was travelling in Stockholm at that time, some of the exchange program ended but luckily Sweden only has 1x cases during that time. But there was an outbreak in Lund after a student travel back from Italy, exactly at my dorm. Most of the exchange universities have switched to online teaching already but Lund University still require students to attend exams and refuse to offer face to face teaching which was quite a shock to me. I fled to London overnight as Copenhagen announced to closure of its borders.

Apr 2020

Lund finally promised to offer online courses and allow take home exams. I spend most of my time at London to wait for available flights to come back, the weather was much better than that in Jan in UK.

May 2020

I am back in HK, and started the online teaching, some courses did not offer online teaching, but just ask us to do some readings and write essay on our own which was quite confusing.

Jun 2020

Semester ends, not much information.

PART II

General exchange information

Visa procedures

The procedures are rather simple, just visit the Swedish migration website (attached in useful links), submit the information required, they will send you an email and ask you to go to their office in HK to take a letter, the letter enables you to stay in Sweden during your study period. You will also need to go to the migration center in Malmo upon your arrival (there's a one month limit), make sure you go there before the deadline stated.

Orientation activities

There are two compulsory orientation activities, there are others but those are optional. For the compulsory ones, one is offered to all exchange student, includes some booth from the

(1) telecommunication company,

(2) internet services (for buying routers, but I don't recommend buying there as it's quite expensive),

(3) transportation company teaching you to use the app there (please read more at transportation), and

(4) some booklet for exchange students (quite useful in teaching you how to use their facilities and making student card etc.)

Another compulsory activity is offered by the business faculty, it is just a brief introduction about the teaching and grading information in the uni.

Some optional ones include cultural night, orientation booths (in case you are interested to join their dorm's activities and student clubs)

International services and activities

There are not much activities tailor-made for exchange students except for the orientation ones mentioned above, but Lund is quite famous for its dorm cultures (please read more at social clubs and networking opportunities).

Accommodations

This is the worst part of the whole experience. Lund does not secure accommodation for exchange student from HK, and there is definitely chances that you could not get an official housing place from the school and even the housing agency there. Basically, there are two channels where you can find housing (links are attached at last page):

(1) Lund university's official housing lottery: The university will send you the link for the lottery, there are plenty of choices all around the city, I was not lucky enough to get a space from that lottery but most of the exchange students from UST got one.

(2) AF Bostader: It is a housing agency at Lund, offering student housing, actually some of the dormitories they offer overlaps with Lund university's, AF seems to have more space comparing to what the uni can offer. It also uses lottery to assign the vacancies, I failed to get one at the first round and luckily got one at final round.

I have heard cases that some students have to live at Airbnb for the whole semester or rent rooms from the locals.

Course registration

The university will send you a link to submit your choices, the procedure is a bit confusing as they require you to write additional information for each course you submit, make sure to double check if they get the correct information. But Lund's system is not as straight as UST, they allow you to have a 3 weeks add-drop period, and most of the courses will have vacancies so there's not much worry for not being able to choose the course you want to study. There are plenty of interesting CC courses for you to transfer at Lund, but unfortunately not much finance and OM courses. Lund used to be considered as one of the exchange school with most fina courses, but they changed the system since fall 2019, undergrad students are no longer eligible for applying to master courses (where most of the fina courses are concentrated at master level) even you have adequate knowledge to study those subjects. I only transferred two finance courses, one mgmt and one CC (non-SSC).

Teaching and assessment methods

The courses at Lund University does not require attendance except for the first lesson, which, if students failed to attend, they will be removed from the class list. The rest of the lesson is quite lenient on attendance taking, some of them might give bonus marks if you attend the lesson

Sports and recreation facilities

There are gyms offered in most dormitory but you have to pay for it, not much other recreation facilities.

Finance and banking

It is quite troublesome to open an account there as they required many information, for me I just apply for a card called “plus card” from HSBC. It allows you to draw most of the currency all over Europe, very convenient.

Social clubs and networking opportunities

There are many clubs and dorms you can join at Lund, they often host parties and gatherings.

Health and safety

There is a doctor in the campus, I am not sure if you have to pay for it though, better bring some medicine just in case. Lund is a safe town even you walk alone at night.

Food

There's a restaurant called “rosegarden” offers Asian buffet in case you miss the food in HK. Not much choices apart from that, most of the time I just buy some instant noodles from Asian market and cook it.

Transportation

Most of the people rent a bike but I was travelling most of the time so paying for the bus per trip seems to be more economic. They use an app for buying bus tickets and you just have to scan the QR code.

Climate

Similar to UK, very rainy and cold during jan-feb, did not experience the spring there, not much information about good weather there.

Communication

Most of them can speak English except for the aged ones.

Cautionary measures

People will steal your food from the fridge, they stole a whole box of ice cream from me.

PART III

Items to bring

- Passport
- Credit card / debit card
- Residence permit
- Laptop
- Adaptor, charger
- Medicine
- Stationary, notebooks
- Router and LAN cable (you can choose to buy at lund at a company called Kjell & Company)
- Umbrella
- Gloves, scarf

PART IV

Useful links

Lund University School of Economic and Management (LUSEM) Exchange Program Website

<https://www.lusem.lu.se/study/exchange>

LU Accommodation Website

<https://www.luaccommodation.lu.se/accommodation-student/>

AF Bostäder Website

<https://www.afbostader.se/en/>

Swedish Migration Agency:

<https://www.migrationsverket.se/English/Privateindividuals.html>

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