

Lam Hiu Laam

Spring 2021-2022

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK

Monthly Activity Log:

- Jan 2022

Upon the arrival in Glasgow, as the university provided free taxi services to the student accommodation, the journey to the student apartment was not too much of a hassle. Despite their heavy accent, the people in Glasgow were easygoing and very helpful.

During the first month, I gradually settled in the student apartment. I started making new friends via the activities and campus exploring events hosted by the student union in UoG (University of Glasgow). These events custom-made for international students are an excellent chance for me to know more people.

The lesson starts on 10th Jan. Most of my courses are conducted online or prerecorded due to Covid restrictions.

I was informed that my roommate had canceled her plans for the exchange. Therefore, I had the whole apartment to myself.

- Feb 2022

In the society promotional period. I joined the Hong Kong society. As CNY is approaching, they host a cross-uni CNY dinner. That evening, I tried several new

traditional dishes for LNY, e.g., lau san. I also joined the LGBTQ+ society; although most of their events are hosted online, the “Joma” of our group organized an offline, face-to-face coffee chat.

Other than the event hosted by the society, I joined the group strength classes and gym induction sessions. The gym room is included as a part of the service in the student accommodation.

- **Mar 2022**

March marks the end of most of the classes. This also means I have more free time to explore places in Scotland and the remaining areas in the UK. I partook in the “Inverness and Loch Ness,” “The Isle of Skye,” and “St. Andrews” Tours organized by the international student tour group. Scotland is a beautiful place with much marvelous nature and historical buildings. I also get to know many people during the trip. Unfortunately, I caught covid with my friends on the journey to the Isle of Skye, and I had to cancel the following trip to the midland of the UK because I was too sick to travel.

- **Apr 2022**

As there is no lesson in Apr, I started to travel outside Scotland. I went to London, then Italy, Copenhagen, Greece, and some other places with my friends met in UST and UoG.

- **May 2022**

May is the exam period and the submission deadline for most essays. The standard in UoG is much lower and less harsh than in UST. Therefore, I handled most of the courses with ease.

General Study Abroad Information

1) Visa Procedures

No visa is required for visitors to the UK who have stayed there for six months.

But the university will provide you with a short-term visa letter.

2) Orientation Activities

No mandatory orientation activities are required for visiting students. Most events are conducted online due to covid restrictions.

3) International Services and Activities

Pick-up services are provided upon arrival at Glasgow airport.

4) Accommodations

Visiting students are guaranteed to have student accommodations. There are several apartments provided to choose from. I chose the “student apartment” due to its proximity to the campus.

5) Course Registration

Students are required to register for the courses two month before the start of the semester. Although they might decline your course registration at first, as

long as you email the professors and justify why this course is essential, they will allow you to enroll in the classes.

6) Teaching & Assessment Methods

Group projects, essays, and final exams. My courses do not take class participation into the final grade.

7) Finance and Banking

I applied HSBC debit card, which allows me to shop online and offline in the UK and across Europe.

8) Climate

Freezing (around 0-10 degrees) during January and March. It always rains during winter and spring.

9) Health and Safety

We need to register NHS for healthcare services. But the response time is prolonged. Recommend to bring your medication.

10) Food

Eating out in the UK is expensive. Recommend buying groceries from Tesco/Lidl. They have a variety of food. There are several Asian supermarkets in Glasgow city center as well.

11) Transportation

There is a free bus scheme by applying for the Young Scot Card. There are metros and trains to travel within and across the city. Taxi is expensive.

12) Communication

Scotland's accent is hard to comprehend. But the professors will tone down their accents. I need to spend a bit of time getting used to their pronunciation.

13) Sports & Recreation facilities

A gym room is included in the student accommodation. There are several sports clubs and teams for students to partake in.

14) Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

There will be a week for societies to promote themselves. All students are welcome to join.

15) Cautionary measures

Night in Glasgow is scary, and it gets dark early in winter. Avoid walking alone at night as there are few pedestrians during nighttime.

Items to bring

- Winter clothes
- Sportswear + running shoes
- A debit card is a must as the shops tend to use the contactless payment method
- Cash
- ID Documents
- Raincoats

Useful Links and Contacts

[University of Glasgow - MyGlasgow - MyGlasgow Students](#)

[University of Glasgow - MyGlasgow - Senate Office - Session dates](#)