



**SPRING 2022**

# EXCHANGE REPORT

**CITY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON  
BAYES BUSINESS SCHOOL, U.K.**

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# JAN 2022

On January 20th, I arrived in London and checked into my accommodation (Romano Court). I mostly cleaned my room in the first two days and went for walks around the neighborhood. I made friends with other exchange students in the same hall. We went to Tower Bridge, Chinatown, Greenwich, and Oxford Street, among other places in London. I also dined at some well-known restaurants, such as Flat Iron and Burger and Lobsters. Orientation day began on the 26th, and I received my new student card on the 28th.





# FEB 2022

The semester just began. It was enjoyable to attend lectures with both international and local students. I also took the initiative to enroll in French classes. Historic London was one of my favourite lectures since we were given the opportunity to go on a weekly walk around London with a professional guide. I spent the weekend in various cities such as Oxford, Bath, and Bristol. Workload in the beginning was manageable, so I took some trips to Nice, Amsterdam, and Berlin.





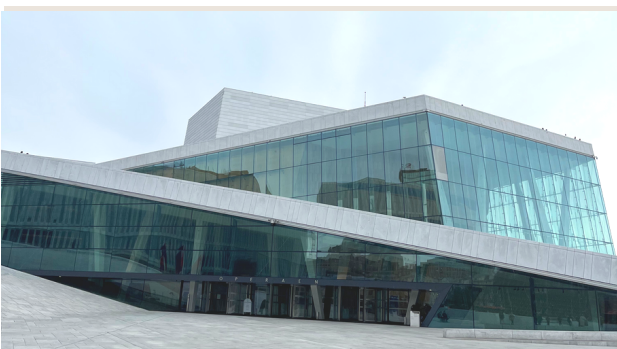
# MARCH 2022

My journey began with a trip to Madrid. Following that, as the midterm season was coming, I spent the majority of my time preparing for tests. In the meanwhile, several friends came to visit me and we explored Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Notting Hill, Borough Market, and Brick Lane, among some other London tourist attractions. I also watched the Harry Potter theatre performance, which featured many stunning magical effects and it was well worth watching. I travelled to Stockholm and Barcelona after a hectic week until late March.



# APRIL 2022

The semester was coming to an end. I took a trip to Iceland, it was breathtaking to witness the aurora, waterfalls, and ice caves in person. Cherry blossom season had begun when I returned to London, so I went to Hyde Park, Richmond Park, and Holland Park. Different animals, such as deer and peacocks, were also seen strolling around. Late April was a busy time for me as I had five essays to submit. Throughout the time, I went to Poland to join a friend. I then travelled to Oslo and Copenhagen.





# MAY 2022

I travelled to Manchester to see a friend, and we cooked a delicious seafood meal together. Following that, I visited Leeds, Blackpool, York, and Cambridge as a conclusion to my exchange adventure. At last, I had farewell meals with other exchange students before departing London on May 14th.



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# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## 1) Visa Procedures

If the exchange period is less than six months, you do not need to apply for a visa as a Hong Kong resident. City University provided an acceptance letter as well as a letter of support for a short-term study visa. When crossing the UK border, remember to bring them as well as proof of accommodation.

## 2) Orientation Activities

The university had an orientation day one week before the semester began. Exchange talks were organized to help you become more familiar with the school and learning portals. City walks were also organized by the accommodation team.

## 3) International Services & Activities

Historic London and Performing Arts in London are two cultural elective modules that all exchange students are eligible to request. Because of the pandemic, there were few activities organized specifically for international students.

## 4) Accommodations

It is not guaranteed that you will be able to find student accommodation. You should email the study-abroad team ([study-abroad@city.ac.uk](mailto:study-abroad@city.ac.uk)) for hall registration if you intend to apply for the hall. Fortunately, I was able to secure a room in Romano Court, which is a university-managed residence. The school is just a 10-minute walk away, with groceries and an underground station nearby. All the rooms are single rooms, and the bathrooms and kitchen facilities are shared with four other students in a flat. From January 20th to June 10th, the fee was £3,340.



# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## 5) Course Registration

The registration process is straightforward. Before you travel to the UK, you will receive an application form on which you can enter your wish list. Exchange students are allowed to take up to 5 modules (with a maximum of 4 business modules). They are also eligible to request to study cultural elective modules, Historic London and Performing Arts in London.

## 6) Teaching & Assessment Methods

Most modules and tutorials were taught face to face, while some were to be taught online due to the pandemic. For the assessment method, exchange students are permitted to take an alternative assessment in replacement for the final exam. The most common form of alternative assessment is writing essays.

Course Taken	Equivalent HKUST Course	Assessment Method
BS3218: Mergers and Acquisitions	FINA4203: Mergers, Acquisitions, and Corporate Restructuring (3 Cr)	Midterm + Essay
AS3303: General Insurance	FINA4000LEVEL: 4000-level Course in Finance (3 Cr)	Assignments + Essay
IF1204: Banking and Financial Institutions	FINA4503: Banking and Financial Intermediation (3 Cr)	Midterm + Essay
AF2203: Intermediate Financial Accounting 2	ACCT3020: Financial Accounting II (3 Cr)	Midterm + Essay
LA2018: Historic London	HUMA1000HMCC: 1000-level Course in Humanities (3 Cr)	Group Presentations + Essay

# GENERAL STUDY

## ABROAD INFORMATION

### 7) Finance & Banking

GBP is the official currency of London. In the beginning, I used an HSBC debit card. However, due to a delay in getting the verification code, there had been some issues with the payment process. I finally applied for and switched to Monzo Bank because it was seamless to use and the payment process was quick. When I went on trips, I paid with my Monzo debit card, and my expenses were directly converted to GBP.

The expense of living in London is high, especially when it comes to food and transportation. Daily expenses should be budgeted for at least £1000 per month.

### 8) Climate

The months of January and February are cold. The weather has been primarily gloomy and rainy. March is milder than February. Temperatures rise until April and May, and most days are sunny.

### 9) Health & Safety

It is recommended to purchase additional overseas insurance before the exchange, as medical costs from regulated clinics can be covered.

There are numerous pharmacies in the area, making it easy to obtain a variety of medications.

Although London is generally safe, it is crucial to remain cautious at all times.

It is not recommended to go out alone at night and be aware of pickpockets, especially when visiting well-known tourist attractions.

### 10) Food

In general, you can get a variety of decent meals in London, however, dining out is somewhat costly. For grocery shopping, I often went to M&S, Sainsbury's, and Tesco nearby.



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# GENERAL STUDY

# ABROAD INFORMATION

## 11) Transportation

London has convenient public transportation. To get between different locations, I usually took the underground or the bus. You can pay with an Oyster Card or a contactless credit/debit card. In most cases, there will be no wifi, data, or signal in the tube, thus it is recommended to do a comprehensive research before entering. If you want to travel to other cities in the UK, railway and coach are the main transport method. I applied for the 16-25 Railcard to enjoy student prices. Tickets can be purchased at either station or through the "Trainline" app.

## 12) Communication

In London, I purchased a SIM card from O2. It costs £15 per month for 15GB of data and unlimited minutes and messages. Both the United Kingdom and other European countries are covered by the data. You can top up the account via the "My O2" app.

## 13) Sports & Recreation Facilities

CitySport is the home of the indoor student sports clubs of City, University of London. Exchange students are welcome to join the City Wolfpack and participate in various sporting activities and contests.

## 14) Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

Student clubs and groups organize a variety of events. You can sign up to get notifications about upcoming activities on campus.

## 15) Cautionary measures

It is preferable to take Uber rather than a black cab as you can verify the driver's identification. This can assure the driver's integrity while also allowing the car to be tracked.

If you plan to go to other countries during your exchange, make sure you research the most recent entry requirements for that country, as they may change over time (eg: due to the pandemic).

## ITEMS TO BRING

- ·Travel Documents, eg: Passport, Acceptance Letter, Insurance
- ·Passport photo
- ·Cash
- ·Credit / Debit card
- ·Laptop
- ·Headphones/Earplugs
- ·Winter Clothing
- ·Medicine
- ·Chargers and adaptor
- ·Power bank
- ·Locks (useful for hostels)

## USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

Contact of Katie Hughes, the Student Exchange Coordinator  
[bayes-ug-incoming@city.ac.uk](mailto:bayes-ug-incoming@city.ac.uk)

City study-abroad team (Hall registration)  
[study-abroad@city.ac.uk](mailto:study-abroad@city.ac.uk)

Course Timetable  
<https://sws.city.ac.uk/tt2122/default.aspx>

City mapper App  
<https://citymapper.com/>

Trainline  
<https://www.thetrainline.com/>