



The University of Manchester
Alliance Manchester Business School
United Kingdom - Fall 2022

Hui Natalie Ho Ching
BSc in Economics and Finance | Year 4

Table of Contents

Monthly Activity Log	p3-p7
General Exchange Information	p8-p10
Items to Bring	p11
Useful Links and Contacts	p12

Monthly Activity Log

September

I departed three days before the induction week to attend the orientation. I took Lufthansa from Hong Kong à Frankfurt à Manchester; the journey took about 18 hours. It is still morning upon my arrival; I have decided to visit the city center to purchase some daily necessities. Using the Uber app when you are unfamiliar with the location is very convenient. During the orientation week, I met all the other AMBS exchange students. My accommodation was Dalton Ellis Hall, located in Victoria Park. There were some activities at night, like quiz night, drink night, painting night, and pizza night. etc. A friend I met there invited me to the painting night once, and it was fun. Our hall has also arranged formal dinners, all the students dressed up and enjoyed the night.



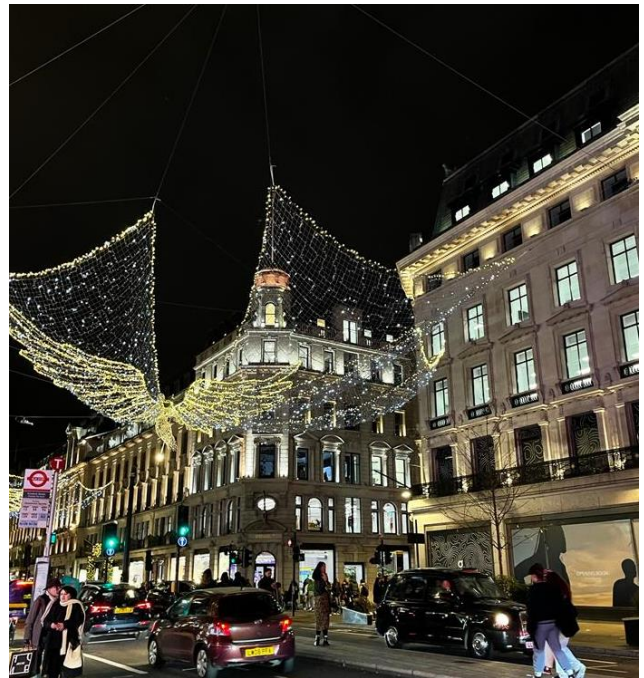
October

I got day-offs and have no assignments this month, so my friend and I spent a week exploring Italy! We went to Rome, Florence, Milan, and Venice. I think the place is safe and it is a good place to travel.



November

In November, I joined some day trips during the weekend, which the International Society arranged. I have been to York, London, Oxford, and Birmingham with my friends this month. Since Christmas is approaching, Christmas markets were everywhere, and the Christmas decorations were beautiful.



December

After completing all the assignments, I could finally enjoy my semester break. I took this chance to travel to Scotland, I went from Edinburgh to Highland and back to Edinburgh. The weather was quite good during the days I spent in Highland.



January

I took alternative assessments so I do not have to return to Manchester for the exams. At last, I decided to return to Hong Kong.

General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

I did not apply for any visa as I hold an HKSAR passport. It allows me to stay in the UK for no more than 6 months. You have to decide how long to stay and check whether your passport requires a visa. When you enter the UK, they will ask you to show your acceptance letter, so make sure you bring a copy with you.

Orientation Activities

AMBS will arrange activities during the induction week, and you could meet other exchange students there. Activities like city tours and Peak District visits are free to join, it is a great chance to explore the city.

International Services & Activities

There is an International Society that arranges activities and tours, so you can travel around the UK easily.

Accommodations

After receiving the confirmation letter, you could choose 5 accommodations on the university's system. Although there is a chance of not getting accommodations you wanted the most, it guaranteed accommodation for AMBS exchange students. I was assigned to Dalton Ellis Hall, a catered hall full of exchange students. If you want more personal space, make sure you choose an en-suite room and submit the preferences as soon as possible.

Course Registration

I registered for the courses through email. Each course usually takes 10-20 credits and exchange students are required to register 50-60 credits. You could also email the AMBS team if you have any questions regarding course information, they are helpful. I registered the following courses:

Course code	Course name	Grading
BMAN 30891 (10 credits)	International Finance	100% Essay
BMAN 31881 (20 credits)	Economic Analysis II	20% Essay 10% Weekly MCQs 70% Final
BMAN 32051 (10 credits)	Case Studies in Digital Transformation	35% Group essay 50% Individual essay 15% Presentation
UCIL 20031 (10 credits)	Leadership in Action Online	20% Ongoing assessment 40% Written assessment 1 40% Written assessment 2

Teaching & Assessment Methods

The workload is light for most courses, so you could spend time traveling around. I did an online exam that was open for 48 hours which is really flexible. I enjoyed the classes a lot as the professors were very passionate.

Sports & Recreation Facilities

There is a Sports Hall on the Fallowfield campus, but it is far from the city center. You have to book and pay to enter, but sometimes it is free.

Finance & Banking

Previous exchange students suggested bringing the HSBC World Debit Card, so I applied a month before departure. It is convenient as you could use it during your trip to Europe. I have also opened a virtual bank account on Wise, as it gives me a UK bank account number.

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

You could join AMBS or the International Society WhatsApp group to get up to date information. They will also send you emails occasionally, showing you some upcoming events.

Health & Safety

You could buy alcohol spray in convenience stores to clean your room. You should bring some medicine and testing kits with you.

Food

As I am living in a catered hall, I ate breakfast and dinner with my friends in the dining room. Sometimes we may self-cook in the kitchen and buy ingredients from the stores nearby. You could enjoy Asia food in the China Town.

Transportation

You should get a rail card if you want to travel around the UK, I usually use the app Trainline to buy train tickets. You could travel by bus or bicycle to school, it costs about 1-2GBP per ride.

Climate

It is always raining in the UK, so make sure you get waterproof jackets and shoes.

Communication

I used Vodaphone for the sim card and got 21GB per month. But I never reached the limit, I only used about 10GB per month.

Cautionary measures

Make sure you bring your belongings with you, my friend's laptop got stolen in our hall's common area. He reached the police and the university, but no one could really help.

Items to bring

- Passport and ID Card
- Acceptance Letter
- Little amount of cash
- Credit/ Debit cards
- Clothes and shoes (Including formal attire)
- Pillow and blankets (if you could not purchase them there)
- Waterproof jackets and shoes
- Umbrella
- Utensils
- Laptop and chargers
- Adapters (if you are planning to travel)
- Sufficient medicine and masks

Useful Links & Contacts

Blackboard

<https://online.manchester.ac.uk/>

Check if you need Visa

<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

Email address of Accommodation Team

accommodation@manchester.ac.uk

Email address of AMBS Exchange Team

exchange.ambs@manchester.ac.uk

International Society

<https://internationalsociety.org.uk/>

My Manchester

<https://my.manchester.ac.uk/>

Rail card Information

<https://www.railcard.co.uk/>

University Accommodations

<http://www.accommodation.manchester.ac.uk/ouraccommodation/>