
Exchange Report

The University of Warwick, UK Warwick Business School (WBS)



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FINA & OM

Spring 2023



Part 1 – Monthly Activity Log

January | Leamington Spa | London | Dover

I arrived and checked in to the university on-campus accommodation early January. The check-in process was very quick if you completed all the required tasks on the student portal in advance. After the start of the semester on 9th January, there were some welcoming activities organized by the Warwick Business School and the Global Connections team, where I met some new friends from different countries. We had three weeks of add/drop period to enroll or swap modules. During the period, my exchange friends and I visited several cities in UK like Leamington Spa, London, and Dover.

February | Edinburg | Brighton

For academic life, I had my lectures and seminars almost every day. At the weekends, I managed to visit Edinburg and Brighton with my friends. As group project topics had been released in late February, I started working with my groupmates regularly every week for discussion, which made me have a fruitful study life.



March | Coventry | Cornwall | Jersey

Coming to the end of spring term, it was hectic for us to finish all group assignments. The spring term ended at mid-March and followed by Easter Break. The break was around one month long from March to April. Before starting our Europe trip, I travelled to Cornwall and Jersey to enjoy the unique natural landscape with my friends.



April | Bergen | Copenhagen | Milan | Venice

During our Europe trip, I travelled to Norway, Denmark, and Italy with my friends to celebrate the Easter. After this unforgettable trip, I worked very hard to finish three individual essay assignments before the deadline in my accommodation.

May & June | Coventry | London

After the short trip to London to relax myself, I went back to Warwick to prepare for my final exams. I had two final exams which were scheduled in late May and June. After completing my last exam in late June, I travelled back to Hong Kong.

Part 2 - General Study Abroad Information

1. Visa Procedures

As a Hong Kong resident with HKSAR Passport, I do not need to apply for a visa before heading to the UK. You can just download the Certificate of Status through MyWarwick website and show it to the immigration officer for verification. The entry stamp on the passport represents the short-term visitor visa. Remember to bring the letter with you when travel outside UK as the immigration will stamp a new one for each entry.

2. Orientation Activities

There was no Welcome Week for exchange students in the Spring term. Only two short orientation talks were arranged by WBS on the first school day. They mainly taught about module arrangements and academic writing. I met several Hong Kong exchange friends there as well.

3. International Services & Activities

You can contact The Student Mobility Team for enquiries on the exchange arrangement. The Global Connections team organizes different activities occasionally for all students to join. The activities include games, parties, and gatherings. They are all free of charge. The activities were quite fun, and you can meet some new friends there.

4. Accommodations

I lived in an ensuite room in Sherbourne. I shared the common kitchen with 11 people. The accommodation was nice. But it is quite far away from the shopping center and supermarkets, I need to carry heavy groceries for a long walk back to the accommodation. Indoors were warm enough with radiators inside. Remember to rank your accommodation choices and complete the application carefully before the deadline. Please be aware that some accommodations require you to move out during the Easter Break.

5. Courses Registration

Before the term starts, you can pre-register your preferred modules in my.wbs portal. However, WBS does not guarantee successful registration into their preferred modules for exchange students. You are recommended to plan beforehand by checking the WBS UG Exchange Student Module Handbook and HKUST Course Equivalent Database. You can still change your module registration in the add/drop period at the beginning of the term.

6. Teaching & Assessment Methods

All the modules include both lectures and seminars. Attendance is only required for seminars. Seminars mainly do practice questions and group discussions which were useful for preparing different assessments. All WBS lectures are recorded for your future revision. The assessment methods are similar to UST which included group projects, individual essays and final exams. This year, most WBS final exams in summer term were still online exams in Alternative Exam Portal (AEP).

7. Finance & Banking

I have HSBC bank account in Hong Kong. I just applied for the HSBC Mastercard Debit Card and linked it to a mobile payment app. It is very convenient to make contactless payments everywhere in UK and even other European countries. Also, you can do free cash withdrawals from HSBC Group ATMs anywhere worldwide. No fees are charged for spending abroad and the exchange rates are acceptable. The daily expenses in the UK are quite high, especially for transportation costs.

8. Climate

The weather in the UK was always cloudy and rainy. The temperature was around 6°C (lowest 0°C) in the Spring Term, and around 12°C in the Summer Term. Therefore, please remember to bring down jacket and thick clothes to withstand the cold weather outdoors.

9. Health & Safety

There is a student clinic available in Warwick, all students are covered. You can also buy medicine in the supermarket and pharmacy if you are ill. Campus and Coventry are rather safe.

10. Food

There were several restaurants within the campus but most of them were quite expensive. So, I sometimes bought ingredients from Tesco, Aldi, or the Korean Market and cook by myself to save money. During term time, several food trucks would be parked in the central plaza every Wednesday which offers yummy food in different cuisines.

11. Transportation

You can take buses from campus to the train station and Coventry. For traveling to other cities, you can purchase train tickets through Trainline app conveniently. You are recommended to buy the 16-25 Railcard for £30 a year and enjoy a 1/3 off discount per journey, so it can save you a lot for trains within the UK. For traveling around Europe, you can take Flixbus or budget airlines like Ryanair and easyJet. Ticket prices will be cheaper normally if you book several weeks earlier.

12. Communication

For mobile data, I purchased a Three 30 Days Pay as You Go sim card in Hong Kong in advance. A UK phone number was allocated to the card so you can call or text others in the UK. Furthermore, the plan included roaming service in Europe. You can renew the plan every month online with your credit card. You can also buy a sim card in the supermarket after you arrive. For Wi-Fi, you can connect to eduroam Wi-Fi within the campus easily with Warwick account.

13. Sports & Recreation Facilities

Warwick has a large Sports & Wellness Hub and different sports facilities. But I didn't use them as their monthly plans were quite expensive. Usually, I just jog and cycle around the campus when I am free.

14. Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

The Global Connection team and the Student Residential team organized different activities for everyone to join freely, they have special events during festivals like Chinese New Year and Easter. For student societies, they usually promote their events through social media, you can register their events online. For networking opportunities, WBS organized regular drop-in sessions and career events for business students to participate. You can chat with other students, UG coordinators and even industry professionals in a relaxed environment.

15. Cautionary measures

Please always beware of pickpockets and avoid contact with strangers, especially in large cities like London and travelling in Europe. There are industrial strikes occasionally in the UK and Europe, remember to check their service interruption.

Part 3 - Items to Bring

- Passport and ID card
- Certificate of Status
- Cash
- Credit/ Debit cards
- Thick clothes
- Down jacket
- Laptop and mobile phone
- Chargers
- Travel adaptor (for Europe)
- Small electric cooker
- Duvet set
- Knife
- Medicine

Part 4 - Useful Links and Contacts

1. Check if you need a UK visa

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

2. my.wbs portal

<https://my.wbs.ac.uk/?event=login>

3. MyWarwick

<https://warwick.ac.uk/students/>

4. Warwick Accommodation

<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/accommodation/>

5. WBS Undergraduate Programme team

undergraduate@wbs.ac.uk