

Exchange Study Report

Queen's University, Canada

Smith School of Business



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Year 3
Spring 2023

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Monthly Activity log

December

I arrived at the Montréal-Trudeau International Airport at the end of December. I spent 4 days exploring the city alone.



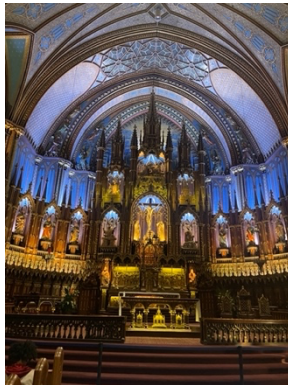
January

I went to Kingston by VIA Rail a week before the start of the semester. I joined the orientations held by Queen's University International Centre and Smith School of Business. I watched an ice hockey game after the orientation. We also went outdoor ice skating.



February

During the reading week, I traveled to Montreal, Quebec City and Ottawa with my friends. We joined the light festival in Montreal and skied in the Quebec City.



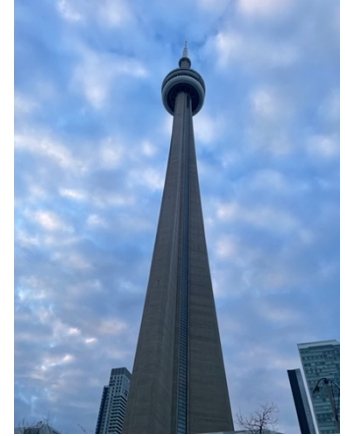
March

There are many midterm exams in early March. We traveled to Ottawa after all of us finished our midterm exams.



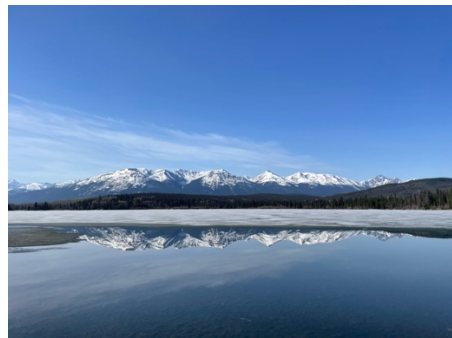
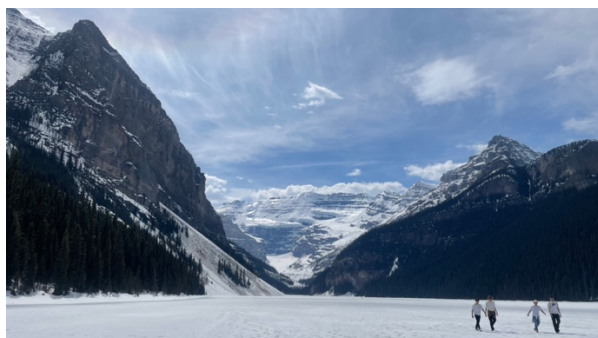
April

I traveled to Toronto in early April before the final exam period started. We joined the thousand island cruise in Kingston. After finishing the final exams, we leaved Kingston and traveled to Niagara Falls.



May

We traveled to Calgary and visited Banff National Park. The natural scenery was really indescribable. After that, we traveled to Vancouver and I returned back to Hong Kong.



General Exchange Information

Visa procedures

For Hong Kong passport holders, only eTA is required to enter Canada. Also, since the exchange period is shorter than 6 months, a study permit is not required.

Orientation activities

Smith School of Business held an orientation. There are talks introducing Kingston and Queen's University. We also had a campus tour. At night, we had dinner in the Goodes Hall which allowed us to chat with other exchange students. We also watched an ice hockey game after dinner.

International services and activities

Queen's University International Centre provided lots of supports to exchange students. They held orientations before the start of semester. During the semester, here are some classes such as English classes every week for exchange students

Accommodations

Since Smith School of Business did not provide any on campus housing, I found the off campus one. I lived in a house with another exchange student from Hong Kong and 3 domestic students.

Courses registration

Course registration was done on SOLUS. The system looks similar to SIS. Course ?? could be found online before enrollment. Course enrollment started in mid-October. Some courses have prerequisites and required the submission of relevant documents. Exchange students could enroll in 3 to 5 courses, at least 3 of them need to be commerce courses.

Teaching and assessment methods

Course name	Equivalent course	Professor	Assessment methods
COMM 313 Financial Accounting II	ACCT 3020 Financial Accounting II	David J. McMonomy	Three quizzes 10% each Mid-term exam 25% Final exam 45%
COMM 317 Auditing	ACCT 4510 Auditing	Erin Webster	In class team assignments 15% Midterm exam 30% Final exam 45% Data analytics assignments 10%
COMM 401 Business & Corporate Strategy	MGMT 4210 Corporate Strategy	Goce Andrevski	Class presentation 20% Capsim performance 30% Final exam 30% Assignments 20%
MUSC 105 Foundations in Tonal Music	HUMA 2104 Music Theory I: Introduction to Tonal Music	Dean Burry	Composition 12% Arrangement 12% WeVu video presentation 12% Peer assessment 12% Three aural skills quizzes 4% each Three in-class tests 5% each Final exam 25%

For exchange students whose first language is not English, 30 minutes extra time will be added in the exams for commerce courses.

Finance and banking

I did not open a bank account in Canada, instead, I used the world debit card of HSBC. For people who wish to open a Canadian bank account, Scotiabank held a booth

Climate

The temperature in January and February is between -20°C to 5°C. In March, the weather become warmer. In late April, the temperature could be as high as 27°C.

Health and safety

All exchange students are required to join the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP). Students can use walk-home service at night. There are some blue streetlights in the campus. If students want help from the securities, they can push the button, and someone will come immediately.

Food

For on-campus dining, there are some restaurants in ARC. For off-campus dining, there are many restaurants on Princesses Street. If you want to cook by yourself, you can visit the supermarkets, including Metro, Food Basics, No Frills, etc.

Transportation

Public transportation in Kingston is free when showing the student ID card. For traveling from other cities to Kingston, there are various choices, including VIA Rail, Flixbus, Megabus, etc.

Communication

Instead of buying sim card in Canada, I bought data cards in Hong Kong. It is much cheaper than joining plans in Canada.

Sports and recreation facilities

There is a gym room in the ARC which is free for Queen's students. There are also swimming pools, basketball courts, badminton courts in the campus.

Cautionary measures

There are two official languages in Canada, including English and French. Although English is the major language used in Kingston, some of the cities like Montreal use French more frequently.

Items to bring

- HKID card
- Passport
- Acceptance letter
- Laptop
- Chargers
- Adapters
- Credit card and debit card
- Medicine
- Waterproof jacket
- Boots
- Gloves
- Sim cards
- Stationary
- Calculator

Useful links and contacts

SOLUS

<https://my.queensu.ca/>

Smith portal

<https://web.prod.business.queensu.ca/Login/login?returnUrl=/Login/%3freturnUrl%3d%2fLogin%2f>

eTA Application

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/eta/about.html>

Off campus housing

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1618611005028802/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1066930403764960>