

# Exchange report

## University of Manchester, UK



Wong Ka Hei, Ryan

BBA in Finance and Operations Management (Year 3)

2023 Spring

## Contents

Monthly Activity Log .....	3
General Study Abroad Information .....	9
Items to Bring .....	15
Useful Links and Contacts .....	16

# Monthly Activity Log

## January

I arrived in Manchester on Jan 24th. I stayed in the hotel for a few days to get myself familiar with the city and buy some necessities. The welcoming day was held on Jan 27th. I met some new friends there and a tour guide took us around the city to introduce some popular spots. The semester started on Jan 30th and lecturers began on the course introduction.



## February

Since the semester is quite relaxing at the beginning, I travelled to Lisbon to enjoy the amazing weather. There are just a lot of awesome places to go around in Lisbon and it is one of my favourite cities I have been to during this exchange. After I returned to Manchester, I continued my schoolwork and explored the city. I have been to some good museums and enjoyed a concert performed by BBC Philharmonic.





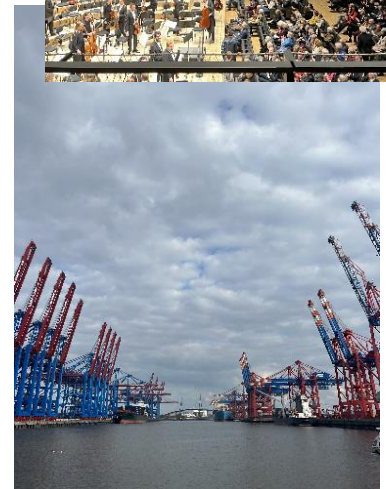
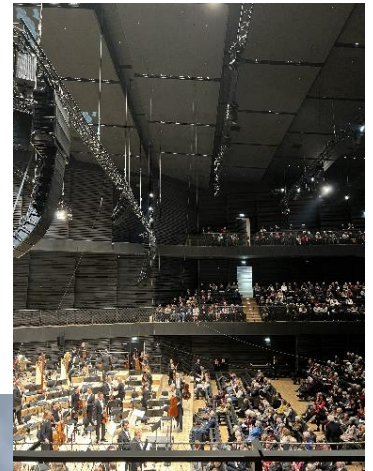
## March

In the first week of March, I travelled to Luxembourg and Belgium with my friends in UoM. It was such an unforgettable experience to enjoy the local food and culture with so many good friends. One project discussion started so I met with my teammates to talk about the ideas and divide the work after I returned to Manchester. I went to Switzerland for a few days and it's just like a dreamland.



## April

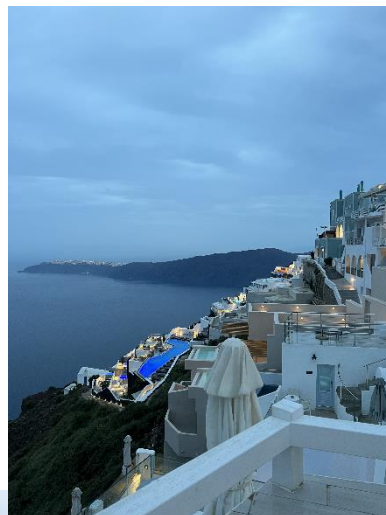
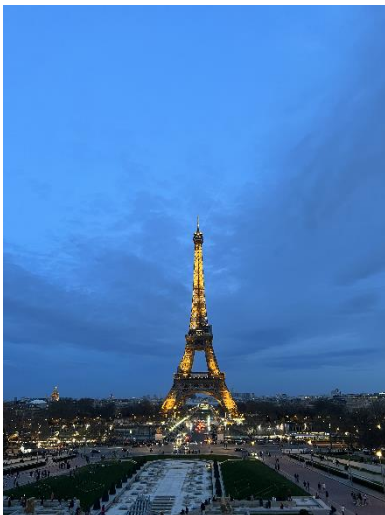
It's the Easter holiday in the first two weeks of April. I travelled to Munich, Milan, Florence, Venice, and Barcelona. As I am a big football fan, I visited the Munich stadium and watched a match in Barcelona. The atmosphere was extraordinary in Camp Nou. After Easter Holiday, there were several deadlines for assignments and group work, so I had to spend more time on them. At the end of April, I went to Koblenz, Hamburg, and Berlin. I was quite surprised by Hamburg and Berlin, since they are relatively more efficient and well-developed than other European cities.





## May

In the first week of May, I submitted two essays and two group assignments for “Leadership in Action” and “AI”. After that, there were fewer assignments and lessons. I hung out with my friends more often at places like clubs and pubs. I also started a long trip to London, France, Greece, Budapest, and Vienna. I enjoyed the chill vibe and met many nice people on this trip.



## June

I went to the driving range in Trafford to taste a bit of British culture. I also watched the FA Cup final with my friends in the pub, which had a very exciting atmosphere. I returned to Hong Kong in the second week of June.





# General Study Abroad Information

## 1) Visa Procedures

No Visa is required for HKSAR passport holders during the exchange. If you plan to stay over six months or would like to apply for internships in the UK, you would need to apply for a Visa. At the border, the Customs officer will ask some simple questions to understand your purpose of visiting Manchester and the Confirmation letter sent by UoM in email should be ready for the officer to check.

## 2) Orientation Activities

The AMBS arranged a welcoming day at the start of semester. During the orientation, they gave some basic information about the school and the city. A tour guide also took us around the city center. During the tour, I learnt more about the history of Manchester and met some exchange students from all over the world.

## 3) International Services & Activities

The international society will organise different parties and tours to let you

know more about the UK and fellow students. There are also regular chit-chat sessions every week in the Student Union Building.

#### 4) Accommodations

Exchange students are guaranteed accommodation if you submit the online application and accept the offer on time. You can rank up to five options. Halls are on three campuses: City, Victoria Park and Fallowfield. I lived in Daisy Bank IQ accommodation in Victoria Park. It is 20-mins walk away from city campus and business school. It is not a catering hall. You can order Deliveroo easily or cook by yourself in the shared kitchen.

#### 5) Courses Registration

The course registration is completed through email and online. The process is simple and you can register for the courses from the list they provide. You will need to register for about 50-60 credits according to the requirement and each course will take up to 10-20 credits. Think carefully about your study plan in HKUST so that you do not need to defer or study more credits when you are back in HKUST.

I registered the following courses:

Course Code	Course Name	Corresponding Course
BMAN 31152	Business Decision Analytics (20 credits)	ISOM3900 Decision Analytics
BMAN 31792	Financial Market Microstructure (10 credits)	FINA3000LEVEL – 3000-level Course in Finance
UCIL 20032	Leadership in Action Online (MLP) (10 credits)	MGMT1120 Developing the Leader in You
UCIL 20122	AI: Robot Overlord, Replacement or Colleague? (10 credits)	HUMA2000HMCC – 2000-level Course in Humanities

## 6) Teaching & Assessment Methods

Both UCIL 20032 and UCIL 20122 are conducted online. Contents are uploaded weekly, and you need to complete some weekly assignments and groupwork. The assessment methods are around 60% essays and 40% homework/groupwork.

BMAN 31792 has an assessment scheme of 20% group project and 80% final exam.

BMAN 31152 has an assessment scheme of 100% final exam, which is pretty tough.

Frankly speaking, some lecturers are monotonous sometimes, but they are all very helpful. Just seek help online and offline whenever you don't understand the content, or you want to seek other academic advice.



## 7) Finance & Banking

Basically, I just use debit card and credit card everywhere in Europe.

However, you should bring along some cash with you for backup.

## 8) Climate

It's cold and rainy in Manchester from January to April. In Europe, the conditions varies and the temperature stays around 5-20. But you will get used to it and raincoat is very helpful.

## 9) Health & Safety

You can register online with a General Practitioner after you arrive. It is suggested to bring some medicine with you.

## 10) Food

There are different supermarkets in the city centre and the main road near Victoria Park. I buy my own cooking utensils and I cook sometimes in the shared kitchen. You can also order Deliveroo easily or dine out with your friends.

### 11) Transportation

The only way to commute is to take buses if you live outside of city centre.

You can also walk to save money. You can also take trams if you live or travel in city centre.

### 12) Communication

Wifi is good in the dorm. You should also buy a local sim card for the call minutes and internet service. You can also purchase roaming when you travel around Europe.

### 13) Sports & Recreation Facilities

There are sport centres around the campus. You can enjoy a range of activities like swimming and football. You can also join 'Sporticipate' by signing up online, which offers various free sports classes.

### 14) Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

You can register as a free member online/at the international society office. You can join some free networking events or discounted-price trips.

### 15) Cautionary measures

Be aware of scamming or robbery. Seek help from school and friends if you face any dangerous issues.



# Items to Bring

Passport and ID Card

Acceptance Letter

Cash, debit and credit Cards

Clothes (including formal attire) and Shoes

Waterproof jackets and shoes

Smartphone and Laptop

Chargers and Adapters (for travels in Europe)

Earphone

Umbrella

Stationary

Water bottle

Chopsticks

Medicine

# Useful Links and Contacts

Alliance MBS International Team's Email

[exchange.ambs@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:exchange.ambs@manchester.ac.uk)

Visa Information

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/visasimmigration/student-visas>

Accommodation

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

Sporticipate

<http://www.sport.manchester.ac.uk/sport/sporticipate/>

The International Society

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

My Manchester

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

Blackboard

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

16-25 Railcard

<https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

Trainline

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