

# Exchange Report

Fall 2023

Copenhagen Business School

Denmark

YIP Kin Nam

## Monthly Activity Log

Write a log of one paragraph for each month highlighting some of your interesting exchange experiences, activities, impressions & places of interest. Please describe your study, learning and life experience. This section should be at least 600 words long.

### August

Before heading to Copenhagen, my exchange buddy, a student from CBS, contacted me through WhatsApp and asked about my flight details so she could pick me up at the airport when I arrived in Copenhagen on 23rd August. She took me to my student housing and brought me to a supermarket nearby to buy some groceries. Then, in the first few days in Copenhagen, I travelled within Copenhagen with my friends also exchanging to Denmark from HKUST. We visited some tourist spots like the Christiansborg Palace, Round Tower, the Little Mermaid and the well-known Nyhavn, a canal with colourful buildings along its sides. In the last week of August, I also joined the Introduction Week. It is not mandatory but I would recommend you to join it. It includes a campus tour and a city center scavenger hunt so you can know more about the campus and the city, a welcome meet-up and a folk dancing session so you can meet some new friends, and also a canal tour and the exchange Olympics so you can have some great time with your friends. Me and my friends' group won in the exchange Olympics so we have the chance to enjoy a free boat trip and we could sail the boat by ourselves.

### September

Before semester starts, I went to Berlin and Hamburg with my friends. We travelled to Berlin by Flixbus and it was a long journey. However, its price is much lower than travelling by plane. We visited some famous attractions in Berlin like the Brandenburg Gate, the Berlin Wall and the Reichstag Building. We were also lucky that it was the Hamburg Cruise Days during our visit. We enjoyed walking along the Blue Port and watching the fireworks. After going back to Copenhagen, semester starts officially. Each course in CBS is 7.5 ECTS credits and exchange students are required to take 30 ECTS credits so I took 4 courses throughout the semester, including Introduction to Sustainable Business, Forecasting in Business and Economics, Risk Management and Theories of Modern Society. Besides attending lessons and studying, I also joined the Tour of Denmark organized by the CBS exchange crew. We explored different cities in Denmark like Aarhus, the second largest city of Denmark, Skagen, the northernmost town of Denmark and Aalborg. It also includes the visit of Legoland in Billund. In the last weekend of September, I also visited Odense, the third largest city of Denmark with my friends as one of them joined the marathon there. Being the birthplace of H.C. Andersen, we visited his childhood house and the H.C. Andersen Museum.

### October

In October, I first visited Budapest and Vienna with my friends also from HKUST. We visited some tourist spots in Budapest and enjoyed its night views on a boat trip. We also enjoyed a classical concert in Vienna, the City of Music. I also visited Oslo and Tromsø in October with some exchange students from different universities in Hong Kong. Tromsø, located in northern Norway, is known as the capital of the Arctic Circle. It is really cold and the floor is entirely covered by snow and ice. We joined a dog sledding tour which the huskies guided us around the valley, surrounded by snowy mountain landscape. We also joined a Northern lights tour and we were lucky that we successfully see the Northern lights. After travelling to Norway, I spent some time on the midterm assignment of the forecasting course. It was a bit challenging and it took me a few days to finish it. Then, I visited Paris too and I enjoyed the delicious food and beautiful places there. Before October ends, I also travelled to London to visit my friends studying in London and enjoy the concert of Terence Lam.

### November

In November, I had a day trip to Malmo, which is only a short train ride from Copenhagen. Then, I had a group project for the course Theories of Modern Society. My groupmates are all local students study sociology. They are very nice and they helped me a lot when I encounter difficulties in the project. After finishing the group project, I travelled to Iceland with my friends. We enjoyed the stunning landscapes like its waterfall, hot spring, crater, glacier lagoon and ice cave. However, we could not visit the famous Blue Lagoon due to the risk of volcanic eruption. Besides visiting Iceland, I visited UK again to explore its other cities like Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Cambridge, Brighton and the Lake District.

## December

Exams are coming so I spent some time doing some revision in early December. Before the final exams, I went to a short trip to Prague. I visited its famous attractions and its Christmas market, which is one of the best Christmas markets in Europe. In mid-December, I had my exams for my 4 courses. The format of the exams are a bit different with the exams in HKUST. Three courses require a submission of a written report while the another course has a sit-in exam that we have to go to the exam centre to finish the exam on its computer. After the exam, I had my last trip to Barcelona, Madrid and Lisbon then flew back to Hong Kong on 28th December.

**Please briefly describe the visa application procedures, including**

- 1) Type of passport/travel document you are holding**
- 2) Type of visa you are required**
- 3) Required documents**
- 4) Visa fees**

My Hong Kong passport allows the short stay in Denmark (or EU Region) for 90 days. However, the exchange period is longer than 90 days so I have to apply for a residence permit. Denmark does not have a Visa Application Centre in Hong Kong so I visited the Visa Application Centre in Guangzhou. CBS provided the ST1 application form and the acceptance letter which are required for visa application. A copy of the passport and a financial proof are also required. After submitting the application fee and required documents and recording the biometrics, I received my residence permit after one to two months. The application fee for the residence permit is DKK2490 and a extra fee is charged by the Guangzhou application centre. After arriving Denmark, I also have to apply for CPR registration to obtain my residence card.

**What are the course(s) that you have enrolled at the host institution?**

Introduction to Sustainable Business  
Forecasting in Business and Economics  
Risk Management  
Theories of Modern Society

**Please briefly describe the course registration procedures, such as**

- 1) When did you receive the course registration details**
- 2) What is the course registration procedures**
- 3) Where can you access information related to course registration (e.g. websites)**

I received the course registration details in late March through email. The course lists are available at [cbs.dk/undergrad](http://cbs.dk/undergrad) for undergraduate level courses. Exchange students have to apply for 4 primary course choices and 4 alternatives for the 4 primary choices respectively. The application can be done on its system and the application deadline is late April. The course application is not first come, first served and the results is released in late June. There is an add-drop period after the release of the results.

#### **Where did you live during the program?**

On-campus student dormitory offered by the host institution

#### **Please briefly describe the accommodation at the host destination, including**

**1) What type of accommodation**

**2) What is the application procedures (If you are staying at accommodation offered by the host institution)**

**3) How did you search for the accommodation and where did you book your accommodation (If you need to arrange your own accommodation)**

**4) Facilities in the accommodation**

The information for student housing application is sent out by email. It includes a webpage that shows the details of the choices of student housing, including their size, price, facility and some photos. The application for student housing is from late May to early June and the application is not first come, first served. You can also write an email to the housing office if you wish to share a double room with a particular person. I am lucky that I got a double room in a student housing Kathrine Kollegiet with my friend also from HKUST. The room is with its own en-suite kitchen and bathroom while there is also a shared kitchen, a laundry room and a common room in the building. The residence is also equipped with Wifi. If you did not get a student housing, the housing office will also provide help on finding private housing.

#### **Please briefly describe the health and safety support provided at the host institution, including**

**1) Whether there is health centers or clinics available on campus**

**2) Any safety matters that you are concerned about**

After applying for CPR registration, I received a yellow card through post to access free medical services in Denmark. The address and phone number of my assigned clinic is also printed on the yellow card. In terms of safety, Copenhagen is one of the safest cities in Europe. However, I encountered a theft in Copenhagen that someone tried to steal my friend's phone but failed. Therefore, you should also be careful of your personal belongings.

#### **Finances**

**How much did you spend (in HKD) on the following items? (Please input "0" if not applicable to you)**

**Air ticket between the place of departure and destination (round trip)**

HKD 8,000

**Accommodation (for the entire study abroad period)**

HKD 30,000

**Program fee (if applicable)**

N/A

**Personal expenses**

HKD 20,000

**Others, please specify**

Travelling in Europe: HKD 50,000

### **My Top 3s**

**Please share with students some of your top 3s. If it is best to provide the information in the language of the host destination, please do so, but provide an explanation in English.**

### **Courses at the host institution**

Risk Management. It is an easy but useful course that teaches basics of risk management.

Forecasting in Business and Economics. It uses R to do forecasting in data with time series. The course a bit difficult but fun.

Introduction to Sustainable Business. The professor gives us a lot of time for discussion during lectures. It also introduces some cases for us to study.

### **Favourite Food**

Cook by myself. Eating in restaurants in Copenhagen are expensive so I think cooking would be my first place.

Asian food. Asian food in Copenhagen are quite good. I tried some Thai, Indian and Japanese restaurant and they really taste good although it is a bit expensive.

Open sandwich. The most famous dish in Denmark but I do not really like it.

### **Hang-outs places on campus**

The lawn outside Solbjerg Plads

Common area in Dalgas Have

Lobby in Kilen

### **Must-dos in the city**

Visit their tourists spots

Cycling

Visit their Christmas market

### **Not-to-dos in the city**

Not paying on a train or bus

Forgot to check out after getting out a train

Cycling when it is raining

### **Useful local apps or websites**

my.cbs.dk

Google Map

Wolt. A food delivery app in Copenhagen

### **Words to describe my study abroad experience**

eye-opening

fun

friends