

# Exchange Report

Spring 2024

The University of Warwick  
United Kingdom

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## 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.

### January

On 10 January, I arrived at London Heathrow airport to kick start my exchange. To avoid any unnecessary transportation problems, I rode Uber to Coventry, where the University of Warwick is located. The check-in procedure was fast and smooth, as I quickly settled down at Cryfield Village, my en-suite penthouse accommodation. As a huge fan of Manchester United, I wasted no time to visit Old Trafford over my first weekend in the UK to attend a Premier League game against Tottenham Hotspur. It has been over a decade since I have last been to Old Trafford, so it felt really surreal and nostalgic to be back to my second home. It was not an easy journey to make my way up to Manchester as I was not familiar with UK's transportation system. Luckily, I had really helpful flatmates at Cryfield to offer guidance. Over the next two weeks, I started to attend the lectures and seminars of the five modules I enrolled in. It was a refreshing experience to attend UK-style classes, as they highly emphasized on interactive elements and small-group education. I had the chance to meet students from a wide array of backgrounds, and understand their way of learning. At the end of January, I travelled to Madrid through Ryanair at the Birmingham Airport. I visited the Santiago Bernabeu, and the Estadio Metropolitano. I also got to try out some Spanish cuisine.

### February

In February, I focused more on the lectures and seminars as assignments and group projects began to pile up. I had to overcome several challenges during my learning process. I realized that my mode of working is quite different from that of my project groupmates. As an exchange student, I tried my best to understand and follow their way of working. I learnt a lot in the process and raised my ability of collaborating with people from different backgrounds. Beyond academics, I caught up with some of my friends in the UK, and also got to try out several restaurants at the Coventry city center. In mid-February, I went to Manchester for another Premier League fixture of Manchester United against West Ham United. At the end of February, I visited Oxford. I got to visit the different famous colleges, such as Hertford College. I participated in their annual inter-college choir football competition, and also attended formal dinner at St. Peter's College. It was a wonderful experience to immerse myself in such a historic and academically-rich atmosphere. I then visited Bicester Village for a shopping spree to round up my second month of exchange.

### March

In March, I went to London for more sightseeing and visiting friends. I watched The Phantom of the Opera at His Majesty's Theatre. It was mesmerizing to say the least to be able to watch such an iconic show at a grand venue. I then returned to Coventry to pack up my belongings, and flew back to Hong Kong from London Heathrow on 11 March 2024. By this time, all of my lectures and seminars have finished, as I have applied for a 'Spring Only' semester as opposed to 'Spring and Summer'. I did not have to stay at Warwick for my examinations. Instead, I have to submit several essays and participate in online exams for grading. I then spent the following two months working on my essays, which are due in late April and early May. Overall speaking, I had a fruitful and rewarding exchange as I got to experience first-hand a different education style in the UK, and had the privilege to visit lots of places that I have not previously been to.

**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**

I hold a HKSAR Passport and I do not require a visa.

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

IB3680 - International Business Strategy  
IB3960 - Financial Statement Analysis and Security Valuation  
IB2B60 - Marketing Research  
IB3590 - Derivatives and Risk Management  
IB2540 - Principles of Finance 2

**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 a detailed email from WBS regarding course registration details in late November. The module application began in early December. Before registering my modules, I had a look at the "Instructions on Accessing the Module Application System" attached in the email to make sure I did not miss out on any important steps to secure the modules I wished to take. I also gone through the WBS Exchange Student Module Handbook to identify the courses I would like to take. It indicates which courses are for "Spring only", the course syllabus, and the assessment format. Once the module application system was open in early December, students could log into the platform and select the modules they wish to take. It was a smooth and simple procedure, and I could secure all the modules I planned beforehand at the first attempt. There are additional information on course registration at:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/wbs/undergrad/welcome/students/exchangestudents/wbsinboundexchangeaut/>

**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**

I lived in Cryfield Village on campus. It is an en-suite 4-storey penthouse shared with 10 other students. Once accepted Warwick's unconditional offer in mid-October, students will be eligible to apply for accommodation. Students have to create an account on Warwick's accommodation portal, and select their top 8 accommodation preferences. Students could also indicate their roommate preferences by indicating their interests, hobbies, and lifestyle. Students would then receive the application results after around 1 month. Facilities in the accommodation varies as you choose different locations. For my accommodation, it is an en-suite bedroom with a shared kitchen which is equipped with electric stoves, ovens, microwaves, toasters and refrigerators.

**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**

There is a University of Warwick Health Centre located at Health Centre Road on campus which offers a range of clinics and services, including but not limited to counselling, mental health GP, home visits.

### 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 12,000

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

HKD 20,000

**Program fee (if applicable)**

N/A

**Personal expenses**

HKD 20,000

**Others, please specify**

N/A

### 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**

International Business Strategy

Marketing Research

Derivatives and Risk Management

### **Favourite Food**

Fish and Chips

Burgers

Asian Food

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

Campus Bar

Accommodation of Friends

Library

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

Visit city centre

Make good use of nearby airport for travelling  
Bike around the city

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

Visit city centre late at night  
Ignore cultural differences  
N/A

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

Bolt  
Tesco  
Uber Eats

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

Rewarding  
Eye-opening  
Relaxing