



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	University College Dublin
Semester & Year of Exchange	S2 2019 (Sept-Dec)
Otago degree(s)	Bachelor of Commerce
Major(s)	Tourism and Marketing

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
HRM30120		Generic 300 level MANT credits	
MKT30170		Generic 300 level MART credits	
MKT30140		MART304 Sales and Sales Management	
MKT30060		Generic 300 level MART credits	
MKT30040		MART329 Consumer Behaviour	
BMGT30440		Generic 300 level MANT credits	

Any comments about these papers?

They were good and interesting papers

How did the academic experience/ workload/ style of teaching differ from Otago?

It was pretty much the same, apart sometimes you do not get your internal assignment grades back before exams so don't know what percent you have in the paper before going into the exam. They also don't use percentages when giving grades back, just letter grades.

Accommodation

What accommodation did you stay in? What were the pros and cons of your accommodation?

I stayed on Campus and couldn't recommend it enough. All the international students stay on campus and it's a great way to make friends. I stayed at Melville Residences which is close to the campus shop and bus stop which was handy.

I had heard it was hard to book accommodation as you don't get told what time it opens up for booking, just the date, so I stayed up till 1/2am waiting for the email to book so I definitely got a room

Money matters

Please detail your basic costs, e.g. accommodation, flights, visa, food, insurance

Accommodation was \$6000/7000NZD a semester and this includes nothing. You have to buy everything (bedding, kitchen equipment etc)

Flights \$2000NZD (book with STA as they have access to cheaper flights if you're under the age of 26)

It cost 300 euro for a visa (also don't leave it to the last minute to apply for a INIS appointment as it's really hard to get one so start trying to book one 2 months out from you arriving)

Get a student Leap Card so your bus trips are a bit cheaper

Dublin is an expensive city but don't let that put you off. It was the best city and experience and I couldn't recommend it enough.

What means did you use to access your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, Cash passport, foreign bank account, etc.)

I had a cash passport but in the end just used my ANZ card and cash

No one really got a Irish bank account

Visas & Insurance

Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?

It cost 300 euro for a visa (also don't leave it to the last minute to apply for a INIS appointment as it's really hard to get one so start trying to book one 2 months out from you arriving)

You book an appointment online, have an appointment in town that takes 2/3 hours and you show the required forms, pay the money and your immigration card is sent to you

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

No

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

What organised activities were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

Yes, there were so many activities. Especially for international students.

What was the university/ city like?

The university is cool, in its own wee bubble 20 min bus ride away from town. It's very modern and easy to get around.

Dublin is an amazing city. Don't forget to do the touristy things (Guinness, Jameson's Tour, Little Museum of Dublin)

Also explore the seaside towns around Dublin (Dun Laoghaire and Howth)

Any recommendations for things to do, places to visit, places to eat etc.?

Travel Ireland, it's an amazing country but also travel in the weekends as much as you can. Would recommend doing Oktoberfest if you are there during second half of year.

Any tips for future students?

Stay in on campus accommodation

Don't leave INIS appointment to last minute. Start trying to book your INIS appointment 2 months before you arrive

Download the phone app 'Vipsy' it has all the events and deals for bars/nightclubs

Overall Experience

Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos!

My exchange experience exceeded my expectation in every single way. I meet the most incredible people and travelled to the most amazing places. I could not recommend Dublin enough. There is nothing I would fault about it.