



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	Glasgow University
Semester & Year of Exchange	Semester 1 and 2, Year 3, 2017
Otago degree(s)	BAppSci
Major(s)	Design for Technology/Minor: European Studies

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
History of Art 2B	Eng	ARTV303	18
Philosophy 2K	Eng	PHIL228	18
Mysticism & Spirituality	Eng	EURO304	18
Architecture, Landscape Design	Eng		
Philosophy 2M	Eng	PHIL227	18
Clay Sculpture - GSA	Eng		
Life Drawing - GSA	Eng		

Any comments about these papers?

My case was a little unusual considering my degree is no longer running - it was discontinued in my second year, so finding equivalent papers is difficult - but I have contacted all of the head of departments for my major and minor and all of the papers were cleared and approved - Brendan McCane approved the classes towards my Design major, and Simon Ryan towards my Euro studies minor.

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

The class time was less, but more independent work was expected, Seminars were much more student led than Otago tutorials.

Accommodation

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

I stayed in a tenement flat that I found through facebook - it was really great, I met a lot of locals and was very central, would definitely recommend over international housing.

Money matters

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

Accommodation was quite cheap, flights from sites like RyanAir were really affordable for small trips. I shopped mainly at cheap supermarkets like Lidl.

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

I opened an account with bank of scotland as I was there for a year. This was very easy and helpful - I used the debit card I received throughout the whole year.

Visas & Insurance

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

Yes, I applied for a Tier 4 Student Visa for the UK, The process was relatively easy but took a while so I'd recommend starting early.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

no, it did not.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

What organised activities were available to students? What extracurricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

There were many student trips made available - I spent the majority of my time in Glasgow as there was always so much to do; concerts, shows, events, bars, etc.

What was the university/ city like?

Glasgow is an incredible dynamic city with a vibrant and exciting music scene - the campus is beautiful and there is always something to do.

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

Kelvingrove Park, Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Singl End Restaurant, Bloc+ Bar, Broadcast Bar, Mono Restaurant, The CCA (art space, venue, and bar).

Any tips for future students?

Make sure to take advantage of all that is offered in the city! It can be stressful with so much on, but it has a lot to offer.

Overall Experience

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

My exchange was better than i could have imagined - as soon as i got there, in january 2017, I met the people who i would live with and would become my close friends, as they were all locals of Glasgow they showed me around the city and after a month I felt comfortable and settled in. my classes were interesting and stimulating and because the workload was very reasonable I was able to experience the city without worrying about classwork too much. I travelled a little, going to portugal, Croatia, Belgium, Holland, and England, but mainly stayed in the city as there was always something going on. Glasgow became like a home for me and I plan on living there in the near future!