



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	University of Manchester
Semester & Year of Exchange	2018 Semester 2
Otago degree(s)	Bachelor of Commerce
Major(s)	Marketing Management and Management

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
Organisational Change and Transformation in the 21 st Century	English	MANT3**	18
Consumer Behaviour	English	MART2**	18
Behavioural Strategy	English	MANT3**	18
Marketing Management	English	MART3**	18
Please note the two MART papers were not attributing to my course and were simply interest papers			

Any comments about these papers?

Similar to Otago papers – would highly recommend behavioural strategy if that appeals! My lecturer for this was extremely engaging and the assignments were probably my favourite I've ever done!

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

I found the workload harder than back home – purely because it was graded differently so an A+ is almost impossible to achieve in essay based subjects (anything above 90 is publishable)! But the

content/lecturers etc. was all very manageable and they are always willing to help with any questions.

Accommodation

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

I thoroughly enjoyed my stay at Oak House. My flatmates were amazing and made me feel welcome straight away. I was initially worried because I was in third year and they were all freshers but this was never a problem. Going out and having fun was similar to Dunedin – I formed lifetime bonds with my flatties - they were so sweet and even threw me a party on my birthday! The accommodation itself was nothing amazing – there are definitely more flash ones (this is one of the cheapest). However, the social side was very fun. If you want a more social exchange, stay in Fallowfield.

Money matters

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

For accommodation I paid a lump sum upfront (It was 99 pounds a week). I worked for 6 months full-time to prepare for my 2 months of travel before my exchange began. I managed to score cheap flights/trains all over Europe including during semester time. This included a 14 pound flight to Dublin – look on Skyscanner for any flight deals. Also - get the bus pass! It will save you a lot of money especially because it rains a lot in Manchester so a 40 minute walk to uni is never ideal. Food at Oak House was not catered – I mainly just did weekly shops and cooked meals in the flat kitchen but there are cheap places to eat out at as well so you can definitely budget accordingly.

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

I used a travel card – would definitely recommend this over setting up a bank account over there as it is a lot cheaper and less hassle.

Visas & Insurance

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

Yes – I just was super organised and made sure I had all my documents when visiting the Visa office to avoid any other trips there. I would say do this as soon as you can to avoid any stress (I had one friend leave this very late and it came the day before she left NZ).

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?

SO many! I participated in Netball (the business school team) it was fun because it was a social team so although we tried hard it wasn't overly competitive. I also did touch rugby which was a mixed team on Thursday nights. It was important for me to do sport while I was over there! Also, if you are keen to exercise 'The Gym – Fallowfield' is a great gym and would highly recommend signing up because you can cancel when you leave with no issues!

Socially, the university has a fantastic exchange department so they set up lots of social events which is cool because you get to mingle with other international students. Otherwise I made friends with people in my course and flat and together we would go to our local pub for quiz night and a few drinks once a week.

What was the university/ city like?

Very similar to Dunedin as it is a student town!

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

Favourite restaurant in Fallowfield: Dream Wok

Favourite café: Milk and Honey (or Pret a Manger for a quick bite at uni)

Christmas Markets!

Manchester Food Festival

Any tips for future students?

I had the time of my life – but exchange is what you make of it. In general, there are always going to be some times at uni or when you are travelling that challenge you, but your attitude is everything! There are so many clubs and societies, just put yourself out there and make friends with everyone because that's what truly makes the difference 😊

Overall Experience

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

My time in Manchester was incredible. Writing into words my experience, does not even begin to give it justice. It not only expanded my network and friends to a global scale but it expanded my knowledge of EVERYTHING. Exchange threw me into unfamiliar situations which taught me invaluable life skills. I now feel confident in navigating myself around a foreign place, forging

connections with all types of people and trying foods or sports I never thought to give a chance. This kind of experience is unparalleled and I highly recommend you give it a go. I will always cherish my Manchester memories and the friends I made, I will visit soon.