



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	University of Manchester, Alliance Manchester BS, England
Semester & Year of Exchange	September 2019
Otago degree(s)	BCom
Major(s)	Finance and Tourism

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
Tourism Development	English	TOUR 3XX	18
Advanced Corporate Finance	English	FINC 303	18
Corporate Governance in Context	English	Equivalent to a 300-level unspecified finance paper	18
Consumer Behaviour	English	TOUR 217	18

Any comments about these papers?

Papers are well structured and with adequate workload for exchange students.

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

Contrasting to the teaching at Otago, AMBS puts more weight on academic teaching over practice; most of the content is constructed for academic use.

Accommodation

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

I stayed in an accommodation operated by the university, it is like the residential college at Otago, but without providing the lunch catering, overall the environment is good.

Money matters

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

The accommodation for my room is 135 pounds per week, the money I spent on food is 30 pounds per week, and the traffic costs me in total for 90 pounds.

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

I generally use visa credit card to make all my payments, it is unnecessary to have a local bank account if you only stay there for less than 6 months

Visas & Insurance

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

Yes, I applied for a UK visa, I prepared the materials required for the visa and then submitted them to the visa application centre back in my home country.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

I am not sure.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

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

There are a lot of organised activities available for international students, they are held by the international society and student union.

What was the university/ city like?

I perceived Manchester as a city being vintage, rural, prosperous (at the city centre) and rainy (everywhere in the UK).

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

London, I went to London for travelling with my friends during the reading week, it is a modern city with plenty of shopping malls and popular restaurants.

Any tips for future students?

The living cost is not as expensive as I expect before, the weather is also not as cold as I expect before, there are many Chinese students studying in the university, regarding to the course, tones of essay are waiting for you ...

Overall Experience

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

The overall experience for my exchange to Manchester starting this September is that I met a lot of new friends, the close friends I go travel with. As I am a man interesting in photography, personally I think the view or landscape in Manchester is not as beautiful as other countries in EU or in NZ, the infrastructure in Manchester is not so developed, it is like Dunedin, just another university city. Probably owing to the university ranking is ranged as the top university in the world, the education style is pretty academic and essay-based, the paper I selected before I go, I kind of underestimated the workload or difficulty of these papers taught in Manchester.