

BSc International Management – Your Feedback for 2015-16 Academic Year Abroad

Exchange university attended:	The University of Hong Kong
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Please give as much information as you can about the following topics:

<p>Induction/Orientation Programme What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?</p>	<p>I arrived about 2/3 days before teaching started so I didn't attend many inductions, however, the ones that were available, I wasn't necessarily aware of them.</p> <p>I did attend an induction to the business faculty that explained how to add and drop classes and points of contact. This lasted an hour. At the time I think it was useful to get started but I can't remember much information from it.</p> <p>I also attended an overall induction with all international students which lasts 2-3 hours. This was very useful in learning things about the university and Hong Kong in general. I was also able to meet a few new people here. That evening I attended a 'wow' party. Once again it was good to meet some people but it was a bit awkward because it was like a school disco and people where in their cliques from their home universities.</p>
<p>Academic Experience Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support.</p>	<p>Most of the lecturers had a good level of English, were approachable and always gave details on how to contact them if we needed extra help. I did have difficulty sometimes understanding a tutorial advisor and a lecturer from a difficult faculty.</p> <p>Access to courses was adequate. In the first semester I kept getting denied from courses for no reason even though I had any pre-requisites needed, and most of the time there weren't any. I did hear rumours that some faculties just prefer not to have international students enrolled in classes.</p> <p>Teaching was good, extra readings were given and it involved a lot of class discussion.</p> <p>Methods of assessment was quite intense. All but one of my courses had at least one presentation and essay. HKU is very fond of group work. The work load was a lot and some courses gave homework like at school.</p>
<p>Host International Office Level of support, additional information that could be useful for future students.</p>	<p>CEDARS is the main point of contact for anything and everything. Although there is a 'global lounge' in the university but I'm still unsure what that was for. However, the English in the CEDARS office wasn't fantastic and when I wanted my proof of address</p>

	signed they sent me to another office which tried to make me pay to have this formed fill. I then figured out myself that I could just ask my flat tutors to sign it.
Insurance and/or Health Cover Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance i.e. costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy.	Health insurance was waived by the University of Manchester. However, the help for women's health isn't great as you have to pay just to see a nurse or doctor if it is feminine related and there are high costs associated with certain medication.
Information on any addition costs This should be information on any extra fees that the University charged but should not include accommodation, books, transport, visa etc.	If you get locked out of your room you have to pay to get let back in and this cost increases each time you do it.
Accommodation As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.	<p>It is quite difficult to research the accommodation available online beforehand and there aren't many photos of what to expect. However, most rooms are shared with 2 or 3 people.</p> <p>A trick that my friends home university told them was to say that they had special conditions e.g. sleep walking, claustrophobia etc on their application and they all got allocated single rooms.</p> <p>Accommodation on Sassoon road is too far to walk so a bus is needed to get to university, plus there isn't any shops or restaurants walking distance either.</p> <p>I live in Pokfield road residences which is where people get allocated if they couldn't get any other accommodation. The standard isn't great, as I have a wet room for a bathroom, my only cooking method is one hot plate and there is no lift. However, it is liveable, it's not strict, there are a lot of international students and it has a rooftop.</p> <p>On hing, is more modern but it's more expensive, can sometimes be strict and the stairs are even steeper.</p> <p>I recommend Jockey Club student village III as it is modern and a lot of international students live here. However, there are shared bathrooms and kitchen which gives it a hostel feel sometimes. It is very strict in that you have to sign friends in and everyone has to leave by 11pm.</p> <p>Hall culture is a big thing in Hong Kong with High table dinners which are supposedly very boring and compulsory. They have initiations for halls although this is mainly for local students which is very loud and intense. Apparently local students make a lot of noise in these halls (Jockey club 1 and 1, and on campus halls) throughout the year during the early hours so it can be difficult to sleep.</p>
Destination information and overall experience Transport, travel, social life, integration with local	Transport is so easy and cheap in Hong Kong. Taxis start at £2 and a 30 minute journey costs about £10.

<p>students, student activity groups.</p>	<p>Octopus cards are used on all other modes of transport and in shops and you can get a student Octopus which gives 25% transport discount.</p> <p>Travel is really easy as Hong Kong is a gateway to South East Asia and I even visited Australia. You can also get to certain parts of China really cheaply using the MTR which costs about £4 in total.</p> <p>There is such a big international student group and everyone knows everybody. People organise a lot of things such as tram parties, junk boats, BBQs etc and very Wednesday and Thursday is ladies night when girls get free drinks.</p> <p>I didn't personally make any local student friends but they are really nice and helpful if you have any problems. The one thing is there is a stigma attached with international students that we don't work so it can be difficult to convince local students to let you be in their group in classes.</p> <p>There are a lot of societies at HKU but none of them seem to cater for international students. However, I do know some students who made it onto sports teams. I think the way to get on them is you have to go to orientation weekends which are quite expensive. There was an international society but it didn't see to do anything.</p>
<p>Describe your year abroad in a sentence!</p>	<p>A fun-filled, unforgettable, once in a lifetime and friendship building experience.</p>

Please email your completed form to: undergrad.ambbs@manchester.ac.uk.