

Responses for "UNIV: Share Your Experience with Future Students"

Instructions:

As you may remember, it can be an exciting but daunting experience preparing for your international placement. There are many things to prepare for and things you wish you had known prior to starting. By providing your feedback you can help future students setting off on their international placement journey. Not all questions are compulsory but we would appreciate it if you could complete this as fully as possible.

Unless you indicate otherwise, we may publish this feedback on My Placement for use by future students so please bear this in mind when providing your feedback. (If you wish to provide private feedback to the University on the quality of your experience please provide this in the Tell the University of Manchester about your Experience Questionnaire, also available in My Placement, which is NOT shared with prospective students).

By completing this questionnaire, you consent to any information you provide being shared with others for promotional and informational purposes.

1. How would you describe your host university or organisation?

Please provide a general overview of your host university or organisation e.g. size, location, points of particular interest etc.

Very well located, good reputation

2. What was the host town/ city/ region like as a place to live?

Busy city, very convenient

3. What was your accommodation like?

How did you find your accommodation e.g. was it university-controlled, company housing or private sector? What was it like? Are there any resources you would recommend to future students? If relevant, please include details of letting agents, useful websites or advice on good/bad areas to live. Did you need to find flatmates or buy furniture? If so, how did you go about doing this? Approximately how much did it cost per month?

Student accommodation with shared rooms, old and not kept in a good state

4. How did the academic system at your host university compare with/ differ from UoM?

For study placements only.

Were there any significant differences in academic culture e.g. the style of teaching, workload requirements, contact hours etc.? How were the teaching facilities and the teaching support? Did you have to make any particular adjustments to fit in with the host academic culture?

Heavy workload, more group work than UoM. Professors and teaching assistants are more helpful and have a better attitude towards students at UoM.

5. Do you have any comments/advice regarding selecting and enrolling onto modules?

For study placements only.

Were you able to select modules in advance or did you select them after arrival? How easy was it to enrol on the modules that you wished to enrol on? Do you have any recommendations on modules you particularly enjoyed or any advice on ones to avoid? How was the overall process of registration at your host institution?

Enroll on modules as soon as the system opens, because it is hard to get into courses for exchange students. They give preference for full-time students.

6. How was your working environment?

For Work Placements Only.

What was a typical working day like? Please comment on how many hours a day you worked on

average and how much annual leave you received. What new skills did you gain? Would you recommend your placement provider to future students?

NA

7. What was life like outside of work or study at your placement location?

What recommendations do you have for spending time outside of work and study while on placement? What local attractions, bars, restaurants, entertainment or sporting opportunities etc. would you recommend to future students? Do you have any recommendations on the best ways to meet local students or colleagues?

Many tourist attractions around Hong Kong Island.

8. If you self-arranged your placement, do you have tips for future students on how to do this?

For work placements only.

How did you find your placement provider? Did you use any third party organisations and, if so, would you recommend them?

NA

9. Do you have any advice on travelling to your host country or placement location?

Please provide any tips on getting to your host town or city or travelling on arrival from the airport to your accommodation etc.

Take the MTR airport line to HKU station.

10. What was the transport like in the city/country where you were living?

Was public transport reliable and sufficient for local travel needs? Was it more or less expensive than public transport in Manchester? Was having a driving license useful?

Very convenient and cheap for students.

11. How did the cost of living where you were compare to the cost of living in Manchester?

About the same

12. What advice would you give future students about managing their finances?

Please provide any advice on managing your finances both before and during your placement? e.g. Did you have to provide financial evidence to obtain a visa? Did you set up a bank account? Did you receive any form of additional support from elsewhere and, if so, do you have any advice for students on applying for this? Were there any unexpected additional costs that you think future students should be made aware of?

No Response

13. Do you have any comments or advice for future students about medical and health-related matters?

This can be advice on health-related matters before you went on placement or during your placement e.g. Did you need vaccinations or medical checks? Did you need to take any medication? Was it easy to register with a medical practice? If you were you required to purchase any compulsory insurance policies required by your placement provider, please provide details.

Apply for a HKID, which makes prices a lot lower for hospitals and clinics.

14. How did you find studying/ working in another language?

If the language of your placement was not English, do you have any advice for future students on studying or working in a foreign language? What was your language level before beginning your

placement? Did you undertake any preparation courses before you started your studies? Did your host university/ organisation offer any language support during the placement? If so, how was it? How much did your language skills improve?

It was not too hard to get used to as I speak Mandarin Chinese as well. However, I took Cantonese lessons and I have a beginners level right now.

15. Do you have any advice on items to take/ not take with you on placement?

Please tell us if you have any advice on essential items for students going on placement in general or to your specific placement destination. This could include clothing, medication, toiletries, entertainment, electronics etc.

No Response

16. If you were abroad for one semester, what arrangements did you make for your room in Manchester?

Were you able to find someone to take your room for the period you were abroad? If so, how did you go about finding someone to do this?

No Response

17. What would be your top 5 tips for future students about to embark on an international placement?

Looking back on your experience now, what do you wish you had known before leaving Manchester?

No Response

18. Do you have anything else you would like to add?

No Response