



# Student Exchange Program

International Student Services

## Exchange Final Report

### Student Information

Faculty at UVic Social Sciences  
Major/Minor Pre-business  
Host University National University of Singapore  
Host Country Singapore  
Dates of Exchange January 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 to May 10<sup>th</sup> 2019

### Overall Exchange Experience

Please Rate your Overall Exchange Experience

1	2	3	4	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

What was the most rewarding part of your exchange experience? Please outline any highlights.

Getting the chance to travel around South East Asia and trying so many new things and meeting new people. I made great friends there who I will continue to stay in contact with

What was the greatest challenge during your exchange?

Remaining on task and focusing on studying when there were so many great opportunities around

### Travel

Cost of air travel Around \$1600 round trip

Cost of ground transportation (ex. monthly bus pass) \$15 per month for public transport

Did host university representatives meet you at the airport? No

Is there easy transportation between the airport and university? yes

## Orientation

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival?

Yes

How easy was it to find the info you needed to know upon arrival?

Getting most of the basic information is very easy, but everything on their website is quite complicated or outdated

What assistance did you receive from your host institution upon arrival?

An orientation session

## Accommodation

Is on-campus accommodation available? Yes

If yes, did you live on campus? Yes

Would you recommend this to future students? Absolutely

If you lived off-campus, how did you find housing?

Approximately how much money would you budget per month for living, including accommodation and meals?

Around \$450 a month for food, there were no additional per month living costs

## Language Programs

Is there a language program available either before or during the semester?

no

Is there an additional cost for the language training?

no

## Academics

Was it possible for you to get all the courses that you wanted?

no

Please describe the course registration process

First you apply for a maximum of 5 courses which you may not get into during the registration process, and then 1 week into school there is a two-day window for almost everyone in the school to add and drop their classes to try and get what they want.

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university

Very high-quality education, but classes are very intense and so are the students. Most of the grading there relies on group work and highly weighted exams, as well as a bell curve

What do you feel is the greatest academic benefit you have gained personally from your exchange?

I took courses which I would not have the opportunity to take at UVic and was exposed to a totally different style of learning and studying.

## Personal and Cultural Connections

How easy was it to adjust to the local culture? What (if any) cultural differences did you find particularly challenging? What parts of the culture did you most appreciate?

The adjustment to Singapore was relatively easy since their first language is English, but there was many things to be careful about there since they have very strict laws. Student culture there is also very different, since they are only focused on academics and do not take very much time for leisure. Everyone there is very kind and helpful though, and the food culture there is incredible. I thoroughly enjoyed Singapore and being in such a large travel hub meant that I got to travel to many different countries for relatively cheap. I was able to visit many different parts of Indonesia and Malaysia and went to Vietnam and Australia.

What kinds of cultural, athletic and social activities were available for students at your host institution?

There were many different activities available through different exchange student groups which were set up by the school during the year, as well as events within our residence and faculties, such as nature walks, sports tryouts, dragon boat racing, yoga, swimming lessons, recreational frisbee and rugby, and monthly movie nights.