



Student Exchange Program

International Student Services

Exchange Final Report

Student Information

Faculty at UVic	Fine Arts
Major/Minor	Writing/Digital and Interactive Media in the Arts
Host University	University of East Anglia
Host Country	United Kingdom
Dates of Exchange	September 23-December 13 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.

While I was on exchange, I was able to meet so many people, not just from England, but other exchange students from all over the world. I now have some great friends from Uruguay, Australia, and England, which I would have never been able to say before. I also was able to travel: I visited London, Edinburgh, Dublin, and Belfast. It was amazing seeing this part of the world.

What was the greatest challenge during your exchange?

During my last month on exchange I came down with bacterial tonsillitis/strep throat. The clinic on campus won't let you register if you are there for only one semester, so the trip to the city to find a doctor deterred me from going, which led me to becoming very sick. It was at the point where I could not sleep for more than an hour at a time due to the tonsil pain. I also had to go twice, since the first round of antibiotics did not work. I had to pay £40 for each doctor visit and £9 for each round of antibiotics.

Travel

Cost of air travel	\$1400
Cost of ground transportation (ex. monthly bus pass)	\$100

Did host university representatives meet you at the airport?

Yes

Is there easy transportation between the airport and university?

Yes

Orientation

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival?

Instead of one organized orientation session, there were multiple events ranging from group quizzes to international introduction bar nights. I do not recall any of them being mandatory.

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

Very easy, the host university's international team would reply to emails extremely quickly, but most information was online.

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

Upon arrival I was sent straight to the university's gym where I picked up my residence key and was given all the information I needed, including maps. A volunteer student helped me carry my luggage to my on-campus housing.

Accommodation

Is on-campus accommodation available?

Yes

If yes, did you live on campus?

Yes

Would you recommend this to future students?

Yes! Specifically, the "ziggurat" housing (Norfolk/Suffolk Terrace)

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?

My total accommodation cost was £1,637.44

I would spend about £20-30 each week on food, £40 if I ate out

Language Programs

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

N/A (United Kingdom/English)

Is there an additional cost for the language training?

N/A

Academics

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

More or less

Please describe the course registration process

I submitted 9 courses I wished to take in the order I wanted them and was given 3.

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university

At UEA most assignments submitted throughout the term were not for marks, only feedback. Then, one or two big assignments would be due at the very end. The professors were well-informed.

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

As a student studying screenwriting, it was great to take a hands-on course called "TV Studio Production," since UVic does not have a TV Studio

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?

At first, I found it difficult to grasp how similar but different everything was. Though Canada and England share a language and a similar culture, people would sometimes get confused at the words I used. However, I came to greatly appreciate this and found my experience shaped my use of slang and even the food I would eat.

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

There were many clubs and societies available, including cultural ones and for most sports. I joined a society, but I found the fee you had to pay to the student union for joining sports a bit too high and did not get involved in athletics. With a bar and cub on campus, there were many social activities being hosted near-constantly.