



Student Exchange Program

International Student Services

Exchange Final Report

Student Information

Faculty at UVic Science
Major/Minor Biology
Host University University of Stirling
Host Country Scotland
Dates of Exchange September – December, 2018

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.

Meeting so many new people from across the world was my favourite part.

What was the greatest challenge during your exchange?

Trying to do too many things (travel, socializing, schoolwork) and exhausting myself.

Travel

Cost of air travel ~ \$1,200 each way between Vancouver and Glasgow (\$2,400 total)

Cost of ground transportation (ex. monthly bus pass) \$15 per train ticket, taken about once a week. (~\$240 total)

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?

Not easy. Lots of things to figure out in the first week (class scheduling, getting student card, signing up for clubs) and very little info given on how to find it. Figured out most of it on my own.

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

The Wi-Fi password

Accommodation

Is on-campus accommodation available? Yes

If yes, did you live on campus? Yes

Would you recommend this to future students? Yes

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?

\$210 per week

Language Programs

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

N/A

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?

Yes

Please describe the course registration process

Look on their 'Exchange applicable courses' catalogue. Choose 3 you want, and 3 backups – 3 classes is a full course load. Fill out supplied class register list from host uni and send it in.

Describe the manner and quality of instruction at your host university

Exactly the same as UVic, except all lectures are recorded and uploaded online, so you don't miss anything if you can't physically make the lecture times. I used this a lot in airports, as I traveled many times.

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

In the courses, they mainly used European examples. For example, my Managing Aquatic Resources course talked a lot about the lobster industry in the North Atlantic. I don't feel I would have learned about those specific regional industries if I had been at UVic.

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?

Very easy. It's very similar to Canada. People are super, super friendly. They love a good chat and are very helpful. I appreciated the people the most and found nothing challenging.

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

Many clubs were available, which did many activities. I attended a few Ceilidhs (like a celtic line dance) with the International Society, those were culturally interesting. There are also many many athletic clubs at Stirling – I think it's the top athletic Uni in Scotland. If you like sport then you'll love Stirling.