

Student Exchange Evaluation

Every student loves to hear of other's exchange experiences. These forms are very useful when selecting your exchange destination.

Please include as much information as possible. Feel free to use additional pages, enclose photos, links to blogs/ videos etc.

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Georgia Greenway

Degree: Bachelor of Science- double major in psychology

Name of Exchange University: University of Bristol

Country: United Kingdom

Year of exchange: 2018

Language of instruction: English

List courses taken abroad:

Child and Adolescent Psychology
Drugs and Society
Health Policy in a Global Context

2. EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

How would you rate your overall exchange experience on a scale of 1 to 10?

Poor

Excellent

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Comments:

Best experience of my life! 😊

3. FINANCES

Total cost: approx \$12,500

Room: \$6000 (included catering)

Airfare to host institution: \$1400

Holidays/travel expenses: approx \$3,000

Other: ~\$1500 for going out to dinner, clothes etc

Did you spend more than you expected? What was more/ less expensive than you expected?

I spent around the same as I had expected. I had saved an extra \$6,000 as a precaution. Trains were more expensive than expected. Buses on the other hand were free in Bristol which was unexpected.

What was the best way of accessing money during your exchange programme?

I opened a British bank account and paid with card.

Do you have any advice about finances, budgeting or the cheapest way of living/travelling?

I am very bad at tracking the money I spend so I would give poor advice in that regard. A great way to save on travel is to use the company 'Snapbus'. It was a lot cheaper than using National Express or getting the train. Also, the first ride is free.

4. ARRIVAL

Was there an airport pickup/ buddy service available?

I believe so, but I didn't use it as I had family who kindly picked me up.

5. ORIENTATION

What was Orientation like? Was it useful? Were there social activities?

Amazing! I made a lot of friends and felt very welcomed. It was well organised and there was a club night every day.

6. ACADEMICS

What differences did you find between the UWA system and the system at your host university?

Contact hours: Slightly less

Homework: More prep for classes was required.

Course (lectures, tests, etc.): A lot less content to remember.

Workload (heavier/ lighter) and assessment (harder or easier): A lot lighter due to the units I chose. I had 3 essays to write for the semester and no exams.

7. FACILITIES

What were the library/ Wi-Fi/ email facilities like at your host institution?

Very good. Comparable to UWA.

8. SOCIAL

What kinds of social events were there? Was it easy to meet people?

A lot. I participated in sporting events hosted by both the university and the halls. There were also a lot of other societies for those who do not like sport. ~~At~~ Living in halls made it very easy to make friends. I became very close with the people in my block. ~~and have~~

9. ACCOMMODATION

Was on campus housing available? What were the rooms like? Were you on a meal plan or did you cook your own food? Are the residences close to the university?

Please add any additional information that you think be of interest with regard to housing.

I lived in a hall around 20 minutes away from campus. It was catered and I found ~~at~~ the food very nice, despite being a vegetarian. ~~The dinner was~~ This was the best part of the day and everyone came together to eat and be social.

10. PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

What was the most difficult aspect of planning your exchange?

I found getting approval for core units to be very difficult, ~~causing me to~~ in fact impossible. This was personal to me though and may not apply to others.

What advice do you have for future exchange students?

To get involved as much as possible in uni life and to appreciate every moment 😊

What are the 5 most important things to take with you when you go to your host university?

1. Adapters for both the UK and Europe (if intending to travel)

2. Tim Tams as they were a good way to make friends
3. Photos from home
4. Enthusiasm.
- 5.

11. General impressions

What were the most rewarding aspects of biggest disappointments of your exchange experience? How has your perspective changed as a result of your exchange experience?

Remember that students are interested in reading about both good and bad experiences.

The most rewarding aspect was gaining independence and learning how to live away from home.

I gained a lot of confidence and met so many amazing people from all corners of the world. I loved the community in my hall and the opportunities to be social. I have already been back to Bristol since my exchange and plan to go back again soon.

I also loved how close England was to the rest of Europe and I took full advantage of that. It was rewarding to be out of my comfort zone.

A negative experience of exchange was receiving healthcare. I ~~was~~ was really unwell with a heart condition and it was difficult to get help due to long waiting lists. ~~This was more to do with~~ ~~with~~ ~~sharper~~ I understand that this is a national issue to do with the NHS and so not a lot can be done. This issue made me feel quite homesick and lost however I did ~~enjoy~~ manage to get help eventually 😊 This experience was very minor in comparison to everything else which

Thank you for your time.

was so good about exchange.