

Post Study Abroad Evaluation

THE BASICS			
Your Name	[REDACTED]		
Your Program of Study/Year	Fashion Design and Technology Year 4		
Host Country	UK		
Host School/Agency	University for the Creative Arts		
Participation Dates	January to May		
Type of Study Abroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Practicum	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Section 1			
GENERAL EVALUATION			
Please rate your overall exchange experience on a scale of 1 to 10 (one being poor and 10 being exceptional)			10
In a couple of sentences, explain why you rated your experience the way you did.	I was welcomed immediately and made to feel like I was part of the community.		
Section 2			
ARRIVAL			
How difficult was it for you to obtain your travel documents (visa, etc.)? *Always verify immigration regulations with the consulate or embassy of your host country*	Easy. I didn't have to have a Visa as I was there for less than 6 months and did not work while I was there.		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you change any part of those arrangements?	Flew into London Gatwick Airport and took the train to my town. Wouldn't change this. It was easy.		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	I had no issues. I brought my proof of address and contact info and bank information and school acceptance.		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	Train. Cost £20.		
Section 3			
ORIENTATION AND ASSISTANCE			

How satisfied were you with the orientation and assistance available to at your host school/agency.	Satisfied. Orientation was thorough and Orientation Leader was always accessible for questions.
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your impression of the international staff or office?	International staff told us things to do and see while we were in the town, assisted us in the cheapest ways to travel from country to country as well as from town to town. I found this very thorough and friendly. The office was easy to find.
What was the orientation like at your partner university, if there was one? How well did it suit your needs?	Orientation was very thorough and suited all my needs. It even addressed things I never would have thought about.
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your exchange site? Were there people you could talk to about what you were experiencing?	It was easier than other countries to adjust because they spoke English, but social norms took a bit longer to comprehend. I went on Exchange with someone else from Canada and had a few friends from Canada already living in the UK so talked with them.
How receptive were the local people in providing assistance?	Locals were so friendly! They loved the Canadians!

Section 4

HOUSING

Describe your accommodation arrangements.	Lived in Student Halls.
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	I arranged to move in earlier than the date that was given me. It was easy to do. All I had to do was ask.
How comfortable were you with your accommodation?	It was ok. I think it was expensive for what I was paying for.
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	We had a kitchen in our flat so I cooked most meals at home. There were other options for take-away in the town but there were not many healthy options.
How close was your accommodation to where you had to study?	A 10 minute walk.

Section 5

COURSE REGISTRATION

Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What	The registration process was done for us during our orientation. I preferred this as I'm sure it would have been confusing to figure out.
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assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	
How successful were you in registering for classes? What advice would you offer to another exchange student about how to register at your host institution?	I was successful registering because it was arranged by the International Coordinator. I would talk to the Coordinator as much as you can beforehand to figure out how to do this.
How many courses did you take per semester? What course load would you recommend for future students? What particular courses would you recommend to other students?	I took 3 courses that semester. I think that was a good course load as there was still time to travel and explore. I would recommend taking the Fashion Theories course that all 1 st years have to take. It gave so much perspective.

Section 6

ACADEMICS

How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Very
How did the style of teaching compare with that in Canada? How did the workload compare to what you would expect in Canada?	Focus was more on design and process and less about the end result.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	3
What impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	None. They spoke English
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	They were beyond my wildest dreams!

Section 7

COSTS

Books and Supplies – per term	\$300
Flight	\$441
Accommodation – per month	\$650
Meals – per month	\$175
Local transportation – per	\$80 (travelling to London once a week)

month	
Health insurance – per term	Included with external Insurance
Communications (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	£18 for internet a month,£10 for phone.
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	I had a passport already and didn't need a Visa.
Vaccinations	Didn't need any new ones.
Personal Spending (eg. entertainment and extra travel) – per term	No idea
What unexpected costs did you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than you expected?	Food was less expensive than I thought it would be, and clothing, depending on where you shopped

Section 8

EXTRA-CURRICULAR/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

How satisfied were you with the out-of-class opportunities at your host site?	Very satisfied.
What organized activities (clubs, sports, etc.) were available to you while in your host country? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future students?	Student Association Parties, Nights out
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer. Did you require special permits to do this?	Volunteer helping other students. Needed a permit to work so didn't research that.
What do you recommend other visiting students see or do on their weekends or holidays?	Travel to as many other cities or countries as you can.

Section 9

SAFETY AND HEALTH

Describe any safety concerns you had during your experience.	Poor security in Student Halls
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Section 10

PERSONAL AND CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

What was it like making friends? How successful were	Easy! Very successful
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you at making friends with local (i.e., not international) people?	
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your host site?	Quite easy.
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	None.
What parts of the culture did you most appreciate?	Casual pub culture
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	Very well, welcomed enthusiastically.
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	Physical disabilities would be hard but learning disabilities were catered to very well.
For students who are visible minorities in your host country?	Quite easy
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	Easy.

Section 11

TAKING STOCK

What are the 5 most important things one should take with them when going to your host country or region?

1 Passport

2 Photocopies of important documents

3 Multiple debit and credit cards in case you lose one.

4 Local currency

5 Insurance documents

What are the 10 most important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency:

1 Bring 'loo roll'

2 You can get your groceries delivered!!! DO IT.

3 Get a railcard

4 Be aware of possible program orientations and see if you can arrive early to go.

5 Ask if you can audit other classes and programs that you are interested in. They will probably say yes.

6 make an effort to familiarize yourself with the facilities and lab technicians all over the school so

you can use them. They may be better than you are used to.	
7 Take emotional risks, you will be rewarded	
8 Backpack when you travel, it is easier and cheaper.	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Travel, making new friends, new perspectives
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	Keeping in contact back home
As a result of your study abroad experience, how has your perspective changed?	I have more confidence in myself and my decisions. My core values are stronger.
What else do you want to say about your study abroad experience?	It changed my life.