

Mobility Scholarship Questionnaire

A) Your program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hours per course.

I am a 4th-year student currently completing my last semester before graduation. My program of study is International Management & management. I went on exchange during the winter semester, from January 2024 to May 2024. I chose Hong Kong because I wanted to live in a cosmopolitan city with a high Chinese influence balanced with a Westernized feeling. Also, China is one of the two superpowers in the world, and seeing the atmosphere and how things are done in Hong Kong is very interesting and insightful. According to locals, Hong Kong is less Westernized than before 2019 but it still feels like a Westernized place with everything officially accessible in English. The courseload felt lighter than what we have at uOttawa, but it is not too different. Each lesson is once a week for 3 hours long which is somehow like what we have in Ottawa. I took five business courses: Launching a Business in Asia Pacific, Developing and Presenting a Business Plan, Business Case Analysis and Communication, Event Marketing, and International Finance. As you can see further down I had a nice schedule and ended my classes on Wednesday which allowed me to explore and travel during my long weekends.

Description of each course: I will briefly describe each course and talk about their difficulty level and my satisfaction with them on a scale from 1(disliked) to 5(really liked). It's important to note that most courses here have strict policies regarding attendance, and I'll mention the policy for each class where they are enforced.

Launching a Business in Asia Pacific MGT 4312 3/5

I'm doing international business, so I did a lot of classes talking about how to enter a foreign market thus this mostly felt like a review except that it was talking about countries from the Asia Pacific. We had 1 country analysis paper of about 1200 words (30%), two in-class quizzes (15%), one group project including a report and presentation (35%), attendance (10%) was taken every class and counted towards your final grade and participation in class was worth 10%.

Developing and Presenting a Business Plan MGT 4305 3/5

This was the most demanding class as we had almost something to submit every week. All the work is done in groups, and you had to come up with a business and go through various steps to present and pitch it to investors at the end of the course. It's not hard and can turn up fun if you have a business idea you are ready to work on. It's also a very useful class if you want to launch your own business someday. Attendance was mandatory and we did 4 presentations throughout the course.

Business Case Analysis and Communication CB 3043 3/5

The concept of this class is interesting since it's fully dedicated to business case analysis and presenting them. We had to do 2 reflections about 2 classes (15%), 1 group case analysis presentation (20%), Raise questions, and analyze issues in cases done by other teams (15%), one

individual case analysis (30%), and participation points (20%). I didn't like the way of teaching by this professor but it's a nice class and easy as well.

Event Marketing MKT 4637 3/5

We had to attend at 70% of the classes or else it resulted in a failing grade. A good class to learn about the way of managing events, analyzing them, and building one yourself. 2 group assignments and one presentation are worth 35 % together, participation and attendance are worth 10% each, and the final exam is worth 45%.

International Finance EF 4471 4/5

This was my favorite class as I learned a lot about international economic concepts and how they work. I learned about the relationship between exchange rates, interest rates, money supply, and money demand. Very fun class if you want to learn more about the basics regarding the international economy. It wasn't too hard, but you need to work hard and attend classes to get a good grade even though attendance is not mandatory. 4 assignments (20%), 1 midterm, and 1 final worth 40% each.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08:00-08:50							
09:00-09:50	14815 MGT4312-SA1 LI 1601						
10:00-10:50							
11:00-11:50							
12:00-12:50	14811 MGT4305-SB2 YEUNG LT-7	14049 CB3043-SA1 YEUNG P4701	10034 EF4471-C01 YEUNG LT-13				
13:00-13:50							
14:00-14:50							
15:00-15:50		13672 MKT4637-SA2 YEUNG Y4302					
16:00-16:50							
17:00-17:50							
18:00-18:50							
19:00-19:50							
20:00-20:50							

B) The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc.) Please submit the precise dates so students will know when to book their flights next year.

The City University of Hong Kong has a very well-organized and precise timetable. They contacted me in early September, telling me to submit my application by October 12th, as they do the visa application process for you. I then sent in my application and documents, on the 6th of October to make sure that they reached Hong Kong before the 12th. During the application, I had to select ten courses for pre-enrollment, and the results were communicated to me in late December. The add-and-drop period for course selection took place from January 5th to the 22nd. I highly recommend carefully choosing your courses and confirming them with the Telfer team to save time and avoid unnecessary changes during the add-and-drop period.

There is also a process to get into a course even when it is full, but I do not know it well since I did not have to do it. The university required us to arrive by January 9th to attend the orientation, which included activities like a scavenger hunt, a welcome dinner, and a shopping spree at IKEA. The orientation week concluded with a visit to Lantau Island, home to the famous Big Buddha statue. I strongly recommend participating in the orientation activities as it's an excellent opportunity to meet new people and have a great time.

I departed from Toronto on January 6th around 11 pm and arrived in Hong Kong on January 8th around 5:30 pm, experiencing some delays during my journey. Classes commenced on January 15th and concluded on April 20th. There was a revision week before the final exams period from April 22nd to 27th, and the exams were scheduled from April 29th to May 13th. The Chinese New Year break took place four weeks after classes began, from February 9th to 15th, providing a convenient time for travel. Since the Chinese New Year break offers a week off there is no reading week like we have at uOttawa. I booked my return ticket to Toronto for May 20th.

C) Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange Office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social activities.

The University offers a free shuttle service from the Airport to the school until 6 pm. I missed the shuttle, so I had to take the Hong Kong Express train and then the Subway (MTR) to **Kowloon Tong**. From Kowloon Tong Station you take exit C to the mall Festival Walk and then it's easy to find the City University of Hong Kong. You can also take a taxi or Uber from the airport to the school which I think for the first day makes your life easier. Once you reach the campus you need to go through security and since you don't have a student ID yet, you will receive a QR code a day or two before you arrive which is what you will use to get access to the campus and residence if you live on campus. Once you are cleared you receive your room keycard and some gifts (Tote Bag, pen) and then you can go to your room.

D. D) Budget outlining the cost of studying abroad (i.e. airplane tickets, housing, vacation and daily travel costs, textbooks, meals, etc.).

Hong Kong is an expensive city but living on campus and the cheap food makes it possible to save money. Depending on your lifestyle you can spend more or less. A good thing also is that traveling from Hong Kong and around Asia is not expensive. I will outline my budget below:

Airplane ticket round trip: 2200\$

Residence: \$1900 for four months and a half (8th of January to 27th of May)

Food: The cafeterias are good here so you can have three meals per day for approximately 15\$ a day. The cheapest meals I had were around 3\$ and the most expensive ones were 9\$. I did some groceries for breakfast and snacks, and I did not cook a lot since the kitchen wasn't the best and the cafeteria food was cheap, good, and nutritious. I have seen vegetarians struggle more because of the limited options. It is also important to note that dairy products, fruits, and vegetables are expensive here.

Vacation: It depends so far, I have only been to the Philippines for 4 days and I spent 500\$, It could have been cheaper. I am planning to go to Singapore for 4 days and Vietnam for 5 days and I'm expecting to spend at most for these two trips 1500\$.

Textbooks: I did not buy any. Printing is also free at the school.

I went out a lot so I spent a bit more and I can say that with 10000\$-12000\$ including housing and plane tickets, you can have a comfortable stay in Hong Kong for a semester.

E) Application procedures before your arrival (visa deadlines, documents

required for visa, course registration, housing deposit, etc.).

It is important to send your paper as soon as possible to Hong Kong since the processing times may vary. I sent all my papers by the 6th of October, got my acceptance letter on the 1st of November, and received the visa on the 1st of December. Make sure to thoroughly complete the forms, attach your passport photo, and send them to the school.

The course registration officially started on the 18th of December, and they do the scheduling for you. You just pick your top 10 courses when you do the application before the 12th of October.

There is no housing deposit, you apply and find out mid-November, and if you decide to accept the offer you need to pay the full amount (1900\$) within two weeks.

F) Address and description of housing. Cost of housing.

1900\$ for the semester, 22 Cornwall Street, Beacon Hills, Kowloon Tong. The rooms look like typical small dorm rooms and double rooms are half-priced compared to the single ones. They usually put roommates that have some things in common (nationality, same school, exchange students, or studying in the same country) together. My roommate is an exchange student from Croatia, and he studies in the UK. You share the bathroom and shower with a room next to you which means that

the four of you use the same one. The bathrooms are cleaned once a week by the staff and you also have a small kitchen and common room on every floor. The ground floor depending on your hall has a bigger common room with a bigger TV, a console (PS5), a gym, or a music room for some it depends on your hall. There are 11 halls, and some have more exchange students than others. Halls 10 and 11 are popular cause they are the most recent ones, but the other halls are fine as well.

For off-campus housing, I have heard about Weave housing and visited one of them. They are better than the residence but a bit more expensive as well, the school offers suggestions for other Off-campus housing.

G) Work term (if applicable).

N/A

H) Other comments or recommendations.

Hong Kong is the perfect blend between a big City and a beautiful nature. There are so many hikes to do I recommend doing Lion Rock which is close to school, Dragon's Back, Victoria Peak, and Hong Kong Trail route. I do not recommend doing Suicide Cliff it is way too dangerous. There are so many hikes for every level just make sure to research a bit before trying a new one. Hong Kong is a small peninsula so there are some nice Islands around. I recommend going to Lamma Island, Cheung Chau, Sai Kun, and Lantau Island (Big Buddha and Tai O fishing village). There are also a lot of cool spots to visit such as temples (10000 Buddha Temple is cool), the K11 Art Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of Space, and the infamous monster building. Go to Central and TST for the best view of the buildings and try taking the ferry from TST to Central or vice versa the view is so beautiful. My favorite canteen is Homey's kitchen, the staff is super nice, and the food is good too. A lot of people prefer AC2, AC1 is the cheapest and AC3 serves more western dishes (Burgers, Carbonara, steaks...). It is highly recommended to visit Mainland China to compare and see the difference with Hong Kong. I did not go because I needed a visa, and I preferred to go elsewhere. If you want to visit mainland China, check whether you need a visa and do it in Canada if you can.

I) Add a description of about five to seven sentences summarizing your experience.

Wow! This exchange has been fantastic so far! It's the experience of a lifetime, you get to rediscover yourself and the environment pushes you to get out of your comfort zone. The weather is nice, and it only gets really hot and humid around April and May which is okay as you feel like in Summer. I made friends from Finland, France, Italy, Sweden, Australia, Luxembourg, England, The US, Hong Kong, Korea, South Africa Taiwan, Singapore, and even Canada. Today I can travel around the world,

and I would have a friend to call wherever. If you think about going on an exchange, please do not hesitate! Hong Kong has taken a special place in my heart and the truth is that I'm already planning to come back!



First week in Hong Kong at the peak of Dragon's Back



A Swedish, A French/Vietnamese, An Italian, A Canadian, an Australian and a Congolese (me) reunited in Hong Kong for the Chinese New Year festival!